

The recreation board meeting was called to order on February 7, 2017 at 6:40 pm by Chairman Birkbeck in accordance with the sunshine law. Located at Balfour & Surrey Avenues.

Present: Commissioner Kriebel, Jerry Thomas, Paul Hydro, Diane Birkbeck, Mike Cahill and Joe Iannuzzelli.

Motion was made to approve January 2017 minutes by Joe Iannuzzelli and seconded by Mike Cahill.

Special Events Applications

JCC – April Fool’s Run- April 22 & 23, 2017. They will have a 5 k & 10 k and then ½ marathon and full marathon. Same as in the previous years. Fees and insurances are included. A motion was made by Mike Cahill and seconded by Joe Iannuzzelli to approve, all were in favor.

Jewish Summerfest- Rabbi Rapaport and Ventnor Shul- Sunday August 27, 2017, Newport/Newhaven Beaches. 5pm-8:30pm .Rabbi wasn’t present but the application was the same as in previous years , all details the same. Checks were included but waited to get insurance to make sure application was approved. Motion was made to approve application by Diane Birkbeck and seconded by Joe Iannuzzelli. All were in favor.

Commissioner Kriebel brought up the idea about since the City wants to have bigger events is the Recreation Board the right place for these applications to be approved? Jerry Thomas mentioned that he thought the Safety Committee which the City already has would possibly be a better fit to hear large events. There is already a month scheduled meeting where all department heads required to attend, Police, Fire, Public Works, Insurance representative from JIF, etc. this way the event can come to the safety meeting and get everyone’s opinion about it. The safety committee already has an application for this kind of even , the regular special events application really does not contain all that it needs to cover large scale events that people are trying to bring into Ventnor. These events might have to go to a Commission meeting (workshop) first to discuss with governing body and then if they approve the event it would proceed to the safety meeting’s agenda. Some things still being ironed out.

Porchfest 2017 -Mike Einwechter- wanted to present application to the board. The board discussed their concerns about the event in general. Safety of the porches these bands will perform on. Board member Hydro asked about railings, height of the porches. Mike said they have 10 porches that want to be a part of this event. He stated that he has or will inform the neighboring homes that specific porch will be included in this event. He is carrying the insurance for the event. He said each participating home will or has submitted a picture of the porch they will use. Mike E also mentioned that he had a Jitney lined up to transport the spectators.

Board member Hydro again stated his concern for the event of private porches, how do we know they are a safe structure to hold the bands?? Mike E stated it’s his responsibility to check for the safety of everyone who is participating in the event porch for safety. Each home will provide a Hold Harmless for Mike E to participate.

Commissioner Kriebel stated his concern is the for the City and the legality of the event. Mike e was instructed to attend the next Commission workshop to speak to the Commission and the City’s Solicitor about the event. Mike E agreed to come to present.

Summer Concert Series- Mike Einwehcter again presenting. Have them for 12 consecutive weeks on Sunday at Newport Ave Beach. Already be a conflict with a Sunday of August 27, 2017 it was approved for Rabbi Rapapport so Mike E could not have the date since he was not prepared to put application in tonight plus all the concerns from the Rec Board and the Commissioner. He would have food available for sale in the out cove behind the library. They have spoken with the neighbors about their concerns and Mike e stated they will not have a "loud" type music there and parking a big concern. Mike stated that he is in contact with Father about using St James Parking lot, nothing is confirmed yet. Also he said they would only have 2 cars in the fire lane. They would limit the traffic in that area. No food vendors along the bulk head there.

Public portion opened at 7:15 pm

Jackie Reinberg- 113 S Newport Ave- she lives directly across from gazebo. The concern for her is the frequency of the concerts, every Sunday a little too much for her and the neighbors.. They suggested rotating the event to different locations, have some at Ski Beach, Suffolk Ave and the Newport to take the burden off the residents at Newport. Make the event earlier so it ends earlier. Lack of Police presence. Ms. Reinberg stated a lot of cars parked there, a lot of moving and kids running all over the place, concern serious accident.

It was stated that they do not want Mike E to stop doing what he is doing but things are getting a lot bigger and everyone wants to make sure all details are in order

Commissioner Kriebel applauded Mike E for all the wonderful projects he does do for the City and wants those to continue but at a "safe" and comfortable process.

Mike e said to rotate the events would be a marketing nightmare, people would get confused from week to week where the concert is being held.

George Law- 15 E Berkshire Dr. Northfield NJ – it's a great idea has lived in Ventnor for years just recently moved off shore. PD always blocked off the street when had concerts before. Ski beach is a bad alternative, poor lighting and the bugs are horrible there.

Mike E was asked what happened to Ventnor Tourism? He stated that the other board members and himself had different ideas on things so he left and formed Amazing Ventnor.

Public portion closes at 8:15pm

Application was referred to the Governing Body because of the size and frequency of the event. Mike E was instructed that he needs to attend the next Commission meeting to discuss the events and his future events for approval. After that he will go to the Safety Committee for approval from then. Recreation board is not comfortable approving such a large scale event.

Frog Rx- Dominic Anzideo- had an earlier date of early May but came tonight to change the date to April 8, 2017 at Suffolk Beach, 5pm -10pm at the latest. All the same as in last year but this will be a fund raiser for area Police Departments. It's ran by ex- navy seals and it is a rigorous boot camp type event. Checks were included but will get the insurance to Jerry Thomas, he didn't want to pay for it unless event was approved.

Motion was made to approve the date change by Paul Hydro and seconded by Mike Cahill

Director report:

They added a hair braiding class to the lineup for kids

NY Baseball Bus trip is May 13- NY Yankees

Check list for the recreational facilities

Looking over contract for ground maintenance- seeking, grooming etc.

Middle of the football practice field needs repairs to it.

Senior League In-field- might have to be replaced

Lights hopefully do a section at a time (budget) to fix them.

Refreshment stand was inspected- report is good, but grills need to be cleaned.

Looking into redo Tennis courts and then look at adding a pickle ball court.

Commissioner Kriebel stated that he is not sure why the Tennis courts and the tennis programs have always been separate from Recreation. It should be included. He is looking into making some little changes in this area.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Joe Iannuzzelli and seconded by Diane Birkbeck. All were in favor.