

Franklin Borough
Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes for
February 3, 2022

This meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by the Chairwomen, Mrs. Nahrwold, who then led the assembly in the flag salute.

Mrs. Nahrwold read the statement on compliance pursuant to the "Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975"

ROLL CALL OF MEMEBERS:

Mrs. Theresa Nahrwold – Chairwomen (present)
Mrs. Patti Carnes - Co-Chairwomen (present)
Mrs. Rachel Heath - Council Liaison (present)
Mrs. Darlene Pallay – Treasurer (present)
Mrs. Christina Sanchez – Member (present)
Mrs. Bobbi Formica – Member (present)
Mr. Concetto Formica – Member (present)
Mrs. Barbara Castania – Member (present-virtual)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

January 6, 2022 meeting minutes:

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to approve meeting minutes.

Mrs. Carnes made the motion. Second by Mrs. Pallay.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mrs. Nahrwold, Mrs. Carnes, Mrs. Pallay, Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Formica, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Castania

NAYS: none

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Heath

APPROVED

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION #1:

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to open, open public session #1.

Mrs. Carnes made the motion. Second by Mrs. Formica.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mrs. Nahrwold, Mrs. Carnes, Mrs. Pallay, Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Formica, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Castania

NAYS: none

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Heath

APPROVED

Robert from the Franklin Band was present via zoom from the public.

Robert presented an idea to the committee, stating the Franklin Band would like to partner with recreation to hold a concert at the pond. The Franklin Band would provide the music and recreation could provide food.

Robert stated a Tuesday night sometime in July could work.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated this sounds like a great idea.

The committee discussed possible dates with Robert.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated they would be looking to July 12th, so that it is not too close to the next event of National Night Out.

Robert agreed on this date.

Mrs. Carnes asked to confirm if the Franklin Band would still be practicing at the pond every Tuesday night.

Robert stated he would get back to the committee with that information because the band had moved practice to the Franklin Borough school and they have other events they will be attending, so was unsure if they needed to hold practice at the pond.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to close open public session #1.

Mrs. Carnes made the motion. Second by Mrs. Sanchez.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mrs. Nahrwold, Mrs. Carnes, Mrs. Pally, Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Formica, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Castania

NAYS: none

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Heath

APPROVED

COMMITTEE REPORT

Treasure's Report –

Mrs. Nahrwold asked if they needed to review the current and trust fund reports.

Mr. Formica stated he spoke with the CFO, who informed him that the way the accounts were previously being handled were ok when recreation was a commission, but now that they are committee things need to be handled differently.

Mr. Formica explained that in the past the yearly budget was divided into the sub accounts, but they cannot do that anymore.

Mr. Formica stated the yearly budget is borough money, so it needs to be used throughout the current year or it goes back to the borough at the end of the year.

Mr. Formica stated the CFO suggested they use the current fund through out the year and at the end of the year if there are still funds remaining recreation can use those funds to buy new equipment, make repairs, etc.

Mrs. Pally asked for clarification on how the new account break down will work.

Mr. Formica stated the current fund yearly budget is a use it or lose it case.

Recreation secretary, Suzann Brush, confirmed what Mr. Formica stated, and informed the committee the amount being shown on the current yearly budget is temporary until mayor and council approve the final yearly budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Boy Scouts Committee Chair-

Mrs. Nahrwold stated there was communication regarding an inquiry for a new Boy Scout Committee Chair, and at this time the boy scouts confirmed there was no other candidate for the position.

Mrs. Loretta Walker was in attendance to request nomination as Boy Scouts Committee Chair, and briefly talked to the committee about her interest and ability to hold the chairperson position.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to appoint as Boy Scouts Committee Chair.

Mrs. Formica made the motion. Second by Mrs. Carnes.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mrs. Nahrwold, Mrs. Carnes, Mrs. Pallay, Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Formica, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Castania

NAYS: none

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Heath

Boy Scouts Eagle Scout Certificate/Plaque-

Mrs. Nahrwold stated next, they would discuss the Boy Scouts Eagle Scout certificate.

Mrs. Carnes stated there is an Eagle Scout ceremony on Sunday that she would be attending.

Mrs. Carnes stated Suzann, recreation secretary, had created a nice certificate that will be presented to the Eagle Scout.

Ms. Carnes stated in the past a plaque was purchased for the Eagle Scout.

The committee agreed to purchase a plaque and discussed a budget.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to set a \$55 budget for the Boy Scouts Eagle Scout plaque.

