



Parks & Recreation Committee

May 20, 2008

7:30 PM

Chairperson: Steve Mosolansky Council Chambers

Minutes

In Attendance:

Steven Mosolansky, Chairperson
Linda Woshner, President
Connie Flasher, DAS

Sharon Helfrich, L/C Director
Tony Barbarino, DPW Supt.
Mary Ward, Pool Manager

Lisa Blaney-Stewart was excused.

Steve Mosolansky, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Citizen Comment:

- ❖ Patricia Walters a resident from Bellevue explained to the Committee that she is unhappy because her daughter is to be a pool employee has not received a letter stating that she was hired and what amount she is making.
 - She further explained that she was unhappy that Ms. Ward had taken copies of her daughter's birth certificate and social security card, which was not given to the Administrative Office.
 - The DAS stated that she would check into this.
 - Ms. Ward stated that she would look in her records to confirm if this was not forwarded to the Administrative Office.
 - Ms. Ward stated that it was her understanding that the Administrative Office was to send out the letters informing the employees that they were hired.
 - She stated that she would look for Ms. Walter's daughters birth certificate and social security card.
 - Ms. Walters told the Committee that her daughter was told that if she is suspected of drug or alcohol usage then they will be required to get into Ms. Ward's personal vehicle and be escorted for a drug test.
 - Ms. Ward stated that she does have the authority to take them to get a drug test.
 - She stated that she had explained to the employees if she suspects that they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol they will be escorted to be tested.
 - She further stated that if they are under the age of 18 their parents would be informed.
 - She stated that the employees have the option of taking the test but if they do not take the test then they can be discharged immediately.
 - Ms. Walter questioned if there is a policy reflecting this.
 - The DAS stated that the Borough is working on a policy reflecting this.
 - Ms. Ward stated that this is a period of transition and she had been hired at the last minute.
 - She stated that since she is new to this position there was some confusion about what she is responsible for and what the Administrative Office is to handle.
 - She stated that in previous positions she had been the one doing all of the work and was the decision maker.
 - The DAS stated that she is working on a policy manual that clarifies all of these things.
 - The DAS said that she is also new and there are things that are being worked out such as establishing policies as well as rules and regulations.
- ❖ Ms. Macatora, a parent of a potential employee questioned what the lifeguards are able to bring to the pool, water bottles, etc. will be addressed in this handbook.

- Ms. Ward stated that is correct, but she was going to have a group meeting to discuss these things with the life guards and concession stand employees.
- She stated that all of the new guards will be under the wing of an experience guard.
- The parent stated that because Ms. Ward is meeting with the guards separately their stories are different, where she is hearing negative things and she is not sure which are true and which are not.
- Ms. Ward stated that she understands that change is difficult and that every one has to keep in mind that the employees are teenagers and their interpretations are going to be different.
- Ms. Ward stated that a group meeting was planned.
- Mr. Mosolansky stated that the Borough made an error in waiting too long for advertising for the pool manager.
- He stated that when there is change people don't like change and to give Ms. Ward a chance.
- He stated that he wanted to change last year but Mrs. VanDevelde was the best applicant at that time.
- Ms. Ward explained to the residents and the Committee what type of changes and policies she will be implementing.
- ❖ Mr. Burns a resident from Forest Avenue questioned why they are requiring Act. 33 clearances for employees that are being hired at the pool, as well as who will be paying for these clearances.
 - Ms. Ward stated that it is important since they are going to be around children and it will be his responsibility to pay for those clearances.
 - There was discussion as to why this is being done.
- ❖ Mrs. Burns of an employee stated that their daughter signed a form that they did not get to see first.
 - Ms. Ward stated that this is a form informing them they are on a 30-day probationary period.
 - Another parent also requested anything that was signed by their child to be given to them to review.
 - They stated that they feel that their children should not be signing anything without their knowledge.
 - Ms. Ward stated that she wanted it understood that all of the lifeguards are coming in under a 30-day probationary period.
 - There was discussion about whether the parents were to be present when their children signed this paperwork.
 - Ms. Ward stated that she is not sure how she is going to work under these conditions.
 - She stated that this work relationship is not going to work; she stated that the pool has not opened and the parents of the lifeguards are already interrogating her.
 - She stated that she will drop off the paperwork in the morning and turned in her keys.
 - She apologized if she had offended anyone and stated to the DAS that everything is done for opening day.
 - She stated that everything has been ordered and everything has been scheduled.
 - There was discussion by the Committee about whether there was a contract for her.
 - The DAS stated that she was hired in order to get the pool in order, for legal and liability purposes.
 - She stated that Ms. Ward has been hired to implement rules and regulations so the pool is legal.

