

A special meeting of the Township Committee came to order at 7:00 p.m. Present at this time were Mayor Peter Kneski, Deputy Mayor Sageser, and Committee Members Patricia Cregar, Tim Mathews, and David Wang-Iverson.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the East Amwell Township Committee will hold a special meeting at the municipal building, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, NJ 08551 at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 10, 2013, to interview candidates for 2013 committees/boards. Action may or may not be taken, and the public is invited to attend.

Peter Fick, Boss Road, applied for the Recreation Committee. He provided background as follows: he worked in the public school system for 49 years (7 in Burlington and 42 at Hunterdon Central Regional High School); he was a physical education teacher and has coached football, softball, gymnastics; he was a member of the East Amwell Board of Education for 12 years, serving as President of the Board for 3 or 4 years.

Mayor Kneski spoke about Mr. Fick having the experience the Township was looking for and provided information on a “depleted” Recreation Committee at the present time. The Mayor outlined some of the responsibilities of the Recreation Committee, and he thanked Mr. Fick for coming forward.

Mr. Mathews asked if Mr. Fick had any thoughts that he would like to bring forth to the Committee; Mr. Fick indicated that he reviewed past minutes and agendas (from 2011) on the website, referencing some of the activities under Recreation at that time, e.g., baseball, softball, basketball, tree lighting. Mayor Kneski felt that Mr. Fick’s background in sports would be a good fit.

Deputy Mayor Sageser arrived at this time.

Some discussion took place on having only two members on the Recreation Committee and the potential to make quorum with new members. Mayor Kneski suggested discussing this with the attorney at the regular meeting.

Glorianne Robbi, 144 Lambertville-Hopewell Turnpike, asked about having Mr. Fick serve as the Alternate II on the Farmland/Open Space Preservation Committee since Mr. Fick has background in the East Amwell Township community. She stated that both she and Mr. Ginman (also of FOSPC) were interested in having Mr. Fick as a member. Mr. Fick will review information provided to him by Mrs. Robbi and give his response to the Clerk. He was also invited to attend the next FOSPC meeting next Monday night.

Mr. Mathews mentioned that the baseball league is considering moving into the Cal Ripken District, and he asked Mr. Fick if he had any experience in district ball; Mr. Fick was not familiar with this since his work was with high school level sports.

Mrs. Robbi explained that there is a position on FOSPC for a Recreation Liaison, and the position was held by Angelo [Lovisa] and Christine [Rosikiewicz] in the past. She commented on making “a really good effort” to get local sports groups, such as soccer and baseball, to utilize county property on Route 179 across from the Fairgrounds. There was a group meeting (including the sports groups and FOSPC members) with the Parks Commissioner, and Freeholder Walton agreed to “look positively” on the development, e.g., perhaps some funding for gravel, etc.

Mrs. Robbi will provide an agenda of the FOSPC meeting to Mr. Fick, and Mr. Fick will be in contact with the Clerk on his decision.

The Township Committee may take action on the Recreation Committee position at the regular meeting later tonight.

Maria Souza, Iron Horse Drive, was applying for a position on the Recreation Committee or Planning Board. Mayor Kneski said that there are no openings on the Planning Board at the present time.

Mrs. Souza provided background information as follows: she retired after 30 years from being a special education and learning consultant; her family has lived in East Amwell for 30 years, they own two houses; she raised her children here, and she is interested in the township's development since her family is planning on staying here.

Mayor Kneski asked Mrs. Souza to explain some of her committee work at various positions. Mrs. Souza detailed some of her work as a learning consultant dealing with crisis intervention and team experience. She also noted her volunteer work throughout the years, including teaching religious education and being involved with Girl Scouts. Prior to her work as a learning consultant for 20 years, she was a special education teacher. On a question from Mrs. Cregar, Mrs. Souza said that she worked in Ewing for 10 years, and prior to that, she was at South Hunterdon High School.

Mayor Kneski outlined the work of the Recreation Committee, including different programs at Clawson Park, tree lighting, egg hunt, etc. Mrs. Souza would have no problems attending the night meetings. The appointment to the committee may be decided at the regular meeting later tonight.

Mr. Mathews asked about Mrs. Souza's new business; Mrs. Souza briefly provided information on her LLC as a learning consultant, noting her work with tutoring and substitute teaching also. She mentioned other activities, including family care-giving and "enjoying Clawson Park every day."

Mayor Kneski thanked Mrs. Souza for attending the meeting and offering to volunteer.

The meeting was open to the public for comments. There being no comments, motion by Mr. Wang-Iverson, seconded by Mrs. Cregar, and carried unanimously to close to the public.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Sageser, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

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Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC