

**KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2014
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Hewitt at 7:00P.M. Chairman David Hewitt read aloud the following:

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News on January 9, 2014, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Star Ledger, and the Express Times on January 7, 2014. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Post Office on January 7, 2014.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of these committees, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over talk, and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Roll Call

Present

Richard Dodds
Ronald Hartpence
David Hewitt
Heidi Diminick
Chuck Kolvites
Jack Niciecki
Michael DeSapio
Sharon Lightner
Anthony Gioffre

Absent

Antimo Russano
Eugene Hill
Cheryl Salerno
Michele Mauzerall
Cynthia Niciecki

Also present at the meeting were Park Director's for the Kingwood Park, Jeffrey and Brenda Frischer

Public Comments - Privilege of the Floor

Bill Dalessio – Del Val Lightning Softball Team – Present to Get Permission to Use the Morton Building at the HBP.

2.

Mr. Dalessio was present to speak to the Parks and Recreation Committee to get permission to use the facility at the Horseshoe Bend Park. He stated that they would like to rent the Morton building for the girls softball team the Del Val Lightning. He explained that it is a team of 40 girls and they are looking for a place to practice. He stated that Linda Lentine told him about it. He explained that they would like to practice with their batting cages and set them up in the Morton building. He explained that he will be in charge of the practices and that they will have insurance. They are looking to not only practice, but to have a basic and agility training. He explained that he has looked at the building already and feels that it would be an excellent facility.

Mr. Dalessio noted that the teams would utilize the open space of the pole barn to conduct batting practice on a weekly basis, provided the space is available. He explained that the duration of each practice would be denoted ahead of time and can be as little as three hours or as much as eight, based on availability.

He explained that portable batting cages would be setup and taken down for each practice. The cages are completely enclosed with nylon netting to contain all ball movement within the cage. He explained that the Del Val Lightning would endeavor to purchase two cages for this purpose, each with dimensions of roughly 55 feet long, 11 feet wide, and 11 feet high and the cages consist of a pole and net configuration and break down rather easily.

Chairman David Hewitt asked how many of the girls on the team are from Kingwood Township. Mr. Dalessio stated it is approximately 7 girls from Kingwood Township. David Hewitt asked Sharon Lightner if she thought the batting cages would fit in the Morton building. Mr. Dalessio noted that these could be assembled and disassembled each time they use them. Richard Dodds noted that there is not much room to store the batting cages. He explained that when there is a dog show every square inch of the building is filled with people, dogs and their structures. He noted that there is no storage area in the building and that they could possibly obtain a shed or a storage building to store them inside and lock them up.

Ron Hartpence asked Mr. Dalessio to let the Parks and Recreation know what he has in mind for storage and they can work with him and find the best place for him to put the structure.

The Committee all approved the Del Val Lightning to use the facility at the Horseshoe Bend Park.

It was moved by Ron Hartpence, seconded by Richard Dodds and carried to approve the Del Val Lightning to use the Morton building facility at the Horseshoe Bend Park for softball practices at the price of \$35.00 a day if used several times a month during the winter months.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Dodds, Hewitt, Diminick, Hartpence, Kolvites, J. Niciecki, DeSapio
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- Russano, C. Niciecki

3.

Russ Oakes – 140 Horseshoe Bend Road, He explained that his lives in the middle of the Horseshoe Bend Park.

Michael DeSapio asked Mr. Oakes if he was going to discuss the proposed firearms ordinance, which will be heard at a public hearing tomorrow night at the Township Committee meeting and if so, he would like to recuse himself.

Mr. Oakes replied stating he will not be discussing the proposed firearms ordinance this evening, but that he was present to try and come in and get some kind of reprieve from the trail that was built right next to his home and the improvements he has made on the backstop of his shooting range.

