

APRIL 17, 2012
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMITTEE

The regular meeting of the Andover Township Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:38 pm by Chairman Ed Burgio with the following members present: Mike Morel, Jodi Halteman, Bill Clark and Sabrina Burke. Maechele Alborano, Janet Bardello and Brian Robinson were absent.

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

FLAG SALUTE _____

MINUTES: The approval of minutes from March 13th were tabled until the next meeting.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No one stepped forward to be recognized. Closed to the public.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT/RECEIVED:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1 Any Excuse for a Party | Info and contract for movie night |
| 2 Andover Regional | Permission and flyer for upcoming events |
| 3 Summer Program Personnel | Letters sent to everyone re cancellation of Summer program |
| 4 Township Webmaster | Correspondence re township website for Recreation |
| 5 NJHerald | Legal Notice of meeting date changes |

At this time we reviewed all correspondence. We have the contract for the movie screen for the Family Movie Night on May 19th. We will have some music videos to watch and listen to prior to the movie so that will be fun. We will also arrange for a reptile show by Rizzo's Reptiles to take place around 5 o'clock for the kid's enjoyment to add to the day. This will be paid for from our Clean Communities Grant since the particular show that will be presented has been approved by the state. Since we won't be having the summer program at which time we always have a show funded through the Clean Communities grant this will suffice for offering entertaining/educational programs that meet this criteria. The annual contests will take place earlier in the day – Little Ms/Mr Andover Township at 3 pm with the Ms Andover Twp. contest following at 4 pm. Hopefully all will go smoothly as planned.

We are doing our best to advertise our upcoming events through the schools, newspapers, website and of course our township sign. We sent out the letters to inform the summer recreation personnel that we won't be holding the camp this year. The Director also had to send copy of a notice to the newspaper regarding the change in meeting dates for the April meeting from April 10th to the 17th and the May meeting date from May 8th to the 15th.

At this time, Mike Morel made a motion to file the Correspondence. Sabrina Burke seconded the motion. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report on Easter Egg Hunt: We postponed the Easter Egg Hunt from Saturday, March 31st due to cold and rainy weather to the following Saturday, April 7th. It wasn't an easy decision to make since we really have only ever done this before in the last 20 or so years. We wanted as many kids as possible to participate and the Recreation Committee members who are also parents of young children all said they had no intentions of bringing their own children out on such a rotten weather day and that made our minds up. So once the decision to postpone was made we immediately posted the change of date on the township sign and had our webmaster post it on the township's website. That type of notice was sufficient since we had a wonderful turnout the following Saturday. Of course the weather was perfect so that had a lot to do with it!

As usual we had very large numbers in the pre-school and Kindergarten groups. After some discussion we decided that we would give those age groups the largest area and number of eggs to hunt and move the 1st – 4th grades up the hill behind the swing sets for their hunt. We had a wonderful visit from the Easter Bunny. The Easter Bunny was extremely friendly and the kids loved him. We are hopeful that this Easter Bunny will visit us at future Easter Egg Hunts also!

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review Plans for Family Movie Night and Contests: We covered this topic under correspondence.
2. Any Discussions brought before the Committee by members present: The main topic that everyone wanted to discuss was the recent removal of all the trees in the in the picnic area at the park. When we all got to the park for the Easter Egg Hunt it was shocking to see for the first time. The reason for the removal was explained and everyone appreciated the fact that public safety comes first and we absolutely do not want unhealthy trees hanging over people's heads while sitting at the picnic tables. The main concern and objection to removal of every tree was did any township officials attempt to research the health of the trees before going to the extreme of removing them all? It seems to the members that the shade and aesthetic plusses of having the beautiful trees would have been enough of an incentive to take time in assessing the situation before they were all chopped down. If there was an immediate concern that the trees were on the verge of just falling down then it would warrant extreme measures. That just didn't seem the case. The area could have been cordoned off while an assessment was taking place. Now we are faced with trying to replace the natural shade with a structure of some type that the township has not budgeted for and most likely could not afford to purchase.

After much further discussion, the members wanted to make a suggestion to the Township Committee that perhaps the DPW personnel who have shown what great work they can do with the renovation of the Hillside House might be able to construct some type of pergola over the picnic area. The materials would have to be purchased but maybe they could be either donated or when the Recreation Committee holds our upcoming Movie Night we could ask for donations to a Recreation Trust and the money could go towards supplies for the pergola. The Director will pass this suggestion on to the Township Clerk/Administrator on behalf of the Recreation Committee.

APPLICATIONS:

1. May 12th - Gannon/Zayac – Baby Shower – Fee - \$400.00
2. June 8th - Green Hills School – Graduation Dance – Fee - \$450.00
3. Aug. 26th - Mills – Birthday party – Hillside House – Fee - \$100.00
(employee)
4. Oct. 19th & 20th - Zappa – Wedding – Fee - \$400.00 plus \$150.00

ADJOURNMENT:

At this time, there being no further business to discuss, Mike Morel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. It was seconded by Jodi Halteman. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Burgio, Chair

Jackie Huelbig, Secretary