

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 22, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The meeting of the East Amwell Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Chair Nelson.

The following statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read into the record by Jason Bloom: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is a regularly scheduled meeting pursuant to the annual meeting notice as published in the the Times of Trenton. A copy of the agenda for this meeting was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk's Office and posted on the bulletin board."

2023 ATTENDANCE: X=Present; A=Absent; E=Excused; C=Canceled (quorum=5 members)

Committee Member (term expires)	1/19/23	2/22/23	3/16/23	4/20/23	5/18/23	6/15/23	7/20/23	8/17/23	9/21/23	10/19/23	11/16/23	12/21/23
Nathalie Nelson (Chair)	X	X										
Stefanie Hutchins (Vice Chair)	X	X										
Michael Dendis, TC Liaison	X	X										
Krista Austad	X	X										
Jason Bloom	X	X										
Francis Gavigan	X	X										
Alexa Hunt	X	X										
Alison Kavchok	X	X										
Emily Mastropietro	X	X										

NEW BUSINESS–

- **Al Nardi is joining the committee (Claudia Murin)**
- **A new secretary (Claudia Murin) is also joining us for the next meeting**

CITIZENS PRIVILEGE TO SPEAK ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Al Nardi was present but didn't have anything to speak on.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

A request for a motion to approve the 1/19/23 minutes was made by Chair Nelson and was seconded by member Hunt. They were unanimously approved.

SPECIAL DISCUSSION

There were no items for special discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Roller skating**-a date has been booked. Friday March 31st. 4:30-6:30. \$399 for up to 100 people. \$2 for quad skate rentals. \$3 for inline rentals. Snack bar will be open. \$10 a person/ max \$30 a family. Parents will not be charged. After the 100, we have to pay for additional participants. \$5 for each additional. A flier will be made by member Hunt. People will need to sign up (township signup genius?) and then we have to figure out how people will pay. Also need to promote on social media. An idea of creating a P and R Facebook page was brought up. Chair Nelson will reach out to Mayor Bloom in regards to a Facebook page for P and R and township Sign Up Genius. Member Bloom will email VIP to add Roller Skating Event to P and R save the dates. It will also be put in the Cougar Courier. Possibly an email blast as well via Mr. Colt and the East Amwell School.
- **Easter Egg Hunt**-keep it to one start time. However, change the format if we have access to a sign up Genius. Don't start right at the published start time, but wait a bit after.

An idea to start the hunt with something besides an air horn was discussed. Dropping a flag was an idea brought up by Member Austad.

Photographer's husband will dress up as the bunny. Photographer is willing to come for free. We are going to have families give her a \$5 minimum contribution for a professional digital image. She will have signage about this tip and also a Venmo for people to give a tip besides cash.

Sensory Area-\$200 for this service. A motion was made to spend \$200 for sensory bins for the Easter Egg Hunt by Chair Nelson. It was seconded by vice chair Hutchins. It was unanimously approved.

Candy is being purchased and will be dropped off to the squad to fill the eggs.

TC Liaison Dendis brought up the concern of collecting money. Specifically, who is collecting money and where in the budget is the money going that we are collecting? These questions need to be brought up to Elaine. TC Dendis and Ramsey will follow up after speaking to Elaine.

- **High School Music Festival**-Anya Fenn (June 3rd 4pm) P and R does not have any responsibilities for this.
- **Friday Nights in the Park.** Chair Nelson has booked all the bands and food trucks. Clawson Park has been reserved and the squad and fire departments have been notified.
- **Somerset Patriots**-day game 8/27/23 @ 1:05pm Night game 7/29/23 @ 7:05pm. Member Bloom will contact Patriots to get prices and reserve seats.
- **Summer Playground**–TC passed a resolution to increase tuition per child price \$85-\$100, increase director hourly salary, and length of each day. Goal is to make it a fully sustainable program without using the township's budget. There will no longer be a lunch bunch. This was one reason for the extension of hours. Students who are doing the sport's camp afterwards will eat lunch during playground and then attend sport's camp. There have already been some applicants for supervising director. Tara and Mike will interview. Thyra Zengel will help with the transition. Hopefully, this hire will happen by the March 9th TC meeting. Hoping to have registration open up by the end of March/early April. Feedback has been given that registration has gone out too late in the past.
- **Shade/Basketball Courts**-been difficult getting people to show up. Member Hutchins said she has been ignored/no showed by 4 different companies.
- **Water Fountain**–tabled until March meeting. Need funding info/options.

NEW BUSINESS-OTHER

- Pavillion Rentals–new secretary will take care of this. She will be trained by members of the committee.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Events Schedule/Budget to date
- Possible Paint and Sip–Chair Nelson will look into this
- Possible Trivia Night–get to know the committee theme. Member Kavchok will look into this.

ORAL REPORTS

1. Clawson Park: Member Hunt said that everything looks good. She noticed some lost and found items that she put near the picnic tables. Idea was brought up having a lost and found box near the bulletin board.
2. Township Committee-Mike Dendis was present for the meeting. He had nothing else to add besides what TC member Ramsey already said. Chair Nelson asked about the budget. TC member Dendis is concerned about finances and will get clarification from the CFO. It was then decided to pay for the roller rink out of grant money and not charge. A motion was made by member Hunt and seconded by vice chair Hutchins to

spend the \$400 out of the grant to pay for the Roller Rink. It was unanimously approved by all.

Use of Hunterdon County Grant ends in June. We will discuss purchasing sound equipment (using this grant) at the next meeting.

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

There were no vouchers for approval.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was provided prior to the meeting either in hard copy or via the Parks and Recreation Committee shared drive.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION for ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No additional items were discussed.

ADJOURN

A request for a motion to adjourn the East Amwell Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was made by Chair Nelson at 8:24pm, seconded by member Bloom and was unanimously approved.

Jason Bloom, Acting Secretary