He explained that the trail is right behind his shooting range. He handed out a diagram of his shooting range backstop to everyone and explained where it is located in reference to the trail. He wanted the Parks and Recreation Committee to see this, because he noted that some have called his range and backstop inadequate. He noted that since then, he has made some substantial changes to make it much safer. He noted that the State Deputy Attorney General, Fish and Game and a Range Master have all given their remarks on his range.

He explained the berm that he currently reconstructed in the diagram and the changes he made. He noted that it is 20 feet deep, 20 feet wide and it started out 7 feet high, but it has settled a little. He noted that he recently build a shooting building, which is portable so he doesn't have any zoning issues. He noted that is set up that way, because of the rules and regulations from the State.

Chairman David Hewitt explained that he and Richard Dodds visited Russ Oakes property and looked over his shooting range. He noted that after looking at this, he can see that he built this before there was a park around him. He feels that this is should not be referred to as a shooting range, because he feels that a shoot range is when you have multiple public users. Chairman David Hewitt suggested that the township put up a berm around Russ Oakes property.

Mr. Oakes feels that he spent too much money already on his backstop area to make it safer and feels he has gone above and beyond. He explained that one issue that the township had was that when walking around on the park property next to his shooting area, the township found a bullet that had gone through a steel plate. He explained why there were bullet marks outside the range. He explained that his children were shooting and one of the shots went through the steel onto the ground.

The Parks and Recreation Members asked Mr. Oakes if he had spoken to the N.J. Fish and Game. Mr. Oakes responded by stating they were at his property last week.

Ron Hartpence asked what the N.J. Fish and Game thought of his newly improved berm that he recently worked on. Mr. Oakes noted that Larry Herryghty, Assistant Director of the Fish and Wildlife was present and asked him to come and speak to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

4.

Larry Herrighty – Fish and Wildlife - Noted that he inspected the new berm and commended Mr. Oakes for making his berm safer. He feels that the berm is adequate, as he explained they gave Mr. Oakes advice as to how to make it safer before he completed the project. He feels that he is making an effort to make it safe. Richard Dodds asked Larry Herrighty if the Fish and Wildlife approved this range. Larry Herrighty replied by stating they do not certify shooting ranges. He explained that they check to see if they meet the standards. Larry Herrighty feels that Mr. Oakes is in a bad situation and feels that moving the hiking trail would also help in making it a safer area for the public. Russ Oakes feels that it is an invasion of privacy and that it is not necessary to have the trail so close with all the land on the park.

Richard Dodds asked Russell Oakes several questions about the history of the shooting range on his property, and Mr. Oakes responded. Mr. Oakes feels he was shooting for 14 years and has been shooting since the park has been open 4 years ago. Mr. Oakes explained why the new trail was made. Mr. Dodds explained over the overhead projector why the trail was created to go on that part of the park. He explained it was so that the public can get into the park since the area in the park was closed off by Mr. Oakes.

Mr. Dodds noted that a berm, and pine trees will be put around the trail and also shrubs. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the trails and Mr. Oakes home and property that is in the middle of the park.

The Committee thanked Russell Oakes for coming to the meeting. He thanked them for letting him speak.

Marylou Haring, Chairwoman of the Board of Adjustment – Commented on what happened at the Board of Adjustment Meeting when Mr. Oakes came for approval for his helipad. She feels that after the Board of Adjustments decision, it was overruled by the State and approve. She wanted to know why Russell Oakes does not have the right to have his helipad. Richard Dodds explained the entire history of what went on during that time.

Horseshoe Bend Park Update

Horseshoe Bend Park Update – Richard Dodds

Richard Dodds gave an update of the following that is coming up at the Horseshoe Bend Park:

Calendar of Events Scheduled for the Horseshoe Bend Park:

November 8th & 9th International Canine Club – Dog Show

November 30th – Amwell Valley Hound Club – Fox Hunt

Del Val Jr. Terriers – Nov. – 2,3,4,6,7,11,13,14,16,18,20,21,23,24,25

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed the upcoming events for Kingwood Park.

Calendar of Events Scheduled for the Kingwood Park:

Dec 6th - Annual Tree Lighting – Kingwood Park 4-5PM

5.

