

NEW FREEDOM RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 7, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Michels - President
R. Garvey - Secretary
S. Boyle - Treasurer
K. Butcher - Mayor
E. Rearich - Councilwoman
R. Ross - Councilman
Martha Toquinto - Guest

CALL TO ORDER: M. Michels at 7:00 PM.

APPROVE MINUTES: M. Michels made a motion to accept the November minutes as written, S. Boyle seconded, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Our balance as of November 30, 2023 was \$26,736.31.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: The Recreation Commission closet in the Community Center was organized and cleaned by the Recreation Commission and R. Ross.

M. Michels addressed comments that were made at the November Borough Council meeting regarding the amount of monies that our Commission receives from the Borough. She emphasized that we do not receive money from the Borough and that Rec uses funds from within their own budget for their events. She added two clarifications that the Borough did donate the Community Center for our Veterans Day dinner and the Borough does provide the money for the winners of our Fourth of July parade as was the arrangement when we first started to coordinate the Parade.

PUBLIC COMMENT: K. Butcher noted that the Borough also donated the Community Center to Gill Ice for their December parade. That led to a discussion of the condition of the Center's floor after the event, which was covered in glitter. The glitter required mopping by both A. Shaffer and members of Pickleball. We discussed the need to have a cleaning fee collected by any group that uses the facility, gratis or not. The Recreation Commission would like Council to consider implementing this fee, so a cleaning service can come in after each event.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT: We were informed that A. Shaffer has an upcoming conference call with D.C. and R. Update to follow.

FARMER'S MARKET: No Farmer's Market this season. Tabled until a Recreation Director is hired and can determine if we want to go forward with this program.

TENNIS: The extended adult tennis session began on October 28th and will continue, weather permitting. The program netted \$80.00.

PICKLEBALL: We had 46 players in November, netting \$700.00 (\$900.00 less the Community Center fee.)

R. Ross had researched and proposed a new pickleball net system in an effort to alleviate the net storage problem. R. Garvey further discussed the solution with the manufacture, National Sports Products, and was informed that this particular net system would not be applicable for our situation. He did learn however that the company had just developed another net system which would work and would allow us to easily and safely store them. After discussion, M. Michels made a motion to purchase four of these nets, not to exceed \$1900.00. S. Boyle seconded, motion carried. R. Garvey will sell the existing nets and return the proceeds.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK 2024: We are tabling any further discussion until the beginning of next year.

VETERAN'S DAY: Our Veterans's Day dinner was a huge success. Thank you to all for their contributions putting it together. A special thank you to R. Ross for staying after the event and helping with the cleaning. Also thanks to the Borough Council and A. Shaffer for their help and donation. We will be donating approximately \$2,500.00 to VFW Post 7012. M. Michels made a motion to reimburse R. Garvey \$85.02 for his expenses with the event, S. Boyle seconded, motion carried. S. Boyle made a motion to reimburse M. Michels \$1,010.00 for her expenses, R. Garvey seconded, motion carried.

The date for next year's event is November 7, 2024. The DJ has already been secured.

To improve future events we discussed:

*Having two food lines.

*Have the raffle ticket sales and entry table separate from the admission table.

*Predetermine the "arms length" raffle ticket amount.

*Separate any alcohol from any other door prizes and if any prizes are left over have them given out by us.

PARKS: The Feasibility Study has been out and results returned. We are awaiting the Community's feedback.

CHILDREN AND TEENS: No report.

ADJOURNMENT: M. Michels made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 PM, R. Garvey seconded, motion carried.