

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EMERSON RECREATION COMMISSION WAS HELD ON THURSDAY JANUARY 2, 2020, AT 8:00 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE RECREATION CENTER.

I Call to Order

Presiding Officer Bob Quinones welcomed everyone and wished them a Happy New Year. He called the special Meeting of the Recreation Commission to order at 8:00 pm on Thursday January 2, 2020. Motion to open the meeting was made by Paul Coombes, seconded by Willie Ortiz and approved unanimously.

II. Roll Call

Joe Vigna, Steve Paino, Phil Gianatasio, Eilish Viggiani, Mike Graham, Paul Coombes, Bob Quinones, Willie Ortiz, Anthony Gismondi

Apologies: Councilwoman McGuire who is attending the Mayor and Council meeting.

III Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the December 11 meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from December 11, 2019 meeting was made by Willie Ortiz and seconded by Anthony Gismondi and approved by four regular members who were at the meeting.

Steve Paino,	abstain
Willie Ortiz,	yes
Anthony Gismondi	yes
Paul Coombes	yes
Bob Quinones	yes
Mike Graham	abstain

IV Reorganization

Presiding Officer: A motion to elect Bob Quinones as Presiding Officer was made by Paul Coombes and seconded by Willie Ortiz and approved

Joe Vigna	yes
Steve Paino,	yes
Willie Ortiz,	yes
Anthony Gismondi	yes
Mike Graham	yes
Paul Coombes	yes

Alternate Presiding Officer: A motion to elect Paul Coombes as Alternate Presiding Officer was made by Mike Graham and seconded by Anthony Gismondi and approved

Joe Vigna	yes
Steve Paino,	yes
Willie Ortiz,	yes
Anthony Gismondi	yes
Mike Graham	yes
Bob Quinones	yes

Recreation Commissioner Sports Liaison and Responsibilities

Mike Graham – Softball/Communication
Eilish Viggiani – Football & Cheer/Fields
Anthony Gismondi – Fundrasing/Social Media
Willie Ortiz – Budget
Steve Paino – Wrestling
Joe Vigna – Track & Field
Phil Gianatasio – Baseball
Bob Quinones – Soccer/Fields
Paul Coombes - Events

V Reports of Officers

Presiding Officer-The Presiding Officer informed the meeting that he that he had submitted the changes to the budget discussed at the last meeting. Funds were moved around to cover the costs of background checks and ID cards.

Alternate Presiding Officer- Nothing to report

Borough Liaison – Councilwoman McGuire was absent

Secretary – The repeat of the 2019 Protect Youth Sports background checks will start on February 2nd. The process for making ID cards which should have been available in 2019 is still not confirmed. Clarification of whether the cards should be laminated paper or plastic credit cards is needed before this can go ahead. Because this process is still unclear there are coaches who were approved in 2019 who still do not have cards. This means that coaches will be being approved for a second time and may not have received cards.

The point was made that the production of these cards is too cumbersome for the Recreation Commission to handle. There are nearly 200 coaches.

Bob Quinones will discuss whether the cards can be produced as laminated paper or if they have to be the plastic credit cards with the Borough Attorney and Borough Administrator when they meet. The Borough Ordinance does not specify which of these is required.

The secretary will contact the sports board’s presidents to get a list of who received their cards.

VI Unfinished Business

Discussion and vote on amendment to the by-laws Article V Section 1

The Mayor and Council decided that all Boards and Commissions must meet in the Council Chambers to enable them to use the recording facilities in that room. This meant that the day of the week /time and location of the Recreation Meeting need to be changed.

The first and third Wednesday of the month were agreed on as the new time/location. This change means that the by-laws do not reflect this change. The by-laws state:

ARTICLE VIII: ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS/AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section 2. *These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Commission members present and eligible to vote at a Commission meeting, provided ten (10) day written notice of the proposed change(s) shall have been given to all regular and alternate members of the Commission.*

Accordingly, Bob Quinones had amended the relevant section of the by-laws and pre-circulated this to the Recreation Commission members as shown below

Section 1. *Regular meetings shall be held on the first and third ~~Thursday~~ **Wednesday** of each month ~~in the conference room of the Recreation Building~~ **at the Borough Hall Council Chambers**, with the exception of the months of July and August and the third ~~Thursday~~ in December, when the Commission may choose to hold no meeting. The schedule of meetings shall be approved by the Commission at the first meeting in January and shall be provided to the Borough Clerk for publication in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.*

The meeting noted that there was a mistake on the amendment on the fourth line and after some discussion the change shown below was made.

