

Reading Recreation Commission

Mission Statement: to provide a mechanism to adequately and efficiently maintain community recreation services and facilities and to organize, manage and supervise recreational and educational programs, with a primary focus and emphasis on programs for youth, within the political boundaries of the City and the School District.

February 7, 2012

Reading Recreation Commission Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Mike Schorn with the following members present: Eddie Moran, Marisol Torres, James Washington, Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz, Francis Acosta, Otis Smith. Absent were John Santoro and William Hall.

The MINUTES of the January 10th, 2012 meeting were approved without dissent on a motion from Mr. Washington and Mrs. Goodman-Hinnershitz.

Next, Mike Schorn informed the Reading Recreation Commission that Daphanie did accept the offer of Executive Director.

Presenters: Jeremy Reminger who is a regional supervisor for ADT, discussed the payroll contract and workman's compensation. ADT takes full liability for all payroll tax filing for one bundle pricing. It is less expensive and at a discount because of the "non-profit" status. Currently with ADT there is no deposit required, cheaper and convenient due to the fact it is put under one umbrella. ADT up front's the money for payroll and invoices the REC. WC rate is classified as "fitness club". Final ADT payroll expense for the year is \$4,795.00 which can be paid in small increments. Policy will be kept by Heather at 3rd & Spruce however the policy has not yet been issued. Eddie had a question regarding lock-in period and if ADT could drop a client. Jeremy stated that there is no lock-in period as there is no contract and the only way ADT can drop a client was if they tried to withdraw funds and funds were not available. Jeremy also informed the board that ADT provides all facilities with labor law posters as well as OSHA posters.

Resolution needed to be taken to accept ADT's proposal for payroll and WC being tied into payroll.

Vote by person: Goodman-Hinnershitz: YES, Acosta: YES, Moran: YES, Torres: YES, Miles: YES, James: YES, Schorn: YES Smith: YES, 8 Yes and 0 no.

For Shields

Matt Lubas: Matt was present to summarize programs that are currently in place right now at the Recreation. Matt handed out a detailed report regarding the programs in place. Matt mentioned that the first \$25k check should be coming soon; he also will talk to ~~Kozy~~ and have some type of recognition. Alvernia's park came up in discussion and was talked about being used for local leagues. Marcia mentioned she would like more input on how to restructure best use with other entities. Francis mentioned he would like all the contracts with the parks, he mentioned there is no way we would look at any of the upcoming contracts without including the Reading Recreation Commission. Marcia had a question regarding signage of the "No Smoking on Playground". She wanted to know how many signs are needed but before she can order the signs, however the policy is needed first.

McCloud

Allen McCloud: Allen who is the Athletic Director for the Reading School District was present and spoke to the board. He mentioned that the athletic department is currently looking for a baseball coach who can bring a program involving k-12th grade, and also be a part of the RRC. He mentioned baseball practice starts March 5th and he is looking for all coaches to get involved. Last he mentioned that the athletics department is open to any suggestions and wants to make the effort of forming a partnership.

Mike Schorn: Mike spoke to Daphanie and she was not able to attend this meeting because she was attending ~~the~~ the final REC Board meeting at her old employer. She will be starting with the REC on Monday February 13, 2012 where she will then meet with Matt and Heather.

Legal Correspondence: Mike sent attorney Setley a thank you letter and Setley informed Mike he was unable to assist with the 501 C (3) filing for the commission. Mike received another letter from a different law attorney who is willing to file the 501 C (3) paper work for us. Articles have been properly forwarded. Washington asked if Daphanie was going to be presenting us with bylaws and Mike mentioned that the first thing he asked Daphanie to do was develop a benefits package. Bret Fegley contacted Mike and is now moving forward with the non-profit status.

Smith
Treasurers Report: Mike submitted a copy of the bank statement and the ending balance in the account was \$962. Daphanie will have to work with an accountant to create separate accounts for specific entities (i.e. tennis). She will also have to create a budget for all the different programs. Mike mentioned that there are now checks for the account. He asked if it was ok to reimburse Matt and Heather for the health benefits they paid for out of pocket.

Vote by person: Marcia: YES, Eddie: YES, Marisol YES, Miles: YES, Smith: YES, Wahington: YES, Schorn: YES. Francis left early. 7 yes 0 no.

Reading Recreation Commission-Report

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- Fromuth Tennis has pledged an annual donation of \$100,000 to the tennis program. The donations will be made in quarterly instalments. Money will be used to expand current programming, capital purchases and match money for future grants
- Working on Adopt a Court Grant to add lighting to Baer Park Tennis Courts
- The Recreation Department's Tennis Program has been selected as the United States Tennis Association NJTL Section Chapter Award for 2011. Ceremony will be held on Sunday, February 26, 2012 in Lafayette Hill, PA.
- COR Tennis is now on Facebook, Twitter and You Tube.
- ACE (Academic Creative Engagement) Program will begin at 13th & Union February 15.
- "First Serve Life Skills" program has 30 participants and is being held at Thomas Ford and 13th & Union elementary schools weekly.
- Athletic equipment bids are being prepared.
- Field requests are starting to be processed for the spring/summer.
- Meeting was held with Alvernia about Angelica Park usage.
- Career Nights are being offered to the members (all centers may attend) to empower them to think about their future. Various members of the community have committed to dates to speak: Vicki Hoffman (Codes inspector/Wyomissing Animal Hospital), Tonya Butler (city attorney), Eddie Cox (retired marine/Greater Berks Food Bank), Dr. Charles Barbera (Chief Reading Hospital Emergency Dept). If anyone is interested in speaking to the youth, please let me know.
- Black history month poster contest at all 3 centers: Theme- "MLK Jr. had a dream....what is yours?" Posters are due Feb 22. Age groups 11 & under , 12 & up. \$25 gift card to the store of their choice will be given to one winner in each category
- Black history month trivia of the day..... questions are posted each day to test the kids on their knowledge of black history
- We are in the heart of basketball season. 3rd & Spruce has 3 teams , 11th & Pike has 1 team. Age groups are: 10-12, 13-15, 16-18. Games are played through the remainder of February, Playoffs begin first week of march
- COCA is currently teaching 2 educational classes at 3rd & Spruce & 11th & Pike. 3rd & Spruce has the "Keepin It Real" curriculum for middle school and 11th & Pike has the "Too Cool for Drugs" curriculum for elementary students. Kids have responded very well to the classes.
- Yocum Institute of the Arts will begin a 6 week creative drama and visual arts program at 11th & Pike and 3rd & Spruce during the week of Feb 20. This is offered to various Kids café sites and we are happy to participate.
- Valentine Dance held Friday Feb 17

Old Business: Otis mentioned that at the last meeting that any commission member who is a paid City employee can't serve on the commission and he asked that the person resign immediately from the board as he had to resign from a board when he could no longer serve on that board. Mike replied ~~back~~ that the person who Otis was talking about was appointed by the School Board and that the School Board needs to fill the vacant seat, until then the person in question will continue to serve on the commission. Mike also mentioned that when that specific individual was appointed to the commission she was not a paid employee. Marcia mentioned that there is some grant money available in the amount of \$5k. The info is public and it is to do ^{with} awareness programs and to sponsor poster contest. Problem regarding gambling awareness, education with kids around the issue and kids can have the poster contest. Marcia mentioned when she becomes aware of other grants she will inform the commission.

New Business: Mike mentioned that one of the appointments to the commission by council has not been to the last three meeting^s and he asked for permission to contact that individual to see if that person wants to be relieved from the position. Permission was given ~~and~~ ^{to} Mike and he will reach out to the individual.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13th, 2012 at 7:00 pm.