

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
EAST AMWELL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
March 21, 2019; EAST AMWELL MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
1070 ROUTE 202, RINGOES, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The meeting of the East Amwell Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairperson Alison Castellano who read the following: In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, it was noted that this is an Ordinary Meeting of the East Amwell Recreation Committee pursuant to the meeting notice published in the December 20, 2018 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. Notice of this meeting was filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the agenda was posted on the municipal bulletin board on March 5, 2019.

2019 ATTENDANCE

Recreation Committee Member (term expires)	1/17/19	2/21/19	3/21/19	4/18/19	5/16/19	6/20/19	7/18/19	8/15/19	9/19/19	10/17/19	11/21/19	12/19/19
Alison Castellano (12/31/21)	X	X	X									
Mark Gunn (12/31/20)	X	X	E									
Michael Atzert (12/31/21)	X	7:42	X									
Pete Fick (12/31/20)	X	X	X									
Erica Johanson (12/31/20)	X*	E	X									
Thyra Zengel (12/31/19)	X	X	A									
Michele Doherty (12/31/20)	A	X	X									
Vacant	-	-	-									
Vacant	-	-	-									
Vacant (youth member)	-	-	-									
Peter Miller	A	A	A									

Others present: Recreation Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No members of the Public were present.

ACCEPTANCE OF LAST MONTH’S MEETING MINUTES: February 21, 2019 – A motion was made by M. Atzert to approve the minutes with minor edit that was second by M. Doherty and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF UPDATED RECREATION BUDGET: R. Georgett said the finalized budgets are not yet available.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- VIII. E. Summer Playground
- X.2. Open Space and Recreation – grant funding “pots of money”
- X. 3. 2019 Land Use Plan Amendment re: Golf Courses draft 3/2019
- XI.C. Hunterdon County Community Day – June 1, 2019

REPORTS:

- A. **South Count Soccer League (SCSL)** – Jaime Quinn was present, provided a spelling correction for her name, and said SCSL now have a full Board and are working on taxes.

She continued that there are approximately 60 players signed up, and registration closes soon. J. Quinn said there are usually 60 participants in Spring versus 90 in the Fall due to other sports, and the largest population is 8 to 10 year olds followed by 10 to 18 year olds & up.

J. Quinn continued that field set up should occur next Friday with games beginning on April 7th. Mike Dendis will be handling field maintenance, and he is coordinating with DPW. A. Castellano asked about this coordination and J. Quinn said they alternate weeks for doing the maintenance. She continued that SCSL has shifted fields to re-establish grass coverage and the only item still “in process” is the lights. J. Quinn said SCSL is trying to go through insurance for repairs of the lights due to lightening damage in a storm last fall when maintenance was under way. J. Quinn said there are inquiries about renting the field because of the lights which is great, but can’t be done because currently the lights can’t be used at all.

M. Atzert asked about the various fields and their use. J. Quinn provided an overview and there was discussion that the field near the township building with lights can’t be used for SCSL purposes. A. Castellano said SCSL can’t use the school field at all on May 4th due to the school Color Run even and the rain date is May 5th. J. Quinn said SCSL has practice on Saturdays at the Municipal fields, and the Color Run could interfere with games so she will follow up. A. Castellano asked about the port-a-potty, and J. Quinn said she just found out that it needs to be removed during the off season. M. Atzert asked about the port-a-potty placement interfering with parking and J. Quinn explained that it does not because on the back side of the school there is a handicapped parking space in the grass. J. Quinn said she will be back for the July meeting.

B. Clawson Park – A. Castellano said M. Gunn won’t be at the meeting and there is no further update at this point. She continued that regarding tennis courts, J. Silverthorn is obtaining quotes and she feels the courts are in good enough shape to open for the season. A. Castellano said there was a facebook post asking about when the restrooms at the park will be open. DPW said the water is not turned on during the winter and there needs to be a waiting period after the water is turned on and the restrooms are open. That is why the restrooms are currently locked. A. Castellano continued that someone suggesting we move the port-a-potty from the municipal parking lot to Clawson Park, and instead J. Silverthorn has had a port-a-potty installed. This will be needed each year.

C. Township Committee – P Miller was not present to provide an update.

D. FOSPC – P. Fick said there is no update.

E. Senior Citizens – A. Castellano said that Sandy will try to come to a meeting and the funds given by the Township to the Seniors are used for a bus trip which costs the full \$1,000. She continued that Chris Sobieski on Township Committee also reached out to make contact as the liaison with Seniors.

F. Basketball – T. Zengel was not present to provide an update.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **Egg Hunt update** – M. Atzert said the school approval was received, and we are good to go. He has reviewed items we have for use and that the girl scouts will fill one box of eggs with candy, and he will take care of filling the other box of eggs. M. Atzert and R. Georgett will follow up regarding purchase of candy. M. Atzert will get the township Shop Rite card to purchase chocolate bunnies. M. Atzert said the set up time is 9:30 on April 13th and the event is at 11:00. E. Johanson asked if we have a volunteer to be a bunny and A. Castellano said she has options and will work it out. A. Castellano asked if the boy scouts will be helping with set up in the field and M. Atzert said no because there has been turnover in leadership. M. Atzert said if everyone arrives at 9:30 there will be time to set up the sticks in the field. A. Castellano said to let the committee know if he needs any help. M. Atzert said the Mayor will be kicking off the event.

- B. **Clawson Park 501.C.3** – Defer to next meeting.

- C. **Summer Volleyball Coordinator** – T. Zengel was not present to update who is being considered/contacted for this role.

- D. **Summer Playground** – A. Castellano said the lead for sports camp has gotten his own insurance, and has also put together a flier. A. Casellano said we need to coordinate communications between Playground and Sports Camp but be clear that they are two different programs. She continued that the Bricks for Kids program may not work now but she will contact the Bricks for Kids guy about doing an event in August. M. Atzert said they tried doing Bricks for Kids after summer playground one year and there was little interest. There was discussion regarding the various way Bricks for Kids has been tried and that it may not be a good fit for East Amwell. A. Castellano said the art program, Young Rembrandt, may be a conflict with a current art program Mr. Fisher runs.

- E. **Color Run/Green Fest** – A. Castellano said she will put up posters around school, town and give some to M. Atzert for the church. E. Johanson is coordinating the Parks and Recreation table and asked what we've done before. M. Atzert said there is a tri-fold with pictures from past events that needs to be updated, and to put out sheets asking for feedback on what activities/events you'd like Parks and Recreation to do, etc. A. Castellano said we can advertise Friday nights in the park and all other events being coordinated.

- F. **Friday Nights in the Park** – A. Castellano said we need to pick dates for this event, and July 12th and August 16th were confirmed. R. Georgett will double check pavilion availability. A. Castellano and M. Doherty will coordinate food trucks, and several possible vendors were discussed. M. Atzert said there was feedback regarding the pizza, Fired Up Flatbread being not great and expensive. In prior years Q Crew BBQ went over well, Empanadas were good and Madallena's is also good.

PRESENTATION OF INVOICES: No invoices.

CORRESPONDENCE: No comments.

NEW/ONGOING BUSINESS:

- A. VIP and Website Articles/Content** – Egg Hunt flier should be run again. A. Castellano has submitted a flier for Color Run.
- B. 2019 List of Events & Trips** – R. Georgett said the committee needs to decide whether to run a July trip which was followed by discussion and a general agreement that July is a busy month, so we should stay with our Friday Nights in the Park and not have another trip. M. Atzert said we do need a Summer Volleyball Lead and A. Castellano will follow up and work on this. A Castellano said we need to finalize a date for the Community Yard Sale, and should set this next month.

The NY Botanical Garden event is September 22nd and the entry cost is \$48 for non-members. E. Johanson shared what is included in this cost, and it was agreed that this was not too much even when you add in the bus cost. A. Castellano pointed out that some popular trips run by Hopewell are \$90 or more. M. Atzert said if we have funds, we could also subsidize the cost of the bus. R. Georgett will research this event and group admission prices.

E. Johanson asked if we should coordinate our Yard Sale with the Hopewell Yard Sale, to leverage their event. A. Castellano said Hopewell yard Sale is June 8th and 9th so we will stick with September for 2019. A. Castellano will work on a date for the Mentalist so we can finalize it next month. There was discussion that the Mentalist will probably be a money maker and that the funds left over from 2018 were put into a Trustee Account and can still be used. R. Georgett reviewed the ongoing budget process for trips, that was agreed at the last meeting, and how excess funds from any trip will be lost if not used in the calendar year. She continued that the committee will need to plan and ensure we keep track of funds and use them before year end.

- C. HC Community Day – June 1st:** M. Atzert said it's not really in scope for us because it's broader than East Amwell. There was further discussion and agreement that we would not participate.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – None present.

OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE – M. Atzert asked if we were working on filling the committee vacancies. R. Georgett said that she has asked former members. M. Atzert said let's put an article on the VIP looking for new members. A. Castellano said we can also put a list on the website of all committees needing volunteers.

AJOURNMENT - A motion was made by M. Atzert to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 P.M. that was second by P. Fick and carried unanimously.

Rosemary Georgett
Parks and Recreation Coordinator