

**TOWN OF NEWTON
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2013
6:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:00 PM on September 18, 2013 by Chairman Frank Sebastiano.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT was read by Frank.

On September 13, 2013 Jim Schmitt handed in his letter of resignation due to work and school conflicts. The Commission regretfully accepted his resignation.

Present Members: Hank Smith, Ludmilla Mecaj, Frank Sebastiano, Kerry Deckert, and Suzie Givone

Also Present: Two potential volunteers, Rufus Coward and Dawn Hankinson

Absent: Mr. Teets

A moment of silence was given for Don Meng.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the May 15, 2013 minutes. Ms. Mecaj seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous "aye" vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Miss Newton Contest: Ms. Mecaj gave an overview of the Miss Newton Contest. She felt it went well but feels there is always room for improvement. She will discuss this with the sub-committee. She was concerned about the low number of contestants. Due to receiving a grant from Kohl's, we will be able to offer a scholarship to the winner of Miss Newton. Hopefully this will draw in more contestants. It was suggested by Ms. Mecaj that all Commission members attend the Miss Newton Contest to show their support and provide help that is needed.

Recruitment of Volunteers: Dawn Hankinson and Rufus Coward completed and submitted applications for the Recreation Commission. They are awaiting appointment from Town Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Senior Dinner: Scheduled for December 1st. Hank Smith made a motion for Frank Sebastiano to provide the turkey dinner. Ms. Mecaj seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous "aye" vote. The cafeteria has been reserved.

Ms. Mecaj suggested that Frank provide fresh vegetables.

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Tree Lighting: Scheduled for Monday December 9. Santa will arrive at 6:20 PM. We will reach out to the police department for a digital board to display Santa's arrival. We will provide more copies of the songbook for the public.

OPEN FORUM

Hank proposed to put in the budget a new fence by the Babe Ruth Field. He suggested that the chain link fence be replaced and make the fence higher.

Kerry suggested we put a schedule together to meet with the different NJAL sports' leaders. We will invite them to attend our meetings. October meeting will be Keith Anderson, Basketball president.

Hank suggested not having a baseball game the same night as a swim meet due to the limited parking.

Discussion ensued on the need for more parking.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Mecaj seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a unanimous "aye" vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on October 16, 2013 at 6:30 PM at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Suzie Givone
Secretary Recreation Commission