

A meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Nolan at 6:33 p.m. on August 11, 2009 at our recreation building located in Ventnor Heights at Surrey and Balfour Avenues in accordance with the sunshine law.

Present: Lori Nolan, John Gallagher, Bart Beck, Diane Birkbeck, Jerry Thomas-
Chairman Beirne Arrived 6:35pm

Gst were: Debbie Davies, Kelli Gowdy here to present special events applications.
Commissioner Weintrob arrived at 6:33 p.m.

Kelli Gowdy from AC High School and she is an asst. coach for Field Hockey at the school and she and the other field hockey coaches wanted to have a car wash to raise money for the team. It would be Friday Sept 4, 2009 from 8- 4pm She spoke to Chief Sabo of the fire department he had no problem with them using the little space behind the fire house to hold the car wash. It is a little out cove next to the firehouse on NewHaven Avenue. They would advertise and some kids would hold signs to get people to come in. Adult supervision would be there- coaches and if need be some of the girls parents would come also. The most would be 10 people working the car wash. The insurance is not with application but Ms. Gowdy assured the rec board that it is not a p problem she already confirmed it with the Director of sports at the school, Frank Campo and insurance would be covered by the school. Checks were provided tonight. The rec board made a recommendation to approve the application based on the insurance being provided. Also Director Thomas stated that this would go to the Police Chief for his concerns and then he also suggested that Ms. Gowdy go to the Commission for their opinion on the event since they are asking to use city property and also city water. Ms Gowdy said she would contact the City Clerk the next day to be put on the agenda. for the commission to discuss since they are requesting to use Ventnor property and the event is something that the recreation board has never handled and they had some questions regarding water supply etc so that is why it was recommended it go to the Commissioners for their approval as well as the Police Chief..

With the recommendations as mentioned above the rec board did make a motion to approve the car wash applications as long as the insurance is recv'd and as long as the Police Dept and Commission have no problems with the event. Motion made by Lori Nolan and seconded by John Gallagher.

Next application was for the Atlantic County ARC- requesting a walk on the boardwalk as in previous year, last year event was held in may 2008, they are hoping for more people to turn out if hold it later after the summer season. Debbie Davies was present to present application. It is a fund raiser and one of their biggest of the year. Requesting to have it on 10/10/09 they will have all their festivities at St James Hall. It will begin around 9:30 am and they are asking for assistance from the Police Dept to help cross the bulk of the walkers and then to help in the return cross to St James for their award

ceremony etc. Director Thomas will make sure the Police Chief is aware of this request when reviewing the application. All checks and insurances are included with application. A motion was made to approve application by John Gallagher and seconded by Diane Birkbeck.

A motion was made to approve minutes of June's meeting by John Gallagher and Seconded by Diane Birkbeck.

Director's report:

Rooster for the arts & crafts and sports camp enclosed. Receipts also included. Profit made was roughly \$6,000.00 for the program.

Lori Nolan brought up a matter of the refreshment stand the freezers that were donated not working so Comm. W suggested she contact Jim Obrien and have him look at the outlet because she thinks it a power surge type matter.

Motion was made to accept the receipts and log from the arts & crafts and sports camp by John Gallagher and seconded by Lori Nolan.

Director Thomas brought up a flyer from the Ventnor Pirates regards to Annual fund raiser; Claudia Fund Football Jamboree will be the weekend of Aug 28 & 29th, 2009. Director Thomas will notify the PD of extra traffic that weekend due to the football games at the fields.

A motion was made to approve request to use the fields by Lori Nolan and Diane Birkbeck for the Claudia Fund Football Jamboree.

Budget: a print out was handed out to rec board members regarding spending of recreation department.- most recent transactions.

7:00 pm Tim Kreischer arrives.

7:05 pm-Public Portion opens .

