

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, ON
AUGUST 29, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER:

2018 Board President Greg Williams called the meeting to order.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT COMPLIANCE

Greg Williams stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Public laws of 1975 Chapter 231. It has been properly advertised and certified."

ROLL CALL:

Present: Greg Williams, Lorraine Card, Kathy Gorman, Christy Tuper, Darryl Wuhrl.

Absent: Warren Wisse.

NEW BUSINESS

Skylands Ice World is offering to partner with Wantage Recreation to donate a portion of their proceeds for entry level youth hockey and ice-skating lessons.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on Wantage Day vendors, advertising, raffles and games. It is asked if we should include classic cars/motorcycles to showcase. Sussex Wantage Little League will be hosting a Cornhole Tournament. There is discussion on having craft beer at the event. Discussion continues on activities and games that will be running throughout the day.

There is discussion to confirm that we have a volunteer to run the Little Miss, Little Mr. and Miss Wantage pageant next year.

There is discussion on the upcoming 5K race being held at Woodbourne Park on September 22nd.

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Nicole Dunn states we have increased to two cleanings a week of the port-a-johns by Septicare. A representative of Septicare has called to say they have had fewer issues at Woodbourne since the increase. Darryl Wuhrl states a garbage receptacle has been placed in the back of Woodbourne by the football fields. Discussion on if there is a need for more.

Greg Williams states that work has not begun on the Veterans' Memorial at Woodbourne Park. Asks if DPW can spray the path twice a year to help with the weeds.

Kathy Gorman states she asked if open space funds can be used to help with the maintaining of the ball fields in our parks. This needs to be discussed with the township's attorney.

Discussion on creating a recreation social media page to keep residents better informed of events.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Bill Gaechter states that on behalf of the Committee he wanted to thank all current and past recreation members for the amount of time they dedicate. It's easy to ask for an event to be held, but there are a lot of logistics in planning it and time volunteered. The committee truly appreciates all they do. Mayor Gaechter says he believes Wantage Day is going to be a great success. We have food, music, entertainment and hopefully good weather to make it successful. He gives suggestions on advertising for the day.

Todd Fisher and Chris Portante, representatives from Sussex Wantage Little League, ask for continued help with the upkeep of baseball fields at the parks. The mosquitoes continue to be a nuisance at Lott Road. The children are being bitten badly and parents are leaving the fields to sit in their cars. Nicole Dunn states that John Gramignano called her to ask if bat houses can be built and placed in the park to help with the mosquito issues. Christy Tuper suggests reaching out to the builder's clubs at High Point High School and Sussex VoTech's to request if it is a project they can take on. Greg Williams asks if we can contact the county to spray the swamp area surrounding the park.

Sussex Wantage Little League also asks if we have any way of working with Sussex Borough in maintaining the fields at Brookside Park. Is it an option to have improving the park worked into the redevelopment of the area for Shop Rite? The recreation committee states that Little League may need to attend a Sussex Borough recreation meeting to discuss maintenance of Brookside as they lease the park from Wantage. Mayor Bill Gaechter states that he will look into the lease agreement to see if there is a way for Wantage to help as it is a Sussex Wantage league and it would be in the best interest of both towns to help the league. Little League is worried about losing players to neighboring townships because of the problems with our fields.

Darryl Wurhl discusses the work being done on the baseball field at Lott Road by John Gramignano. It's close to being completed as long as Mr. Gramignano gets the equipment he needs to complete it. There is discussion on water being needed at the baseball field at Woodbourne Park to help with the clay hardening. Christy Tuper asks if Mr. Gramignano has provided information on classes our DPW can attend to educate them on field maintenance at the parks.

There is more discussion on the Little League Cornhole Tournament, and Christy Tuper thanks the Little League for stepping up and volunteering to organize this event that will draw residents to the Wantage Day Fall Festival.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lorraine Card made the motion to approve the July 25, 2018 minutes, Darryl Wuhrl seconded.

Ayes: Card, Gorman, Tuper, Williams, Wuhrl

Nays: None Absent: Wisse

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Christy Tuper and seconded by Darryl Wuhrl.

Ayes: Card, Gorman, Tuper, Williams Wuhrl

Nays: None Absent: Wisse

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole Dunn, Board Secretary