

The Keyport Recreation Committee Meeting held a Meeting on March 7, 2022 this meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM via zoom meeting. The meeting was called to order by David Quinn, Chairman.

Present: David Quinn, Rebecca Kahane, Dottie Aumack Ezra Hill, Nicki Francis (arrived 7:38 PM) Nancy Jones, Mary Holtz, Suzanne Ryan, Amanda Jennings, Councilwoman McNamara, Denise Nellis, Secretary

Absent: Councilwoman Davidson

Public: John Merla, Leslie Kotzas (Keyport Library)

Approval of Minutes from March 7th meeting

Motion to approve Minutes was made by N. Jones, second by S. Ryan with ayes by all present.

Update from Councilwoman McNamara –

Some of the stuff she has will be covered during the meeting. One item that she would like to speak about is the mini camps, they have Safe Coastal Wild Life who is willing to come in and do some programs with Keyport. Councilwoman wasn't sure of the dates; she doesn't want to do the dates that S. Ryan is available. Councilwoman mentioned them possibly doing two programs in July, she asked if anyone had any input.

S. Ryan mentioned that the last two weeks in August will not work for the sailing program she suggested because the instructors will be heading back to college. If they wanted to place the two programs the last two weeks in August, she would be able to help and organize with the program.

Councilwoman asked if they would not be able to do the sailing classes and supplement it with the other programs; S. Ryan stated that she would because it is too late of a notice to give the kids that would be helping with the sailing program. There was further discussion what could be incorporated in this program. Councilwoman McNamara and S. Ryan will get together to discuss how to combine the two programs.

Councilmember McNamara mentioned that Councilmember Davidson is checking with the County for Nature Van on the Go. Councilmember McNamara stated that between the different things they would be able to do two separate one week camps at the end of August.

Councilmember McNamara stated that she and D. Quinn saw the school working on the fields and Mr. Delaney is having conversations with Union Beach doing shared services for the Beach. There was discussion regarding the nets for the volley ball and the structure holding the nets.

There was discussion regarding the selling of the Patriot tickets for the recreation event and how it would work. D. Nellis mentioned that she was waiting on receiving the tickets.

Goals and Objectives of the Recreation Committee – D. Quinn spoke about the next event which would be the Easter Bunny on the Fire Truck which is scheduled for April 3rd at 2pm.

The next event would be the Easter Egg hunt which is still milling some information, D. Quinn asked if anyone had any record of what was done. There was conversation regarding the list of items that needed to be ordered and the information for the DJ.

Councilmember McNamara mentioned the use of the mini park and what would be needed and how it would be set up for the event. D. Nellis, spoke about what was placed on the event form. There was discussion regarding having a face painter or tattoo's. D. Nellis read what was on her form. R. Kahane mentioned that she would touch base with N. Francis.

D. Nellis asked if the form had to go back before the Council with the list of itemized or was the budget approval enough. There was discussion whether the form had to go back and get additional approval from the Council. Councilmember mentioned that the KBBC has reached out in the past to see if there were any overlaps or possibly help support any of the efforts that Recreation put forward. Councilwoman stated that she was curious to know what types of activities are done at the event. There was discussion regarding how the KBBC could participate in the event, possibly donate the candy that fills the egg. R. Kahane stated that N. Francis reaches out to some of the churches for the children to help fill the eggs. R. Kahane spoke about the baskets that N. Francis usually gets donations as well as purchases. Discussion regarding possibly asking the businesses to donate baskets. Councilmember McNamara stated that she would reach out to the KBBC to see if they would like to help with event.

E. Hill stated he would reach out to the DJ to see if he was available. N. Jones spoke about the Bunny costumes for the Easter Egg hunt as well as the Fire Truck.

There was discussion regarding how to get the flyers to the students, R. Kahane stated that she would give the flyer to Dr. Savoia for distribution. D. Nellis would place the flyer on the Borough web page and facebook.

There was discussion regarding how many eggs are usually filled for the event. D. Quinn asked if all the children went out at the same time; R. Kahane stated that they go out in age groups. D. Quinn mentioned possibly having the KBBC do the face painting or maybe donating a photo booth with the Easter Bunny. Councilwoman McNamara asked if they could get an idea regarding how many volunteers are needed. She mentioned that she is willing to be there to help. D. Nellis stated that she needs fifteen volunteers and expects 350 people and N. Francis doesn't have any confirmed.

N. Jones asked if they had a fire truck to bring the Bunny to the event; D. Quinn stated he would handle that. Further discussion what time the bunny arrives at the event.

D. Quinn spoke about the baseball field applications and maintenance. He asked if they were good with keeping the fees the same for this year. Councilwoman McNamara stated that she mentioned it in her report to council. D. Nellis will send out the application s to the prior rentals for the field.

Leslie Kotzas, Keyport Library, spoke about how she could help Recreation not only in the summer but also with their events. If the committee would like a booth to add at any of the events, she would be happy to be there which could also benefit the library. She spoke about their summer reading which would be June 25th and she has a schedule of events that they would be doing. Further discussion regarding how the library could work with the committee all year round. D. Quinn suggested possibly joining the calendar of events. D. Quinn mentioned that they will be doing the two mini park events in July possibly having the Library participate somehow with these events. Ms. Kotzas mentioned that the Library's theme this year will be "Oceans of Possibilities" so it should fit right in with the community.

D. Quinn spoke about the mini camps and the dates regarding sailing as well as the other resources from the county. One other item that D. Quinn mentioned was if the school was doing anything that the committee could promote or offer; R. Kahane stated that she didn't hear anything this year.

Discussion regarding the event calendar, N. Jones asked if she can speak about the 5K race after N. Francis.

N. Francis mentioned she has the list and E. Hill stated that they have confirmed the DJ. N. Francis has to give D. Nellis the list for oriental trading and amazon. N. Francis stated that set up is at 10am if anyone is available to help with the set up. Councilmember asked if she needed help with setting up the volunteers, further discussion regarding how she utilizes the volunteers and who normally volunteers for this event. R. Kahane mentioned that before she came on that there was discussion regarding the KBBC helping out with the event. N. Francis mentioned if they would like to donate the snacks and juice boxes that would be great. R. Kahane stated she also mentioned if the businesses wanted to donate to the baskets that would be great. Councilmember stated that she can receive that information in the next few days she would speak to the KBBC. N. Francis explained that they usually raffle off baskets, they raffle whatever they can make there is not a set amount of baskets. There was discussion regarding if there was any water left from the 5K race last year. Councilmember stated that she is trying to make a list of needs that she can discuss with the KBBC. There was discussion regarding the amount of children that would be attending the event.

R. Kahane asked if stop and shop are part of the KBBC, possibly checking with them for the water or chips, Councilmember McNamara stated that she would have a conversation with the KBBC. N. Francis stated that she knows they budgeted for this but she knows that she can't just go buy it. Councilmember stated that it will all work out. N. Francis mentioned the George Strang reached out about helping with the egg hunt as he has done in the past. N. Jones confirmed that N. Francis had the bunny costume. It was confirmed that this event would not go on the electronic sign. R. Kahane asked if the businesses have to be notified; Councilmember spoke to Councilwoman McDermott and that would get shared through her. There was further discussion of what was received in the past as far as donations. D. Quinn asked the amount of chips; N. Francis stated that she would say 400, and that it depends on the weather. They are going to wait to order until Councilmember McNamara talks to the KBBC.

N. Francis stated that it is much harder to do this event, the way it is this year. Discussion regarding the time that is spent for the events with the changes and how much is being spent this year compared to the past events.

D. Nellis confirmed that the reason it was changed by using the PO is because the Borough got in trouble with the Audit, Councilmember stated that is correct. There was discussion regarding the steps to for running the event. D. Nellis next year we would have an idea of what is needed and the Borough would be able to order the items faster; N. Francis replied that she hopes that will be the case. D. Quinn mentioned that the Knights of Columbus are always looking for ways to volunteer if she needs them to help he will contact them.

D. Quinn stated that this is the way we have to work, that came from Borough Hall. There are people that are involved in the committee that have never been a part of the egg hunt but will help in any way N. Francis needs.

D. Nellis spoke about the movies price increase, the movies are now approximately \$450 - \$465 each. D. Nellis will amend the application because the amount they placed was only to \$450.00. There was discussion regarding the movies, it was decided to do Ghost Busters for the Trunk or Treat. R. Kahane asked if KBBC could donate things maybe they would be willing to sponsor the movies. There was discussion that in the past there was a five-minute clip that went before the movie with what businesses sponsored the movies, Councilmember McNamara stated that she hasn't had conversations with the KBBC yet, she will be meeting with them. When she does meet with them she will have a better idea of what their commitment would be. There was further discussion regarding any business that would like to donate for the movies. The additional movies that was decided on was ET. There was discussion regarding the amended application for the additional cost of the movies.

N. Jones spoke about the 5K race going live with the race. She asked if she can go ahead without the main budget being approved. D. Quinn asked what the cost is to start the process, and what the recertification cost would be. N. Jones stated it is approximately \$400 to recertify. There was discussion regarding the course needed to be changed with the bridge being worked on and where they can change the course. Also discussion regarding how the course was measured and how it becomes certified. N. Jones would like to get it on the schedule so no one takes their date. Councilmember stated that as long as there were no penalties if they have to change

the route, she did look back at her last years notes and the race didn't go live until the end of May or the beginning of June. N. Jones stated that was because of COVID, she would like to get it on the schedule so people don't take her date. There was discussion regarding possibly promoting the race without going live with the event. N. Jones explained her definition of being live is so people can enter the race, she doesn't believe the website have a save the date for the races. Councilmember confirmed that going live means that you collect money; yes. N. Jones spoke about the different places that the race is advertised. Discussion regarding the fee with going live, the recommendation was to keep the fees the same. N. Jones spoke about doing the race the same as last year it would just be a different course. She would find out if there is a fee if the course was change. Councilmember asked in the past before the pandemic did the race go live, N. Jones stated it wasn't this early. R. Kahane mentioned that most places have their races out already. Further discussion regarding going live and collecting money and the time frame it would take to get it up and running. D. Quinn asked when the first financial obligation would take place, N. Jones replied it would be approximately \$400.00. The sanctioning of the race gives more prestige to the race. D. Quinn asked what is the best date prior to the start of the race to have it done; N. Jones stated it must be paid 30 days. D. Nellis stated that on the budget N. Jones had \$200.00 and the Grand Prix is \$75.00. D. Nellis asked if she can get an invoice/quote from them she would be able to get it approved and then it could be processed. N. Jones stated she wouldn't have the invoice until next month. Further discussion regarding the steps that would need to be done before going live. N. Jones stated her question was could she start the race before the budget is approved. The chief has someone looking at some of the options for the race.

There was discussion regarding possible storage for the Recreation committee. N. Jones mentioned that the Borough Administrator did ask the committee members what they have stored and where it is stored. Councilmember McNamara stated that it was a list of what the committee had the secondary part would be to see if there was a place to store. If there is a lot of stuff and need the Borough to find a home she would speak to Jay about a location.

Discussion regarding sponsorship if they were going ahead with one-time sponsorship. N. Jones asked if she could go ahead like the past with sponsorship; Councilwoman stated she will let her know.

Discussion regarding who will run the movies, would it be volunteers or someone would be hired. Councilmember McNamara said she would speak to the administrator.

Baseball Field applications and field maintenance

Application from L. Maher for the use of the fields for Spring of 2022. Monday thru Friday from 3/5/22 – 7/31/22 8am to 12pm.

Motion to approve the application without charging a fee was made by N. Jones, second by R. Kahane with ayes by all present.

Motion to open to the public was made and carried.

John Merla, 34 Broad Street, mentioned that the Stop and Shop is part of the KBBC. MR. Merla explained how to access the meeting. Appreciated the comments that N. Francis made regarding the changes, he feels she is 100% correct. He explained he read both audits and none of them mentioned you cannot accept donations. Two years ago the Friends of the Bayshore gave candy to Recreation every year for five years, he stated he was the Chairman of that committee and there was never a problem, and then two years ago they wanted to donate again and they were going to make baskets. They ended up donating the 180 baskets to Matawan in a church where Keyport children came and they were given the baskets because Keyport said no donations. Two years ago Friends of the Bayshore wanted to sponsor the Trunk and Treat, they had volunteers and donors that participate in the KBBC (he named some of the businesses). They were going to donate to the Trunk or Treat which was nixed, with no reason given they were told the Borough had their own money. He stated now he sees they are allowed to solicit donations, he asked what happened. Councilmember McNamara stated that she thought he might have misinterpreted what was said. They are not saying that it is okay, she stated that she said the KBBC had approached them looking for the schedule of recreation events to see if there was any way they could help or compliment what recreation was doing. Councilwoman stated she did not say that they were going out and soliciting. She was responding to their inquiry to see if there were any opportunities for them to do that. Mr. Merla stated looking at the agenda for tomorrow night's KBBC meeting and he didn't see anything about helping recreation mentioned on it. He added that in the last three years he didn't hear that language from any of the KBBC member including the Council liaison as to how they could help with recreation events.

Councilmember stated that she does there are new members, maybe they are looking for some new opportunities. Just like the Library, Leslie.

Mr. Merla stated that two years ago it was okay for the Friends of the Bayshore to donate to the schools with back packs, donations to the schools at Christmas for adopting families. He feels that they need to practice what they preach. He doesn't understand why recreation doesn't have their own budget. Further discussion regarding changes of the policy for donors or sponsors.

Mr. Merla stated that if there is any help needed for summer recreation, in the past they had a home run derby at the end of the season, Mr. Merla explained what this event was about. There was a mention of a hoop shoot. He thanked all the volunteers for all their work.

D. Quinn mentioned that the Commission was switched to a committee, and now they are an advisory committee. R. Kahane mentioned it was four years ago, she mentioned the title change as a committee. D. Quinn asked with that change is why things are different. The committee is just advisory; correct. D. Quinn likes the ideas that Mr. Merla gave, Mr. Merla offered his help.

R. Kahane asked if they were offering busing for game; D. Quinn stated that they amount would be crazy. Further discussion regarding the transportation for the event.

Next meeting scheduled for April 4, 2022 (zoom)