

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
ON JANUARY 23, 2019**

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

2019 Board Vice President, Christy Tuper, called the meeting to order.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT COMPLIANCE**

Christy Tuper 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: Kathy Gorman, Christy Tuper, Warren Wisse, Darryl Wuhrl

Absent: Lorraine Card

**NOMINATIONS**

Mrs. Tuper called for nominations for the office of President and Vice President for the Wantage Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee for the Year 2019.

On motion by Mr. Wuhrl, seconded by Mr. Wisse, Christy Tuper was nominated for President of the Wantage Township Recreation & Parks Advisory Committee for the year 2019.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gorman, Wisse, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card.

On motion by Ms. Tuper, seconded by Mr. Wuhrl, Warren Wisse was nominated for Vice President of the Wantage Township Recreation & Parks Advisory Committee for the year 2019.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gorman, Tuper, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card.

Ms. Tuper called for nominations for secretary of the Wantage Township Recreation & Parks Advisory Committee. On motion by Ms. Tuper, seconded by Mr. Wisse, Nicole Dunn was nominated as secretary of the Wantage Township Recreation & Parks Committee for the year 2019.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gorman, Tuper, Wisse, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card.

**MEETING SCHEDULE AND NAMING THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP RECREATION & PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Ms. Tuper moved to establish the regular meeting nights of the Recreation & Parks Advisory Committee for calendar year 2019, and the first meeting of 2020, as per the attached resolution. Ms. Gorman seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gorman, Tuper, Wisse, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card

LOCATION: Wantage Township Municipal Building, 888 Route 23, Wantage N.J. 07461

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| January 23, 2019                        | 7:00 pm |
| February 27, 2019                       | 7:00 pm |
| March 27, 2019                          | 7:00 pm |
| April 24, 2019                          | 7:00 pm |
| May 22, 2019                            | 7:00 pm |
| June 26, 2019                           | 7:00 pm |
| July 24, 2019                           | 7:00 pm |
| August 28, 2019                         | 7:00 pm |
| September 25, 2019                      | 7:00 pm |
| October 23, 2018                        | 7:00 pm |
| November 20, 2019                       | 7:00 pm |
| January 22, 2020 (Organization Meeting) | 7:00 pm |

Ms. Tuper made a motion to name the N.J. Herald and the N.J. Sunday Herald the official newspapers for the Wantage Recreation & Parks Advisory Committee.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gorman, Tuper, Wisse, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The recreation committee welcomes Ellen Smith as a new member to recreation. Ms. Smith reads and signs her Oath of Allegiance.

The Recreation Committee discussed setting dates for the coming year's recreation events. Tentative dates proposed are as follows:

- Easter Egg Hunt ~ Traditionally takes place the weekend before Easter. Kiwanis informed the committee that the Sussex Fire Department's Easter Breakfast is being held April 7<sup>th</sup>. In an effort to coordinate with the fire department's Easter Bunny breakfast, Ms. Tuper suggests that the township's Easter Egg Hunt be scheduled for Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. All committee members are in agreement.
- Mets Baseball Trip ~ The committee discusses proposed dates for the bus trip to a Mets game. A date is chosen of Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wuhrl will contact the Mets and Lakeland Bus Company for prices.
- Wantage Day ~ The committee discusses proposed dates for Wantage Day. It is agreed that the event did well in the fall season so it will remain as the Wantage Day Fall Festival. A date is narrowed down to Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. All committee members are in agreement.
- Wantage Pageant ~ The committee discusses a date for the Wantage Township Little Miss, Little Mr. and Miss Wantage pageants. The Abates have retired from organizing the pageants and Katie VanHorn has volunteered to organize and run the event going forward. The pageant needs to be held before the Wantage Day Fall Festival date so the winners can participate in the county pageants held during the N.J. State Fair. Mrs. Dunn states that she will contact Ms. VanHorn for dates to hold the pageant and get back to the committee.

- Fishing Contest ~ The committee was unable to find an organization to run the township fishing contest this past year and ask for suggestions. Mrs. Dunn states she has reached out to High Point Regional High School to see if the school's fishing club would be interested in organizing. Ron Bassani states he will reach out to the Knee Deep Fishing Club.
- Wantage Township 5K ~ The township 5K is set for September 21<sup>st</sup>. All committee members are in agreement.
- Christmas Tree Lighting ~ Ms. Tuper suggests that we wait to hear from Sussex Wantage Regional Schools as to when the book fair is scheduled as we coordinate the tree lighting with that event. A tentative date for the tree lighting is set for Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, pending confirmation of the book fair date.

Ms. Tuper asks the recreation committee to start thinking about new ideas or concepts we can offer to residents throughout the year.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Wantage Tree Lighting. Ms. Tuper told the committee that she feels the event went well. There is discussion of ideas for activities to occupy the teen-aged children who attend the event.

Mr. Wuhrl asks if we should be sending letters to organizations that utilize our fields to attend more recreation meetings and feels the recreation committee should be attending those organization's meetings as well. Mrs. Dunn states she will reach out to the organizations to obtain their meeting schedules for the committee. Ms. Tuper states she thinks the recreation committee should also be attending other community organization meetings such as PTO and chamber meetings to get word out of our events and learn what else is going on in the community.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

Ms. Gorman reports on the senior softball league that would like to form a Sussex County team with their homefield being at Woodbourne. There will be a representative from the league at the 2/27 recreation meeting to give an informational presentation on the senior softball league.

There is discussion on ways to deter people from vandalizing our park fields.

There is discussion on the possibility of adding more benches through Woodbourne Park; possibly through memorial donations.

There is discussion for ideas of what can be done with the beach in Lake Neepaulin.

### **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

There was no discussion during the open public session.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Kathy Gorman made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2018 Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee meeting. Warren Wisse seconded the motion. Roll Call: Ayes: Gorman, Tuper, Wisse, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card. Abstain: Smith.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Warren Wisse to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Kathy Gorman. Ayes: Gorman, Smith, Tuper, Wisse, Wuhrl. Nays: None. Absent: Card.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nicole Dunn, Board Secretary