

A meeting was called to order by Chairman Beirne at 6:30 pm on July 14, 2009 at 6:35 p.m. at our recreation building located in Ventnor Heights at Surrey & balfour Avenues in accordance with the sunshine law.

Present: Debbie Beirne, Diane Birkbeck, John Gallagher, Jan Sarnese,
Guests: Mike Advena.

Mr. Advena wanted to make the recreation board aware that “hooked on fishing” tournaments have been started again. The volunteer committee will run it with the help of some fishing club members who assisted the city in previous years with running the tournaments. For the time being they will be doing the youth tournament and thinking about doing a small disabled tournament. The date for the youth tournament they would like it to be August 29th and if they can get together a disabled tournament (very small) they would like that to be August 1 for about 20 participants.

The kids tournament would be in 2 sessions have 50 kids from 10-noon and then another 50 kids from 1-3pm. The committee is looking for sponsorship; they sent letters out looking for donations.

The recreation board thought it was a great idea but needed to get back to Mr. Advena after checking to see if there was any conflict with the date. Mr. Advena will be informed on the next business day if there is any conflict.

Each participant must have an adult to supervise them; the committee besides themselves has about 20 volunteers to help with the tournament. The only issue brought up from the board is if the event is covered through city insurance?? Director Thomas will look into that he stated.

The tournaments have always been run on behalf of the City so Mr. Advena just wanted everyone to know the status of the tournaments. He has also spoken to the Mayor and Commissioners and they are in favor of continuing the events.

Mr. Dan Stecher- 500 N. Suffolk Ave. stopped by to discuss the SCORE program. He states it's a wonderful program and a lot of parents are very upset that the City has not gotten renewed for the next round of grants. Anything he can do as well as many other parents to help get the grant money back for Ventnor he is willing to do. It's a wonderful program he stated it keeps kids off the streets and out of trouble. His phone number was also given for any help needed to Director Thomas.

Board member Gallagher wanted a correction made at tonight's meeting in regards to the March 2009 minutes. In the minutes he wanted it stated that he said in reference to our "wish" list that "due to cost the city is not able to do all the things every year they would like to do, so our wish list would have to be on a rolling basis to repair and update things on the list as needed from year to year".

Also Mr. Gallagher made a motion to the board that the recreation board makes a motion at each meeting to approve the previous month's minutes. Seconded by Jan Sarnese. All were in favor.

Applications:

Alan B Roth walk—this was presented previously but due to the organizers of the event not being able to provide insurance, the application was denied. The application is in front of the board this month with updated insurance and the fees. It is the same, the walk will be on August 9, 2009 start at Newport to Fredericksburg and then to Jackson and back to Newport. The Director wanted the rec board to review the application again and make sure everything is updated. Motion was made to approve application and it will be passed on the Police Chief. Motion was made to reaccept application by John Gallagher and seconded by Jan Sarnese.

2nd application: Congregation Beth Judah. Date is Sept 4 (Friday) 6pm at Newport ave beach and gazebo. They have been doing the same kind of event in the past years. Checks are included but the insurance police was made out in error to the wrong municipality so they will be notified. A motion was made to adopt this application based on the proper insurance being received by John Gallagher and seconded by Diane Birkbeck.

A copy was given to the rec board from Pirates President AJ Russo in reference to the coaches that recv'd first aid training and who signed and agreed to the pirates code of ethics, etc. Updates will follow. A copy to be given to Comm. Weintrob and included in the rec board minutes per requested by Director Thomas.

Director's Report:

Summer Volleyball League started. Mike Feely is the director as in past years, everything running smooth and he is in contact weekly with Director Thomas and doing a great job.

Director Thomas spoke about the Labor Day Weekend- Wooden Bat League- 22 teams they have approached Director Thomas about being here and using the ballfields. One of the problems aside from the normal of insurance questions, fees is that they want to start tournament on Saturday day, Pirates begin season on Saturday so Director Thomas has asked AJ Russo the President of the pirates if they could possibly play their sat game on Friday. Other concerns will be moving the bleachers, goal posts etc.

Idea was the concession stand if this tournament is approved. Idea was to have our rec programs work the stand because it should be very busy and all the programs could benefit from the sales at the stand, i.e., girls baseball, football, little league, babe ruth, who ever wants to man the stand would then benefit from the sales at the stand.

Ventnor Mile run previous year had 94 runners, this year had 83 runners. Board member Birkbeck stated that the city should do more advertisement for all out events. With all expenses, still made \$721.00. She also stated that we should look into buying a bulletin board type of information thing to let residents know what is going on.

A suggestion was made that the “special events committee” might want to purchase something like mentioned above. Director Thomas said he would approach them.

Board member Gallagher asked Director Thomas for next month’s meeting to have the budget for the board members to review.

Board member Birkbeck also wanted to see about getting a cricket program started in Ventnor. Will update next month but she was suggested to talk to people in the neighborhood who would know the rules of the game and possibly have some volunteers lined up to help with the program and report back next month.

Also in the works is boy’s girl’s high school volleyball league- a short article will be in the local paper to see if there is an interest. If there is a turn out they would run it the end of August until school starts and then see about giving the program a separate nite.

Suggestion was also made to advertise for instructors for the adult classes. Then see what kind of instructors respond and then build classes around them so that it’s not the same old classes being offered.

7:55 pm motion was made to adjourn meeting by Debbie Beirne and seconded by Diane Birkbeck--