Now some of the Rec Board members have some concerns about the dissolving of the recreation trust fund from what Comm. Weintrob stated at tonight's meeting- - they don't feel the can have an accurate accounting of the monies spent from the trust fund. Also along with Lori Nolan some of the board member's concerns were that when someone donates to the recreation department for a specific reason, that person wants it spent on a recreation thing and now it can be taken and spent on anywhere else it is needed. Board members again stated that when Mayor Kelly was presented earlier in the year when the recreation trust was being discussed she stressed that the money from the trust would be there for any and all projects the recreation board wanted to do as long as they are in the budget and all paperwork/documentation is done properly . And now Commissioner Weintrob has stated something different tonight so the board members are confused.

Tim Kreischer asks in ref to the budget, he asked where the flowers on Ventnor Ave were charged to in the first district. They were charge to the rec dept- later in reviewing the budget report at tonight's meeting , Mr. Gallagher states that that money was then replaced into the recreation budget, there is an entry on the budget to offset that , he states.

Conversation went back and forth about if the money was not budgeted for next year for the programs we wish to run, then where is the money going to come from to run those programs? Ask Mr. Kreischer.

Board Chairman Beirne stated that when Mayor Kelly came to the meeting to introduce herself and explain the dissolving of the rec trust she made it very clear that the money in the "trust" is not going to be used for anything other than recreation projects.

Commissioner Weintrob stated tonight that no one will touch rec trust money, it will become a very public issue if that happens.- Board member Nolan stated that she is concern if the money is needed in some other area (not recreational) for some reason that the money will be taken from the trust.

Mr. Kreischer wanted to thank the rec board members for being so diligent in discovering that monies were charged to recreation department for other things and that several people "at city hall" had to sign off on those requisition to pay that bill from that account.

Board member Gallagher stated that mistakes happen just as in the past with things being paid out of the recreation department's budget.

Mr. Kreischer asked Mr. Gallagher to explain his comment, which he did. Mr. Gallagher stated that the Teen Center years ago when running- pizza for the kids always came out of recreation departments budget. He didn't feel that was right, Mr. Kreischer did not feel that was a fair comparison to compare flowers on a street to pizza being ordered to feed kids at the teen center.

Lori Nolan stated that past is the past and the all board members should have been monitoring the budget closer at all times then and now and if there was some questions they could have been brought up and corrected at that time and not years later.

Mr. Kreischer stated that he is a concerned citizen as has right to be here , he is very passionate about the rec department and the programs and thanks the board again for paying attention to the budget and the bills being paid out of it.

Mr. Kreischer asked Commissioner Weintrob to explain a statement he made about the previous administrations; he said something to the fact of "irregularities of past administration" in a recent newspaper article. Comm Weintrob stated that in order for him to answer Mr. Kreischer he would have to see the article to recall how he implied that statement.

Mr. Kreischer asked Comm. Weintrob if he voted to absolve the trust, he stated yes he voted to eliminate the trust fund.

Commissioner Weintrob wanted to make 2 comments on the record:

1. when he voted to get rid of the trust fund along with the other commissioners he was assured that all that money would be used for recreation purposed, after the vote that was not the case. 2. He stated that sometimes you vote a different way even though you think its not the way to vote so that everyone will get along, but now he believes that when things happen he will vote how he feels no matter what the others vote and not worry about getting along..

Chairman Beirne asked the Director to have ready for next month all the program the city run's, there expenses so that everyone can see how much money they all cost. Then after that meeting, next month have the CFO come to the meeting and explain how the budget print out is read and what it means to the average person.

Mr. Kreischer stated that he did not intend on attacking any board member that was not his intention and he apologized if that was the way it came across as per a statement that Commissioner Weintrob previously made at tonight's meeting to that fact, again Mr. Kreischer stated that was not his intent.

Comm. Weintrob also stated that with the rec trust fund previously only 1 person was allowed to sign the checks out of that account.

Public Portion is closed at 8:09 pm

Just to recap at September's meeting board member, AJ Russo will go over the budget report of the recreation department and then in October hopefully have the CFO come to answer any questions members of the rec board might have.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting at 8:15 p.m. by Bart Beck and seconded by Debbie Beirne