Mrs. Formica made the motion. Second by Mrs. Carnes.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mrs. Nahrwold, Mrs. Carnes, Mrs. Pallay, Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Formica, Mr. Formica, Mrs. Castania

NAYS: none

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Heath

Girls on the Run funding-

Mrs. Nahrwold opened discussion regarding Girls on the Run funding request. She gave a brief description of the program and what they were asking.

Mr. Formica stated to speak with Andrew, the CFO, because he did not think recreation was allowed to do that.

Mrs. Sanchez confirmed recreation is not allowed to make donations to other organizations. Recreation secretary, Suzann Brush, said she would forward the information to Andrew, the CFO.

Vendors/Spring Events-

Mrs. Nahrwold opened discussion about future events and starting to build a vendor list.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated they already had some vendors from last year.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked about possibly creating some kind of contract to lock vendors in.

Mrs. Heath stated that is something the town attorney would have to be involved in.

Mrs. Heath asked if the vendors pay us.

Mrs. Formica stated they charge a \$25 vendor fee.

Mrs. Formica stated The Scoop had told her they were contracted to be at Hardyston's movie nights, and the town pays them but in return The Scoop provides free ice cream to the guests.

Mrs. Heath asked if the current vendor forms would be enough to lock in a vendor.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated the current form would only be good for the current event, not future events.

Mrs. Carnes stated she thinks they should do it per event, unless they find a vendor that would be reoccurring.

Mrs. Formica stated Karen should be reaching out soon to confirm the exact dates for carnival, and usually they ask that recreation find food vendors.

Mrs. Formica stated the carnival usually has their own vendors and will give a list of things recreation can not sell during the carnival.

Mrs. Carnes stated she found a Facebook page for vendors that she joined to watch and get information from.

Mrs. Sanchez stated they should be talking about Spring, Summer, and Fall events now because vendors are booking now.

Mrs. Carnes stated they could start sending out inquiries now for Franklin Day.

Mrs. Formica stated to reach out to the Boy Scouts.

Mrs. Sanchez asked when Franklin Day was.

Mrs. Carnes stated June 18th.

Mr. Formica stated they were going to start it later this year because it was a long day with the heat and everything.

Mrs. Formica asked Mrs. Nahrwold if she wanted her to reach out to Garden State Fireworks for Franklin Day.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked if that was the same company from last year.

Mr. Formica stated they usually use the same company each year, so yes.

Mrs. Nahrwold also confirmed yes to reach out to Garden State Fireworks.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated they are able to register for National Night Out now and they should do that.

Mr. Formica and Mrs. Carnes stated the police normally do that.

Mrs. Formica stated she registered the committee last year.

Mrs. Carnes asked if they were going to do a fishing derby this year.

Mr. Formica stated he thought it would be better to do it when it's warmer out, in the past when they had one of the derbies it was very nice out and the turnout was big.

Mr. Formica stated he would look into the state program, Hooked On Fishing, if they planned under that program the derby may be a little earlier.

Mrs. Formica asked if they wanted to do an adult night concert.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated they had talked about it last year and she was still on board.

Mrs. Carnes stated she agreed.

Mrs. Pallay asked if they could do an 80's night with classic cars.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated she loved that idea and maybe they could look into getting The Wonderers car show to come.

Mr. Formica stated he got communication back and the state fishing derby would be June 5th.

Mrs. Carnes reviewed some of the even dates: fishing derby – (tentative) June 5th, Franklin Night – June 18th, National Night Out – August 2nd.

Mrs. Pallay asked when they thought the pond would be open, if it would be 4th of July or earlier.

Mrs. Formica stated after Franklin Day.

Mr. Formica stated the one year they did a grand opening after Franklin Day.

Mrs. Carnes stated it was right around 4th of July weekend.

Mr. Formica stated it also depends on if they can get lifeguards.

Mrs. Nahrwold added additional event information: Franklin Band concert – (tentative) July 12th and they need to plan for the adult night concert and car show.

Mrs. Castania asked if the adult night concert is the one they wanted to invite breweries to.

Mrs. Nahrwold confirmed yes.

Mr. Formica stated if they plan on having alcohol at the event it has to be passed by the mayor and council.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked if they should find out about having the concert at the Fireman's pavilion since it is closed in.

The committee discussed possible dates for 50's night (adult night concert).

Mrs. Nahrwold asked if they should do a Friday or Saturday night.

The committee all agreed a Saturday night would be best.

Mrs. Carnes asked if this was replacing the Fall Festival.

Mrs. Formica stated no, the Fall Festival is in October.

