

TOWN OF NEWTON
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2020
VIA AUDIO CONFERENCE CALL
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:06 PM on November 18, 2020 by Recreation Commission Secretary, Sherri Kaylani.

Roll Call:

Present: Mr. Abramson, Mrs. Duggan-Cuff, Mrs. Zito, Chairwoman Crossley

Also Present: Recreation Supervisor, Sherri Kaylani **Absent:** Mr. Coward, Mrs. Bucci

Chairwoman Crossley read the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

MINUTES – October 21, 2020 –

Upon motion of Mrs. Crossley, seconded by Mrs. Duggan-Cuff and unanimously carried, the minutes for the October 21, 2020 meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS –

Sherri reminded everyone that there will be no meeting on December 16, 2020 and that the meetings for 2021 will continue as the third Wednesday of the following months, Jan.-June and Sept.-Nov. dates to follow.

The Commission discussed the 2020 Flags of Honor event and provided the following after thoughts: Karen, Maureen and Alan feel that we should host this event during warmer months of the year stating that perhaps we can host this event in June for Flag Day, 2021. They stated that if it were to rain during the warmer months, the threat of freezing rain or snow would not be present (since we host this event rain or shine and outdoors). Karen stated that hosting the event during the warmer months could bring larger exposure and crowds to the event. Alan suggested a BBQ at Memory Park and a display of the Flags on the Green if possible which would bring more attention to the display. Alan also had the following ideas: Invite reps from the NJ Military Affairs and Vietnam Vets of America, have additional key note speakers, offer an option for a family member to read the name of their honoree during the ceremony and, refrain from making personal references during the ceremony or while reading the names of the honorees. Karen then stated that she was proud to be a part of it all and happy to see the large turnout despite the pandemic also to see no backlash for moving forward with hosting it during same. Danielle, Maureen and Alan agreed. Sherri thanked all for showing up to this year's event and stated that these events would not be successful without all of their assistance and feedback.

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NEW BUSINESS –

Sherri informed all that there are volunteer opportunities for this year's Annual Tree lighting and if they are able to volunteer to please contact Kimberly Williams. Maureen and Karen stated they can volunteer. Danielle suggested that they change the time of the event in the future to 6 PM or 6:30 PM. She stated that for the past few years she has been unable to attend due to her work schedule. Karen agreed stating that many parents and families are not available in Town until that time. They feel that the event is held to early and makes it hard for many to attend.

Virtual Holiday ideas were presented as follows:

Maureen suggested a Lyp Sync Contest on Christmas Day or early Dec. until then. Also, a "let's see your Holiday masks" contest using hashtags to be determined. For Easter Maureen suggests Easter songs for a virtual Lyp Sync contest. For marketing she suggests involving the Radio stations and local newspapers.

Danielle Suggested an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest as well as a Gingerbread House Making contest. For future contests Danielle also recommended a Scavenger Hunt which would include the Businesses on Spring Street with more details to be determined during another meeting.

For prizes they all agreed that gift certificates to some of the local business on Spring Street be awarded. Sherri informed all that she would present these ideas to our Town Managers. Contests and prizes will be determined soon for December 2020.

OPEN FORUM –

Maureen and Karen stated that they had a wonderful time volunteering at the Halloween event.

There were no members of the public present during the audio conference call.

Mrs. Crossley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Abramson. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM via audio conference call.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri Kaylani