

Reading Recreation Commission
7:03PM
3rd & Spruce Recreation Center
Minutes of the August 8, 2017 Meeting

The Reading Recreation Commission was called to order on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 7:03PM by Eddie Moran.

Daphne took the roll call of members and then the board performed the Pledge of the Allegiance. There were six of nine board members present and they included Joseph Kelleher, David MCCoy, Eddie Moran, Luke Schultz, Donald Taddei, Jr. and Brian Twyman (filling in for Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz). The following board members were absent: Christopher Celmer, Christopher Daubert, Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz and Robert Heeber, Jr. Staff in attendance: Daphne Klahr, Executive Director, and Rebecca Swoyer, Business Manager (recording secretary).

Brian Twyman asked for an update on KTB Athletics. Daphne reported that Matt Lubas met with Tremayne Jones and they are going to be working together to put together a fall basketball league.

Eddie Moran asked for an update on special needs programming. Daphne reported that we had a record number of special needs children in our summer playground programs this year, especially at Pendorf Park Art Camp. RRC would like to add another art camp next summer and partner with Easter Seals. This art camp would be a specific program for special needs children. We would like to partner with another agency, possibly Berks County Autism Society. We partnered this year with Gilmore Henne at Barbey's Park and it was a very positive experience. We also partnered with Opportunity House at Baer Park sports camp and had several children with special needs attend that camp as well.

New Business

None

Minutes

The minutes from the April 11, 2017 and June 27, 2017 meeting were reviewed. David MCCoy made a motion to approve the minutes. Donald Taddei, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Daphne presented the Treasurer's Report. We are currently fundraising for 2 events, the COR tennis event, serve it up for our city being held on August 23rd - 26th and the Reading Radsport Festival being held on September 8th & 9th.

Daphne informed the board that we recently had a grant that we were not eligible for because we do not have 100% board financial contribution. Also there are grants that we have applied for that we cannot move to the next grant level because of this. Berks Art Council is an example of one of those grants. A discussion followed regarding this.

Daphne reviewed the following reports: Profit and Loss budget vs. actual; Balance sheet Previous Month Comparison which compared months May and June and June and July; Administration Profit and Loss budget vs. actual; Programs Profit and Loss budget vs. actual; Tennis Profit and Loss budget vs. actual; Pool Profit and Loss budget vs. actual (pool numbers are down a little due to the rain and some

issues with the pumps); Income Detail Report and Expense Detail Report. Daphne asked if there were any questions. There being none, Joseph Kelleher made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. David MCCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

COR Tennis event – 2nd annual serve it up for our city is being held August 23rd – August 26th. Tennis events will be held August 23rd & 24th. A social event will be held on August 25th and a softball tournament and pool event will be held on August 26th.

Reading Radsport Festival is being held on September 8th & 9th. The Mount Penn Hill Climb in City Park will be held on September 8th. The Twilight Criterium will be held in West Reading on September 9th. RRC is the charitable event that the Radsport Festival is raising money for our food service program. We are currently serving over 700 meals a day. We were just approached by The Olivet's Boys & Girls Club to serve 500 additional meals a day during the school year. Daphne stated that we need volunteers for the Radsport Festival. Please let her know by August 26th if you are available to help. Board members are also invited to attend any of the meetings for the Radsport Festival. They are every Monday at 4:00pm at the Reading Eagle Company in the board room. A discussion followed about volunteers and reaching out to the Key Club at the Reading School District.

Executive Director's Report

Daphne gave a verbal Executive Director's report for June & July

Highlights:

1. Daphne & Heather Boyer just returned from the Urban Park Conference in Minneapolis. One thing that definitely caught their eye was the Pop up Parks programs. This is an inflatable soccer field. You can take it anywhere. It would be a great use for special needs soccer programs. Daphne is putting in an RFP for quotes to see the costs involved. Minneapolis parks have been using this and are having a great response.
2. Daphne informed the board that there was an issue this weekend at Egleman's park. A group received a permit from us for an all-night benefit. They have done this the last 2 years with no problems. This year a member brought in music and alcohol. The police were called and they were cited. They will no longer be able to use our facilities.
3. Daphne reported if we take on the Olivet's additional meals we will need to expand our food service program. We get reimbursed per meal and have done very well with this program. We were just audited today and passed with flying colors. Great job thanks to Ronda Morrison, our food service coordinator and Heather Boyer.
4. Our collaboration with Bethany Children's Home and implementing a Girls Leadership Program there has been going very well. We had a tour of RACC yesterday and they laid out the red carpet for the girls. They even offered a scholarship class to one of the girls. We are expanding to 6 locations!
5. We can expand the Boys Leadership Program but we do not have instructors. We need someone who is dedicated and compassionate to run the program. It is a great program! We have the curriculum. We are going to run the program again at 3rd & Spruce and have interested applicants shadow the instructor now. Daphne was asked if it is a paid position. She stated that we could do a stipend but it is not a paid position.

6. The Back to School event is being held on August 26th. Any donations are appreciated. We need middle school age supplies. Eddie Moran stated he might have 2 or 3 barbers that might be interested in giving back. He will check with them and reach out to Daphne.
7. Hamad from Wyomissing Family Restaurant is doing a school drive at his restaurant. He is also providing all the cookies and donuts for the Radsport Festival.
8. Daphne informed the board that our garden on the side of the building is doing amazing. Our summer playground program and Chef Sprout program worked very hard on it. Please take a moment to look at it.
9. The Chamber of Commerce and the RRC collaborated for the Summer Reading Program with the summer playground programs. They met every week reading and discussing the book Hidden Figures.

David MCCoy asked how the bus trips went this summer. Daphne informed everyone that they were not successful. We are going to try again with a different approach. The Wyomissing Foundation choose the South of Penn area to target for participants. Some of the funds were used to send area children to the Crayola Factory this past summer.

Executive Session

At 7:40PM the board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The session was resumed at 7:55PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the board, Donald Taddei, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00PM. Joseph Kelleher seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upcoming meetings:

October Recreation Commission Meeting – Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00PM, 3rd and Spruce Recreation Center.

November Recreation Commission Meeting – Tuesday, November 14th at 7:00PM, 3rd and Spruce Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Swoyer
Recording Secretary