

JUNE 8, 2010
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMITTEE

The regular meeting of the Andover Township Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Chair Ed Burgio with the following members present: Brian Robinson, and Jodi Halteman. Mike Morel and Janet Bardello were absent.

OPENING STATEMENT: The Chair noted compliance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 as being met.

MINUTES: Minutes from the February 9th, March 9th, March 23rd, April 13th meetings will be available for approval at the next meeting.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: The meeting was opened to the public and a gentleman came into our meeting and introduced himself as Thomas Kane and he was attending the meeting to bring our attention that he feels there is a need for a skateboarding facility in Andover Township. Discussion followed and we covered potential problems with insurance and Mr. Kane suggested that we get parents to sign releases that would not hold the township responsible. Brian Robinson mentioned that we could check with Sparta to see how they handled their skateboard park. We could also check with our township attorney to see what the guidelines are. Mr. Kane explained that he was back from college and was in the building to vote and he recounted that he and his brother would always have problems as they were growing up in town trying to find an appropriate place to skateboard. We told Mr. Kane that we would look into this and have some info available at our next meeting. Mr. Kane said he would stop back at our next meeting. We closed the meeting to the public at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT:

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| 1. | Area Merchants | Request for contribution to Ms. Andover Twp. Contests (sample Letter copied and sent to all merchants) |
| 2. | Township Clerk/Administrator | Memo re recent membership Resignations and recommendation To move Janet Bardello to regular membership |
| 3. | Kodak American Greenways Program | Letter of support for applying for \$2,500 grant to help with trail |
| 4. | NJHerald/Township Journal | Letter to editor and ad re Andover Township Day – Both have and will Appear in the Herald and Township Journal |

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

1. AGX Travel Baseball Letter of thanks for using fields

At this time we reviewed Correspondence Sent. The Director mentioned that it was hard to decide who to send letters asking for donations for the contest when everyone was so generous for Andover Township Day. But with that in mind, we still had a decent array of prizes to give the young ladies vying for the title of Miss Andover Township 2010. Our winner was Chelsea Grotyohann who was crowned by her sister, last year's winner, Leanna Grotyohann. Victoria Burgio was runner up. The other contestants were Lauren Orleanski and Susan Skaleski. We had another young woman who was interested but she was not old enough. In fact, all of the girls were young enough that they would be eligible to participate for the next couple of years so we are optimistic that we will have a large group of girls for next year's contest. We wish Chelsea good luck at the fair in August.

Next we discussed our membership situation. We accepted Dick Lagg's, Patti Clark's and Helene Reczka's resignations. We were especially saddened by Helene's resignation since she has been so involved with all of the activities and has served as Chair. We wish all of these great people well and good luck in future endeavors. With the loss of these members we now have 5 members who will all be considered regular members and we will now need all 3 alternate membership slots to be filled. Everyone agreed to ask around to neighbors and friends to see if we can get some new blood for committee.

We all agreed that applying for the \$2,500.00 grant from the Kodak American Greenways Program to help with the expense of building our trail is a good idea. Our township engineer, Joe Golden is confident that we will work this out. We could use some extra funding to help with the implementation of the trail. The Road Department personnel will do a lot of the work but any bit of funding will help us get it done. Ed Burgio reported that the Road Department has been doing clearing work but had to stop to get some further approvals to take down some trees in the railway bed so they can continue. Joe Golden reported that we should be hearing soon on the approval.

The Director reported that Carla Kostelnik, Open Space Chair, has organized a group clean up of the Lake Iliff requisition site this Sunday. She asked for the Recreation Committee to support this clean up. Ed Burgio stated that Joe Golden, Township Engineer is asking us to be a little more cautious with beginning a project like this since we still need to get guidance from the state as to what we actually can do at this site.

What we are allowed to do is cut the grass and take out the iron dock/vessel that is in the water but we cannot encroach on any wetlands. The fact that they are still trying to determine whether wetlands is so prevalent at this site is disconcerting since we were assured that we would be able to develop this site for some type of recreation. We did not intend to do anything major, more along the lines of passive recreation like a small dock to be used to launch canoes or row boats or to allow people to fish. Now we are kind of waiting to learn whether we can even do that. We need to be a little more patient before we begin a big clearing project.