The Parks and Recreation Committee discussed the plans for the Annual Tree Lighting. Michael DeSapio offered to be Santa Claus this year again at the event. The Committee discussed the items they need for the tree lighting. There was a discussion on who the secretary should contact for the event. They discussed having the chorus from the Kingwood Township School come and sing. The coloring contest was also discussed. Secretary Keller noted that she had sent the pictures to the Kingwood School and they will need to be back to the township by November 24th. The Parks and Recreation Committee will judge the pictures and pick a winner at their December 3rd, meeting.

The Committee requested that they have a subcommittee meeting on December 20th, the third Thursday of the month at 7:00PM. to prepare for the event.

New and Pending Business

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 1, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes for the Parks and Recreation Committee

It was moved by Ron Hartpence, seconded by Richard Dodds and carried to approve the October 1, 2014 Regular Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes.

Comments: No comments or corrections.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	- Dodds, Hartpence, Hewitt, Diminick, Kolvites, J. Niciecki, DeSapio
Nay	- None
Abstain	- None
Absent	- Russano, C. Niciecki

Motion to Approve Funds Paid to Ian White for Music Camp in the Amount of \$420.00 For the month of October

It was moved by Ron Hartpence, seconded by Heidi Diminick and carried to approve the amount of \$420.00 for the month of October 2014 to reimburse Ian White for the Music Club at the Kingwood School.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	- Dodds, Hewitt, Diminick, Hartpence, Kolvites, J. Niciecki, DeSapio
Nay	- None
Abstain	- None
Absent	- Russano, C. Niciecki

Results from QC Labs for the Kingwood Park Water Test – Men’s Room Sink

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed. The results were negative for the final result.

6.

FYI – Ordinance No. 18-11-2014 – Amending Chapter 34 – Rules and Regulations for Overnight Parking

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed and noted this was discussed previously.

Ordinance No. 18-12-2014 – An Ordinance Creating a Safety Zone within 450 Feet of Township Parks, Playgrounds, and Schools

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed and noted that this will not be discussed this evening.

Michael DeSapio recused himself from the meeting at this time of 8:02pm.

Chairman David Hewitt explained that this was in the Parks and Recreation Members meeting package. He read aloud the ordinance and explained that it was to create a safety zone within 450 feet from township schools, playgrounds and parks and the several members of the committee feels that this ordinance affects the parks. He noted that the Township Committee has introduced this ordinance. He then asked if anyone on the Parks and Recreation Committee had anything to say regarding this ordinance.

Chairman David Hewitt noted that this ordinance directly concerns the parks in the township and feels that the Committee did not have any input on the ordinance. He stated that he would like to express that he feels that the Parks and Recreation Committee should be included when there is an ordinance being considered for adoption or that has any amendments that have anything to do with pertaining to the Kingwood Parks.

The Committee Members requested that Secretary Keller write a memo to the Township Committee requesting that the Parks and Recreation Committee be included when creating an ordinance for anything to do with the parks. They would like to review all ordinances before they are being considered to be adopted by the Township Committee. They feel that they should have a say in any changes the township may have that affects the parks.

Vice Chairman Ron Hartpence commented by stating he also feels that a letter should be sent to the Township Committee informing them that the Parks and Recreation Committee would like to be notified or included when there are any amendments to park grounds.

Chuck Kolvites commented by stating that this ordinance does not really involve the parks, but feels that it has to do with mostly private properties.

Heidi Diminick commented by stating she feels that the Parks and Recreation Committee should have been included when discussion this ordinance. She stated that she knew nothing about it until she received it in her meeting package, and that it was never discussed at a Park and Recreation meeting.

7.

Old Business

Incident Report Form – Updated 10/2014 – All Kingwood Parks

Chairman David Hewitt asked where this came from and why this was put on the agenda. Chuck Kolvites noted that he requested at the last Parks and Recreation meeting that this be updated for the Horseshoe Bend Park. Richard Dodds updated this report. The Parks and Recreation Committees approved the incident report.

