

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Beck at 6:30 p.m. on July 7, 2008 at our recreation building located in Ventnor Heights at Surrey & Balfour Avenues in accordance with the sunshine law.

Present: Bart Beck, John Gallagher, Jan Sarnese, Kathy McFadden, Lori Nolan, Debbie Beirne, A. J. Russo and Director Thomas and Commissioner Weintrob.

Guests were present to discuss several special events application.

1. Diane Birbeck and Mike Weissen "Kayak Nite Out" at ski beach ending at the Viking boat house. Asked that the city piggy back for the insurance- it would be a family event--- life preservers a must. Map is enclosed to discuss. The date is Saturday August 23 with a rain date of Aug 24th (Sun). Possibly have costumes for dressing up. Prizes. The course should take about 1 hour from start to finish- they would start at 5pm and it would be at low tide and be off the water before dark. They have even talked to the marine police about informing the mariners about the event. An entry fee is optional at this particular time it would depend on if they would incur any fees then they would have to have an entrance fee. They also have lifeguarded and emergency personnel trained to assist in the event. Their would be a certain age requirement. All children would have to accompany by an adult in the boat.

Board member John Gallagher was very concern about the fact that they are asking the city to sponsor the event- under city's insurance and that there would be really "no" rescue members at every so many feet, yards etc just as a safe measure. Mr. Gallagher is very concerned about an inexperienced kayaker being out there alone with out supervision or some EMT person around the area and not just someone in the beginning of the race and at the end. They should have emergency personnel throughout the entire course.

These are all concerns that the director of recreation will talk to Ms. Birbeck and Mr. Weissen about their concerns also Mr. Thomas will contact beach patrol since Mr. Weissen mentioned that he has been communicating with them in regards to this event.

2. Father William Parker of Church of Epiphany. Looking to have 4 Saturday masses on the beach at Suffolk Avenue beach- 40 minutes service, no food. The dates would be 7/19/08, 7/26/08, 8/2/08, 8/9/08. Everyone would be standing. No chairs. A motion was made to approve application by John Gallagher and seconded by Lori Nolan.

6:40 pm A.J. Russo needs to leave

3. Ms. Arlene Colligon (SART) a non profit organization that rescues animals out of bad places. Ms. Colligon was here tonight to ask to have a family & volunteer party on the beach. Ms. Colligon was told that unfortunately her event, group does not fall into the 4 categories that are allowed to have special events on the beach. The board directed her to the 3 holiday weekends when the city does allow people to go down and bar-b-que with out a special events application but it did not fit into her schedule. The board also suggested just going to the beach as long as everyone has a beach badge and bringing their beach chair.
4. Frank Sarno present- 34th Absecon Island Surfing Tournament. This surfing contest is the 34th with the city and the recreation board will sponsor the event has in the previous years. The start date is August 23 and it begins 7-4 pm and then it will run for every weekend until the waves are right. Frank stated that he is looking for the Recreation board to sponsor the event as usual like the previous years past and that he will approach the Drug & Alcohol Alliance for assistance. Motion to adopt special events application by Debbie Beirne and second by Lori Nolan—all were in favor.
5. Susan Wilson- “Every Breathe Counts”. November 22, 2008 rain or shine- Newport Avenue they begin on the boardwalk, walk to Fredericksburg Avenue and return to St James Memorial Hall where they will have their ending reception. All insurances and fees are enclosed. A motion was made to approve special events application by John Gallagher and seconded by Kathy McFadden.- Motion carries

Board member Gallagher wanted to place on the record his concerns for the kayak event and the lifeguard issue. He stresses that this kind of event should have proper protection out in the water for everyone and not just have someone watching at the beginning and the end of the course—people should be stationed throughout the entire course. The recreation board has an obligation to protect the city from liability especially if the city is granting permission to allow an event plus coverage the event in conjunction with the city’s insurance policies.

Board member Nolan suggested that their be spotters along the entire course.
Board member Beirne suggested have the event in the early falls due to heavy traffic in that area on a Saturday.

Another suggestion was write a letter to the Coast Guard for some supervision even though the organizers of the kayak event want to keep it “green” for some support and also talk to the lifeguards to see if they would volunteer to ride the course and monitor the kayakers on the course.

Commissioner Weintrob stated that the recreation board should make a motion to approve or deny the kayak event because they do need time to prepare for the event if

they are allowed to move forward with it. Director Thomas will call Ms Birbeck and discuss all these concerns and comments from the recreation board members. The application was approved based on all the concerns and conditions from the board members being addressed and corrected. A motion was made by Kathy McFadden and seconded by Lori Nolan to approve this application with these conditions being placed on the application, they are as follows:

Adequate lifeguard stations or some kind of volunteer to monitor and assist in the entire course. A vote was taken.

Lori Nolan– Yes

John Gallagher- no

Kathy McFadden- yes

Jan Sarnese- yes

Debbie Beirne- yes

Bart Beck- yes

5 in favor- 1 opposed

Motion stills carries with the conditions as long as they are satisfied

7:36 Lori Nolan needs to leave but wanted to discuss National Night Out” . It is the first one the City and the Ventnor PBA is doing and the city fathers are very excited about it. Home & School is involved a lot of the businesses are lending their support. Lori is asking to support from the recreation board to help volunteer with the arcade games or something along those lines—board members said they would be happy to help out that night. Commissioner Weintrob asked if the recreation department would be willing to donate some money for the event. Director Thomas stated that yes, \$250.00. The board members made a motion to approve the donation, John Gallagher and seconded by Jan Sarnese. Motion carried.

Director’s report: Ventnor Mile went very well.

Camps going very well/ 50 children in the sports camp so far/ 20 kids in the arts & Crafts.

Reference to volleyball tournaments being ran by Quan Nguyen.

**Commissioner Weintrob wanted on the record that for these events next year Mr. Nguyen must supply ports potties on the beach for all his events. Also Commissioner Weintrob questioned why both sides of the volleyball courts at Cornwall Avenue are taken (12) courts by his tournament. Director Thomas explained that in order for him to get in all the tournaments (no lights) he needs to use all the courts. Next year Director Thomas must talk about possibly them using only one side so that other people not associated with the tournament that comes to the beach can use them.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by John Gallagher and seconded by Kathy McFadden. All in favor/ 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

CC: Director Thomas
Board Members

Mayor Kelly
Andrew McCrosson

Commissioner Piatt
Commissioner Weintrob