

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
READINGTON RECREATION COMMITTEE
November 29, 2023 7:30pm**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Bobnar-Becker **CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER** at 7:36pm.

B. ATTENDANCE

1. Committee Members: Melissa Adams, Sharon Bobnar-Becker, Emmanuel Bola, Allison Quintard, Shikha Shah, Mark Toman, and Bill Quinn
2. Township Officials: Township Committee Liaison John Albanese(arrived at 8:03PM), Director Gabrielle Bolarakis, Assistant Director Dina Fornataro-Healey
3. Public: Stephanie Panico, Lisa Routel

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Mr. Toman made a **MOTION TO APPROVE** the minutes of the October 2023 meeting of the Readington Recreation Committee. **SECONDED** by Ms. Quintard. **VOTE: YES** All present.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Fall Program Update:** All programs have ended with the exception of pickleball. All park bathrooms have been winterized and there is a port-o-john at Summer Road Park through 12/15/23. The pickleball court windscreens will be removed at that time as well.
2. **Halloween Celebration – October 28, 2023:** There were 186 children registered for the event. This is 27 less than 2022. The community involvement was great as RPD, Whitehouse Fire, and Whitehouse Rescue Squad all participated in the trunk-or-treat. Planning for 2024 has started.
3. **Recreation/Travel Basketball Update:** There are six travel teams: Boys 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th, and Girls 5th. All teams have been practicing and games begin the weekend of December 1. Recreation basketball registration numbers are down from 2022. Some groups may have to go to a hybrid clinic/game style program, but everyone will be accommodated. We may need to consider joining other towns for games next year.
4. **Readington Recreation FaceBook Page:** The Township page has been posting the Recreation information, but it has not materialized into engagement. There are over 100 less registrations from last year to this year during the time period that the recreation page has been suspended. Manny Bola recommended that the Township consultant take over as administrator of all the subpages and give rights to a few people to make updates. Manny will email John and information will be shared with the consultant. Gabrielle explained that the loss of revenue will be reflected in the 2024 budget. Gabrielle expressed that direct mail brochures will be sent to ensure the public is receiving the information. With the revenue loss and increased expense, activities and events that do not have a direct revenue source such as the Summer Spectacular and Halloween event may be impacted.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Terrance visiting 11/18 – 11/27:** There were 15+ submissions. Terrance's message was *gobble until you wobble*.
2. **Holiday Tree Lighting Friday, December 15th:** Please join the community if you can.
3. **Cathy & Carl Cardinal:** Decorations will be set up in Pickell Park for the self-guided scavenger hunt from 12/13/23 – 12/27/23.

F. ADJOURNMENT

1. Mr. Toman made a **MOTION TO ADJOURN** the meeting. **SECONDED** by Ms. Quintard. **VOTE: YES:** All present.
2. The meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Next meeting of the Recreation Committee: January 24, 2024 at 7:30pm

Prepared and respectfully submitted by: Dina Fornataro-Healey, Assistant Director of Recreation