Operations and Reports: Buildings and Grounds

Report for the Month of October 2014 -From - Park Director's Brenda and Jeffrey Frischer

Park Director, Jeffrey Frischer reviewed quotes that he obtained for parts for the mower at the Kingwood Park.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the differences in the quotes, the Parks and Recreation Committee suggested a memo be sent to the Township Committee to approve the amount not to exceed \$4,500 for the parts.

It was moved by Chuck Kolvites, seconded by Heidi Diminick and carried to approve to spend funds not to exceed the amount of \$4,500.00 for parts for a mower at the Kingwood Park.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Dodds, Hewitt, Diminick, Hartpence, Kolvites, J. Niciecki, DeSapio
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- Russano, C. Niciecki

Calendar of Events for October and November

Trunk or Treat – October 25th – 5:30PM – Review

Park Directors Brenda and Jeffrey Frischer reviewed the evening at the Kingwood Park and the Trunk or Treat. Park Director, Jeffrey Frischer feels that they need more volunteers to be there to help out and was concerned about the little children running around. They both feel that it was a successful event. They gave a few suggestions to improve the event for next year.

Park and Recreation Accounts

Budget Account Reports -From Township CFO
In and Out Account Report

The Parks and Recreation Committee reviewed the month reports from the township's C.F.O.

8.

Old Fairview School House

Yoga Classes Every Wednesday 9-12pm

Bocce Update

Letter and Donation of \$300 from the Italian American Heritage Club of Hunterdon County to go Towards Additional Picnic Tables to Match Those At the Bocce Pavilion at Kingwood Park

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed the donation from the Italian American Heritage Club. Everyone thanked the members of the club for their generous donation.

Bocce – Plan Budget 2015

Anthony Gioffre talked about the items they would like to purchase for the Bocce Pavilion. He reviewed the Plan Budget for 2015. It was noted that this is what the club would like to do in 2015.

Senior Picnic - 2015

Annual Fishing Derby - 2015

Annual Yard Sale – Saturday, October 4th and Sunday, October 5th, 2014

Discuss – Yard Sale of October 4th and 5th

The Committee Discussed how the day went. It was noted that it rained all day Saturday. Park Directors, Jeffrey and Brenda Frischer reviewed how it went at the park.

Senior Dinner

Kingwood Methodist Church- Dinner Scheduled for November 8th, 2014 —Saturday

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed what time everyone should be there to help out. There was a discussion to be there early by 11:30am. He noted that there are approximately about 104 seniors signed up and there is usually around 115 that show up. The Senior Dinner is from 12:00noon to 2:00p.m.

Scheduled Subcommittee Meeting to Work on Community Day Planning

January 15th, 2015 Start Planning Early

Donations

\$300.00 from the Italian American Heritage Club of Hunterdon County for Tables to Be Purchased for Bocce Pavilion

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed. Michael DeSapio noted that the Italian American Club loved using the park and stated that the pavilion facility was great to use. He noted that they are very happy to give a donation.

9.

Correspondence

Chairman David Hewitt reviewed the following letters that were sent out.

Thank you Letters for Community Day Support to the Following:

**Good Frost Band
Matt Gordeuk Band
Sonic Blenders Band
Kingwood Township Jazz Band
MEL Chemicals – Rides Sponsor
Cindy and Jack Niciecki – Hay Rides
Fireworks Sponsor – Fulton Financial of NJ
Fireworks Sponsor – Central Jersey Trucking and Rigging
Garden State Fire Works – Fireworks Display
Sweet Valley Farms – Watermelons
Calandra Bakery – Pies
Letter to Walmart Requesting Donation for Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Other Matter

N/A

Adjournment

It was moved by Heidi Diminick, seconded by Chuck Kolvites and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:35P.M. **All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Cynthia L. Keller, Secretary
Parks and Recreation Committee**