Section 1. *Regular meetings shall be held on the first and third ~~Thursday~~ **Wednesday** of each month ~~in the conference room of the Recreation Building~~ **at the Borough Hall Council Chambers**, with the exception of the months of July and August and the third ~~Thursday~~ **Wednesday** in December, when the Commission may choose to hold no meeting. The schedule of meetings shall be approved by the Commission at the first meeting in January and shall be provided to the Borough Clerk for publication in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.*

A motion to add the amendments to Section 1, Article V, as shown above was made by Willie Ortiz and seconded by Paul Coombes.

Roll Call

Willie Ortiz	yes
Joe Vigna	yes
Steve Paino	no
Anthony Gismondi	yes
Mike Graham	yes
Paul Coombes	yes
Bob Quinones	yes

Motion to open the meeting to public comment was made by Willie Ortiz, seconded by Bob Quinones and approved unanimously

The meeting discussed whether the change to day of the week and location of Recreation Commission meetings was appropriate. There was a conflict for Commissioners involved with wrestling as they attend high school events on Wednesday nights. The meeting was reminded that the Recreation Commission had approved a motion to move Recreation Commission meetings from Thursday to Wednesday and from the Recreation Center to the Council Chambers in November. The purpose of this discussion was to approve a change to the by-laws to reflect this. After some discussion it was decided that the matter should be voted on.

Motion to close the meeting to public comment was made by Willie Ortiz, seconded by Paul Coombes and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve the change to the by-laws as reflected above was made by Paul Coombes and seconded by Mike Graham

Roll Call

Willie Ortiz	yes
Joe Vigna	yes
Steve Paino	no
Anthony Gismondi	yes
Mike Graham	yes
Paul Coombes	yes
Bob Quinones	yes

The motion passed with greater than 2/3 majority.

The secretary told the meeting that the meeting schedule that was approved in November listed a meeting on January 7th. As the meeting today was called as a special meeting and there is only 5 days till that date the secretary circulated a revised schedule of meeting dates for 2020 without the January 7th meeting date to reflect this.

Motion to approve revised schedule made by Will Ortiz and seconded by Paul Coombes.

Roll Call

Joe Vigna	yes
Steve Paino	no
Willie Ortiz	yes
Anthony Gismondi	yes
Mike Graham	yes
Paul Coombes	yes
Bob Quinones	yes

This schedule will be published in the Ridgewood News and Record.

Little League

All the paperwork has been submitted to the Little League.

VII New Business

Fundraising-Anthony has improved the layout of the spreadsheet for reporting the sponsors for the Summer Kick off Town picnic. This will be distributed.

Events-Eilish has contacted Giovanna at the Board of Health looking for dates for the 4/5th grade dance. The dates suggested originally conflicted with basketball practices and games so the current plan is to hold the dance late April.

There was a discussion about whether to hold a Winter Wonderland event in mid-February.

There was a discussion about a dance for the Seniors. Eilish will contact Ken Roman, president of the seniors.

There was a discussion about obtaining the liquor license for the Summer Kick Off/Town Picnic. The date for the Summer Kick Off/Town picnic was discussed and tentatively agreed as June 27th. The band that played at the Summer Kick Off/Town picnic in 2019 will be used for this year as well.

Field Scheduling-Nothing to report at the moment. The next big scheduling will be for baseball.

Communications- The Mayor and Council will be going to the Emerson Hotel after their reorganization meeting.

VIII Open Session (Public)

Motion to open the public comment was made by Willie Ortiz seconded by Paul Coombes. Passed unanimously

There being no public comment a motion to close the open the public session was made by Willie Ortiz seconded by Paul Coombes. Passed unanimously

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Willie Ortiz seconded by Paul Coombes. Passed unanimously Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Morris
Recreation Secretary