We reviewed the letter to the editor and the ad for thanking all those who donated towards Andover Township Day that has been sent to the New Jersey Herald and the Township Journal. We needed to publicly give our thanks for the unbelievable generosity that was shown for the very successful May 22nd Andover Township Day. We did our best to make sure that we did not leave any business, organization or merchant out of our list of honor and if we did it was certainly not intentional. At this point we have come extremely close to covering the cost of the entire day with donations. We are still waiting to receive some promised donations so until we get them all we can't give a final total but if everyone comes through it should be a wash. What a wonderful, positive event for everyone in Andover Township.

We appreciated receiving a letter of thanks for use of the field for the AGX travel baseball program from Bob Dole This was their first year of this organization and all of their teams are in the playoffs. Bob has commended the Road Department for their maintenance of the fields.

At this time, Jodi Halteman made a motion to file all correspondence. Brian Robinson seconded the motion, all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review of Andover Township Day: The Director reported on a meeting that took place with Darren Dickinson and Steven Bensinger from the Road Department, Chair Burgio, Deputy Mayor Phoebus and Steve Murrell from the Police Department to discuss Andover Township Day. One of the issues that dealt with parking was the fact that we would request that the Fire Department not offer their building for rental on that day. We could have used the extra parking space. We have to expect that the next time we do this in 2012 we will have an even larger crowd to contend with since word of mouth will help advertise how great our fireworks display will be! We also need to have our fire official on board from the beginning stages. We could use 4 portable toilets instead of 2. We also need more singles, fives and tens in our change bags. The Smokehouse did not participate this year but look forward to joining in next time with pulled pork. We also thought that hot pretzels would be a good addition.

We need to have 2 more light stanchions to illuminate the area so when people leave it will be easier to make their way to the parking lot. Also they asked me not to have anything booked at the park or building for Monday after the weekend of Andover Township Day and the fireworks display since they needed to make a full sweep of the park area to make sure that no bits and pieces of the fireworks were left anywhere in the park.

Also the idea of having a beer garden was once again brought up. They would only offer the beer in the barn or the Hillside House and that way they could keep it under control much better. It does bring in a lot of money and if the Police and Fire Department get involved in running it should be kept completely under control. The Fire Department has beer at their wet downs without any trouble.

We talked about renting a stage from Sparta to make a more formal place to run everything done. If we use the area down by the sheds as the place to set the stage up, we would be in the middle of everything and we have electric. This way even if the DJ leaves we can use our own system to keep in touch with the crowds with announcements and such. I think the band would be happier to be in that location since more of the crowds would be right in front of them in the fields where the inflatable's and games are.

We also need to find a better place to have the vendor and merchant tables set up. They were not happy to be in the barn since they were out of the main area where people were walking around. We only moved inside due to the wind situation but it didn't work. ~~We need to spend more time figuring that out. We thought that perhaps setting them up along the fence in front of the Hillside House might work. We have to give this more thought next time.~~

Some people made suggestions that we should try to plan some community game tournaments like kickball or volleyball, etc. Ed Burgio suggested that we could run a dodge ball tournament in the rink since the walls would keep the ball in. People could enter teams from their neighborhoods, etc. and we could have trophies ready to give to the winners. We have some great new ideas to add to an already great plan.

2. Review of Miss Andover Township Contest: Covered under correspondence.
3. Discussion re membership openings: Covered under correspondence.

APPLICATIONS:

1. June 13th – Hillside House – Smith-Simpson Party - \$150
2. June 15th - Andover Regional School District 8th Grade Graduation Dance - No Fee
3. June 19th – Avener Blue Scholarship Fund/Luchetti - \$100.00
4. June 27th – Moraski – Family Reunion - \$400.00
5. July 13th - Meals on Wheels - Senior Picnic - Fee - \$100.00
6. July 30th – Sussex County Women's Forum – Fund Raiser - \$100
7. August 28th – Hillside House – Montgomery – Bridal Shower - \$150
8. September 25th – Geffken – wedding reception - \$400
9. November 13th – Hampton Twp. Fire & Rescue – Beefsteak - \$300

ADJOURNMENT:

At this time, there being no further business to discuss, Brian Robinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. It was seconded by Jodi Halteman. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Ed Burgio, Chairperson

Jackie Huelbig, Secretary