

Borough of Park Ridge  
Minutes of the Recreation and Cultural Committee  
December 21, 2015  
7:30 PM

*Present at Meeting:*

Steve Masson, Michael Raia, Jason Roth, Eugene McVerry, Rob Nicholich, Jonathan Shein, Rob Cerabona, Lyn Beer, Bob La Rubbio, Bob Fornatale, Tom Hoskins and Liz Falkenstern

*Review of Previous Minutes:*

The meeting began at 7:32 PM and the Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by a motion of Michael R. and seconded by Tom H.

*Old Business:*

*Tree Lighting*

Tree Lighting went very well, however it was also the 1<sup>st</sup> night of Hannukah and some members were unable to assist at the event. (We need to check future years for possible conflicts, however 2016 will be good as the first day of Hannukah and Christmas are on the same day.)

The HS choir and Frosty and the Elves were excellent! Steve M. reported that we got a lot of food donations for the Food Pantry. The Chamber of Commerce did not return the popcorn popper and we had to handle that with Valley Tent Rentals. It was suggested we get pricing from Valley for rentals for the town picnic this year. Lt. Pete Mauro called and asked that we call them to block off the streets by Depot Square next year. There was a discussion about the necessity to block off Depot Square when setting up everything for the annual event. Lyn B. suggested that we purchase 3 foot commercial whisks for the hot chocolate next year.

*Holiday Party:*

The 2016 Recreation Committee Holiday Party is on Sunday, January 24, 2016 from 1-4 pm at the Village Grille in Waldwick, NJ. Liz F. will send reminder invitations. RSVP to 201-294-9679 if you haven't already.

*Town Picnic:*

Liz checked some vendors as requested at the last meeting and Appleby's and Big Daddy are not available. Liz left messages with Juliette, director of catering at the Marriott and Dan G. at Elks to see if they are interested. Bob F will check with Callahan's in Norwood to see if they would be interested. More discussions will follow at future meetings.

*Pre-school Sports Program:* The check was received and new Bunny and Elf costumes were ordered and received. Money left over will be in our special events account.

*New Business:*

Michael R. asked Lyn B. to speak about her recent appearance at a Mayor and Council Meeting. She went to the meeting to emphasize to the Mayor and Council that we need more young people to volunteer to join the Recreation and Cultural Committee. She told them we desperately need manpower and help for our events since many of our present members have been on the Committee for years and are not still able to set up the stage.

An email was received later from the Mayor regarding the possibility of buying a new stage that was easier to set up. There was a lengthy discussion and the members felt that a proposal of a new stage was most appreciated, however we really need new volunteers to help us with all aspects of the Committee events. Further discussions ensued regarding the present roster (that has inactive members) and also the need to recruit new active volunteer members. A list was formed and a motion was made by Jason R. and seconded by Michael R. to submit the Recreation Committee's compiled list to the Mayor for approval and categorize the list to include "Active Members", "Senior Members", "Proposed Members" and "Event Specialists." Liz will prepare email for approval by officers and then send to Mayor as soon as possible.

Steve M. made motion and seconded by Tom H. to nominate Eugene M. for Chairman for 2016 and Jason R. for Treasurer, 2016 and it was unanimous. There were no nominees as yet for Vice Chairman or Secretary.

Michael R. thanked Steve M. for all his time and time he took off from work to help and all he has done for the Park Ridge Recreation and Cultural Committee. He told Steve M. that we hoped he would be able to stay on the Committee and assist when he can. All members expressed their sincere appreciation to Steve Masson and his family for everything they did to help out!

*Agenda and Time of the Next Meeting:*

The next Meeting will be on Monday, January 11, 2016 (please note change for January meeting) at 7:30 PM at the Community Center. The Holiday Party will be on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Village Grille, Waldwick from 1-4 pm.

The Agenda for the next meeting will be:

Reorganization for 2016- Members, Officers, Event Dates

Any future event discussion.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM by Michael R. and seconded by Tom H.

Happy 2016!

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Liz Falkenstern