- Mayor Doscher stated that he is concerned because she left the first time that she got publicly scrutinized.
- Mr. Mosolansky stated that the pool will be closed until a new pool manager is hired.
- The DAS stated that the Borough was in a crunch situation where they wanted to have it open for Memorial Day.
- She stated that she wanted to have things done so that the Borough does not get into a liability issue. She stated that there has been one thing after another and she stated that with Ms. Ward's personal situation she could have been frustrated.
- Mayor Doscher stated that he feels that the parent's questions were valid and were not accusatory.
- There was further discussion about what had happened.
- ❖ Ms. Smith a business owner in Bellevue explained to the Committee that she had to change the web site address due to a difference in opinions about what type of content the web site was to have.
 - There was discussion about the web site and what would be on the web site.
 - Ms. Smith stated explained to the Committee some events that she will be having for the "Summer Solstice Spectacular" event.
 - Ms. Smith explained that she would like to have a car cruise on Saturday the 21st.
 - Mr. Barbarino stated that there are no DPW workers currently scheduled to help with this event.
 - The DAS stated that they will get together to see how much time will need to be scheduled for this.
 - There was discussion about what needs to be done by the Borough to coordinate this event.

Library & Cultural:

- ❖ Mrs. Helfrich discussed and reviewed the Library's monthly reports and upcoming activities.
 - Mrs. Helfrich stated that the concerts in the park have been paid for.
- ❖ She stated that she will need to schedule the Council chambers for some events.
- ❖ There was discussion about the Memorial Day events.
- ❖ Mrs. Helfrich stated that the concert in the park banner would have to be hung.
 - There was discussion as to when the banner will be hung.

Bayne Park:

- ❖ There was discussion about the memorial that a resident is asking to place at Bayne Park.
 - There was discussion by the Committee.
 - Mr. Mosolansky stated that through his research he has found that other municipalities have had residents purchase bricks as a form of a memorial.
 - He stated that he doesn't foresee residents wanting to purchase bricks but did say but believes that a minimum dollar amount should be given of the cost of a memorial to avoid too many residents requesting a memorial to be placed in the park for them.
 - The Committee stated that they believe that \$1,000 minimum would be good because it costs approximately \$1,000 to purchase a metal bench and base.

Swimming Pool:

- ❖ The DAS stated that the pool party rates need to be established.
 - The DAS presented to the Committee the memo from Ms. Ward about the fees.
 - The Committee made the motion to establish the pool party rates as recommended by Ms. Ward.
- ❖ The DAS stated that the swim team requested for the Borough to see if they would be willing to get the pool pa system.

- The Committee stated that they will wait until this situation is resolved before authorizing the expenditure of money for the PA system.
- ❖ Mr. Mosolansky stated that Ms. Smith requested to have free swimming at the Pool both Saturday and Sunday of the "Summer solstice Spectacular" Event.
 - The Committee made a motion to make a recommendation to Council to have free swimming for both Saturday June 21st and Sunday 22nd.
- ❖ Mr. Mosolansky stated that he talked to Kuhns and they said they would reduce the costs for the food for the Fourth of July event.
 - Mr. Mosolansky stated that it was suggested to go to Sams Club to see if the Borough can purchase less expensive food.
 - Mr. Mosolansky seconded by Mrs. Woshner made a motion to authorize the expenditure not to exceed \$600.00 for food for the Fourth of July events.
- ❖ Mr. Mosolansky stated that it was suggested to him to have an entrance sign for Memorial Park.
 - He stated that it would be to help people see that it is a park because they pass by it since they do not know what it is.
 - There was discussion by the Committee about who could make this sign.
- ❖ Mrs. Helfrich stated that she would like to see about having a sign made for the Library noting the events that are held on a daily basis.
- ❖ Mr. Mosolansky stated that there is a bare patch by the flag pool to Memorial Park.
 - He stated that he has talked to Mr. Barbarino and it was suggested putting hosta plants in that area since they are hearty plants and it would make it look better.
 - There was discussion as to where those plants could be transplanted.
- ❖ The DAS stated that there are issues with the dumpster that the Friends of the Library want to place up at Bayne Park.
 - Mrs. Helfrich stated that the dumpster is being emptied once a week which is fine and she sees no need for more dumpsters.
 - Mr. Barbarino questioned if those dumpsters are to be fenced in.
 - The DAS stated that he is to talk to the CEO and believes that it just needs to be if it contains trash.
 - There was discussion as to what constitutes trash.
 - There was discussion about what is allowed to be thrown in the recycling dumpster and what payment the "Friends of the Library" get per pound for the paper.

Memorial Park:

- ❖ Nothing at this time.

Gillott Field:

- ❖ Nothing at this time.

Administration:

- ❖ Nothing at this time.

Old Business:

- ❖ Nothing at this time.

New Business:

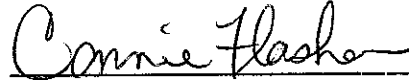
- ❖ Nothing at this time.

Citizen Comment:

- ❖ Ms. Smith asked the Committee when does the Borough think they will have composting at Memorial Park.
 - The DAS stated that they are planning on revisiting this but they are looking into where they would be able to place this composting area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Connie Flasher
Secretary

Motions to be made:

1. **Motion to establish the pool party rates as follows:**
 - a. **\$75.00 per hour for two-hour parties.**
 - b. **\$9.00 pay rate per hour for each guard.**
 - i. **Recommended 4 guards per party of 50 (or more as needed).**
2. **Motion to make a recommendation to Council to have free swimming for both Saturday June 21st and Sunday 22nd for the "Summer Solstice Spectacular" event.**
3. **Motion to authorize the expenditure not to exceed \$600.00 for food for the Fourth of July event.**