

**TOWN OF NEWTON
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING March 21, 2012
6:30 PM**

The regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:30 PM on March 21, 2012.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT was read by Chairman Don Meng.

Present Members: Don Meng, Hank Smith, Jim Schmitt, Ludmilla Mecaj, Frank Sebastiano, Kerry Deckert and Suzie Givone

Also present: Trevor Braxton, Newton Wrestling

Approval of February 15, 2012 minutes. Mr. Schmitt made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Sebastiano seconded the motion.

Trevor Braxton of the Newton Wrestling Club gave an overview on his wrestling program. He mentioned that they have about 40% of their athletes from other towns. He is interested in seeing about getting the other towns to help offset the costs. The program is completely funded through the Newton Board of Education. The program is free to the children. They do a lot of fundraisers. Kerry mentioned to him to send us his financials and team roster for Newton athletics and we could help him out with a Town contribution.

OLD BUSINESS

Senior Luncheon, March 25th. All is set. Catering will be done by Frank Sebastiano through Café Nico. Commission members will be present to assist with the event.

Still looking for high school members for the Recreation Commission. Don Meng called Guy Schultz twice and has had no response back. Don will talk with him at the Senior Luncheon.

Mr. Meng spoke about Newton Day. All is set. Not sure how many vendors will be in attendance.

Miss Newton Contest. The subcommittee met and things are progressing with the contest. Ludmilla will reach out to Kohl's for volunteers and other businesses for donations. Don Meng will approach the local banks for donations. The flyers are completed. Advertising will begin May 1st.

Poster Contest: All is set. The winners have been picked. Helen Le Frois will emcee the event on Friday March 23, 2012 at 6:00 PM.

Easter Egg Contest: March 31, 2012, rain date April 7, 2012. The eggs are ordered. All members will assist in hiding the eggs. Bunny is needed. Need to check the bunny costume.

Background checks: In process. Kerry wrote out the steps and will test it out at soccer. This is something that needs to be done every 3 years.

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Recruiting new members: Sergio Borga, Soccer President is interested.

NEWS BUSINESS

Kerry updated the commission on the upcoming pool season and the upgrades to Memory Park. There are many new activities that have been added this year. Birthday parties, swim team fees have been increased, added a new swim team to practice from 6AM to 8 AM. Newton sports will have sign up at the pool on June 16 and a skin cancer screening will be performed that day. A new pool manager has been hired. Brock will still maintain pool but train someone to do vacuuming.

A donation from the Christ Church was made to have an ADA accessibility playground.

OPEN FORUM

Ludmilla brought to the commission an idea of a harvest dinner to be held in September or October. Most of the Commission was in agreement that it was a good idea. Ms. Mecaj feels that we don't do enough to support the youth in the community.

Ludmilla brought to the commission an idea of having a breast screening awareness for Newton Residence.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on April 18, 2012 at 6:30 PM in the Town's conference center.

Respectfully submitted,



Suzie Givone

Secretary, Recreation Commission