The committee looked for dates in September, tentatively September 17th.

The committee discussed putting up flyers at the local high school to try and get lifeguards for the pond, as they really would like to try to have the pond open this year.

Mrs. Carnes stated she had found a potential vendor for inflatables, that they will set up/break down and provide supervision, and they have liability insurance.

Mrs. Carnes asked the committee members to look at the web site and let her know what inflatables they liked so they could start pricing them out and see if it fits in the budget.

The committee discussed start time for Franklin Night.

The committee decided they would start Franklin Night off with the Miss. Franklin pageant at 3:00pm, followed by a band, and then Franklin Night would run until the fireworks at the end of the night.

Other Events/Projects-

Mr. Formica stated he reached out to the vendor that they got the playground from, because they still have the grant money to do the second pavilion by the senior center.

Mr. Formica stated he wanted to start discussing what the committee wanted to do because it would take a minimum of 26 weeks for the new pavilion.

Mrs. Pallay asked if they ever considered building an enclosed structure down at the pond that could be used all year round, like a rec center.

The committee all agreed a rec center would be great, however that would be a great undertaking to build and space is limited at the pond for that kind of structure.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated they would need to have a meeting specifically for that topic.

Mr. Formica stated he would like to keep applying for grants to be able to continue to improve the pond.

Mrs. Heath stated an idea to possibly look into the old state building on route 23, across from Brick and Brew, that that would be phenomenal for a rec center.

The committee all agreed this kind of project would be a major improvement for the town and is something they would like to discuss further.

Mrs. Pallay stated she would like to discuss putting together a women's softball team, women 18 and older.

Mrs. Pallay stated they could probably join with Vernon, but have a Franklin women's softball team.

Mrs. Formica stated they could join Vernon as team Franklin.

Mrs. Pallay stated they would need insurance and equipment.

Mrs. Carnes asked if the old playground was going to be taken down this year.

Mr. Formica stated he reached out to Corby to see if they would be interested in purchasing the old playground equipment, but they said no because it is too out dated.

Mrs. Carnes asked once the playground was taken down then the new pavilion would be put up.

Mr. Formica confirmed yes if that is what the committee would like to do.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked if they are going to put up a new pavilion, can they consider something like they have at Wheatsworth park, its covered and has benches underneath.

Mrs. Nahrwold stated she goes to Wheatsworth often with her children and it is one of the only playgrounds that has seating and coverage from the sun.

Mr. Formica stated he needs to go back to the company to re-price the new pavilion and find out what the lead time would be.

Mr. Formica mentioned other possible projects like the paved walk way, putting a new roof on the existing pavilion, removing a light and adding electricity to the new pavilion.

The committee would need to further discuss what projects they want to do.

Mr. Formica stated the county is going to put in new guiderails this year all along the pond.

Mr. Formica stated he would like to keep applying for grants to help fund the projects the committee would like to do.

Mrs. Castania stated when she was a kid there was a program in the summer, she went to at the pond that offered different opportunities like sports, crafts, karate, etc.
Mrs. Nahrwold stated they would have to look into getting volunteers, which could be hard.
Mrs. Sanchez stated she doesn't know if people realize how difficult that would be to run on such a small group of volunteers, and is not sure if it's realistic.
Mrs. Pallay asked how could they make it realistic.
Mrs. Formica stated they would need more people.
Mrs. Pallay stated maybe they could do three events as a trial to see how this type of program would go.
Mrs. Heath suggested reaching out to local businesses.
Mrs. Formica stated maybe they could reach out to local karate schools and dance studios and see if they would want to come down and offer a class.
Mrs. Pallay asked how long these sessions would last.
Mrs. Castania stated they ran about two week and there was different event on each day, and parents could sign their child up for which ever events they wanted to participate in.
Mrs. Castania stated the sessions/classes were about 30-45 minutes.
Mrs. Castania stated maybe they could pick three activities and run it a few days to a week to test it out and see what people think.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION #2:

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to open, open public session #2.
The committee did not think anyone was still present from the public, however Robert from the Franklin Band added a quick comment to suggest the Fireman's pavilion for the concert.
The committee felt the pond is the best option.

Mrs. Nahrwold asked for a motion to close open public session #2.
Mrs. Carnes made the motion. Second by Mrs. Sanchez.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

All were in favor

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Heath

APPROVED

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS:

Mr. Formica stated he just heard back from the state and they are going to send him information from the game warden tomorrow about the fishing stuff.

AJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Nahrwold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Carnes
All were in favor.

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm