

**MEETING MINUTES
EAST AMWELL RECREATION COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 17, 2015; 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 P. Fick. P. Fick read the following: In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, it was noted that this is a Regular Business Meeting of the East Amwell Recreation Committee pursuant to the meeting notice published in the December 17, 2015, 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.

2015 ATTENDANCE

Recreation Committee Member (term expires)	1/15/15	2/19/15	3/19/15	4/16/15	5/21/15	6/18/15	7/16/15	8/20/15	9/17/15	10/15/15	11/19/15	12/17/15
Amy Atzert		X			X		X			X	X	X
Michael Atzert		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	(7:42)	X
Pete Fick	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Erica Johanson	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X
Chris Kellogg		8:02	X		7:41		X	X		7:37		X
Thyra Zengel	X		X	7:38			X	X	7:40	7:39		
Sandra Gensini	X	X	X			X			X			7:37
Tim Mathews	X		X	X				X				

Others present: Secretary Maria Prendamano

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None

Agenda skipped to New Business, Bricks for Kids - OPEN TO PUBLIC: Jim Brown of Bricks for Kids was present to discuss his program. They do enrichment programs in local schools and run summer camps. In the summer camp environment, he often runs versions of model building classes as a one off event or a similar version on a weekly basis or a themed all week long camp. This can be done as an option within our Township run summer camp. He uses Minecraft models and robotics programs. The camps are structured. During the camps they incorporate a series of activities that tie into the theme ie: carnival camp, pirate theme, horse race, mini golf. The last day of camp the campers collaborate on a project.

Every camp that he runs the children get a take home item that they create. There is a space adventure camp combines NASA and Star Wars. The rates for camp vary. The one off day would be based on the number of campers. C. Kellogg noted that there is a fluctuation in age at our Summer Playground. Mr. Brown stated that they can tailor the project to the age of the child. The children are always working in teams of two. He has over 200 different models.

For a class of 25 people would cost approximately \$8 per child. The minimum at that price would be 10 children. M. Prendamano wondered what facility could be used for this purpose as the school is used for summer playground and after that it is closed for cleaning. He does some programs in local parks. He cannot work on the grass as the pieces get lost. C. Kellogg thought that the summer playground staff may not want a program brought into their camp. S. Gensini noted that the US Sports camp never took off because enrollment was so low. M. Atzert wondered what Mr. Brown would do to help promote the program. He stated he would put it on Facebook and the Township website. He would also send home

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flyers. E. Johanson suggested a table at the Egg Hunt. He agreed that this is a good idea. He would put a display on a table with information. M. Atzert asked when he would need a commitment from us. Mr. Brown stated that he is pretty open and doesn't need much notice. He also maintains contact with parents in the event things are cancelled. He is aware of allergies and collects emergency contact information. He also mentioned after school programs that run for one hour six consecutive weeks. His programs encourage children to use critical thinking skills and to collaborate with their partner.

M. Prendamano asked what the age group would be. Mr. Brown recommended opening it up to grades 1 through 5. Mr. Brown thanked us for his time. He will come up with a proposal and get it to P. Fick for the Committee's consideration.

M. Atzert stated that the church may be willing to open their doors to host a summer camp program that backs the summer playground program.

PRESENTATION OF November 19, 2015, MEETING MINUTES The minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting were put forward for committee approval. M. Atzert made a motion to approve the minutes that was seconded by M. Atzert. All members were in favor of approval with one abstention from C. Kellogg.

PRESENTATION OF INVOICES M. Prendamano returned the lights to Home Depot but was unable to purchase the larger ones so the return was credited back on the card. The Shoprite invoice does not reflect the true amount spent as Shoprite donated many items for the Tree Lighting. M. Prendamano suggested buying two more strands of lights to have as a spare. She will try and get them after the holiday. C. Kellogg has an estimate from Crown Trophy for heavy duty cardboard signs for the Twelve Days of Christmas and an additional sandwich sign for other events. The total would be \$480. M. Atzert made a motion to approve spending \$480 on sandwich signs and the song signs. A. Atzert seconded the motion and all members were in favor of approving the purchase.

PRESENTATION OF UPDATED RECREATION BUDGET – Account No.: 4-01-28-370-265-003
P. Fick reviewed the budget with the Committee.

REPORTS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

South County Soccer - P. Fick reported that he has spoken to R. Skrebel and she will be attending our meeting next month to discuss issues related to South County Soccer. S. Gensini would like to discuss the sprinkler system. P. Fick also has a copy of a construction permit for work to be done on the soccer field. He forwarded it to R. Skrebel. An inspector from West Amwell would like to come and inspect the work. The permit is eight years old and regarding electric and the well pump. P. Fick feels it is not the responsibility of the Recreation Committee. He forwarded it to the appropriate parties.

South County Park – No report.

Adult Basketball – T. Zengel will find out if it will be running this year.

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Bingo – M. Prendamano will find out the date of the PTO bingo for next month.

Reusable Signs- This item was addressed earlier.

Tree Lighting – C. Kellogg noted that for next year one of the other members of the committee should give Santa the heads up to be on standby. P. Fick stated that he did make the call slightly earlier than agreed. M. Atzert asked when the decorations should come down. The Committee agreed that January 2 would be the best day at about 3 p.m. M. Prendamano will coordinate the time.

NEW BUSINESS

Bricks for Kids – Addressed earlier in the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE Minutes and agendas from various committees and boards. Various catalogues.

REPORTS

Farmland and Open Space Committee Nothing new to report.

OPEN TO PUBLIC None

C. Kellogg asked for a minute to speak about AVLBL. The league has had such low enrollment that it is considering merging with Flemington. Right now it is in the preliminary stages. They may try it for one year and see what the feedback is. There just are not enough children to field the teams. One of the thought processes was that it may make the transition to Hunterdon Central a little easier as they would be exposed to children of neighboring townships. C. Kellogg will forward any information from the league.

S. Gensini inquired about the trash in the municipal fields. M. Prendamano explained that the Recycling Committee is purchasing new receptacles. The cans were tossed by the wind and was cleaned up by the volunteers.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Atzert made a motion, seconded by A. Atzert, and unanimously approved by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Prendamano, Recording Secretary