

Borough of West Reading Recreation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm.

Members present: Taryn Duncan, Colleen English, John Harvey, Kristin Hawley, Jen Sundermier

Members not present: Heather Jagielski

Borough Council members present: Denise Drobnick (chair), Bethany Bower

Borough Staff present: Mike Esterly, Recreation Director

Public Comment:

None.

Motion to approve the minutes from December 2024 made by Jen Sundermier. Seconded by John Harvey. Motion carried (7-0).

Past Events

Holiday House Decorating Contest

- Votes were tallied
- A previous winner participated in judging
- Concerns: how to compare houses (yard, no yard, large corner). Welcome suggestions.
 - Future ideas: nominate a neighbor, Facebook poll
- Winners: 505 Chestnut, 301 S. 3rd, 123 S. 7th
 - Prizes will be given to winners

Christmas Tree Lighting

- Streamlined, worked well
- Minimal decorating; Wyomissing High School created backdrop
- Aurora lighting did the tree lights
- Discussed updating decorations in future years
- Will make sure to have candy for Santa/Mrs. Claus to hand out
- Christmas mocktail event – could add next year

Upcoming Events

Karaoke Competition (tentative date: Feb. 16, 2025)

- Location still to be determined
- Discussed having event outside West Reading
- Discussed logistics, ideas for event, location

Family Dance (tentative date: March 22, 2025)

- Theme: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory
- Need to start promoting soon
- Will sell tickets ahead of time

Letter of Interest for Recreation Commission opening

Motion to recommend to Borough Council that Ryan Oberly fulfill open position on Recreation Commission made by Jen Sundermier. Seconded by Kristin Hawley. Motion carried (7-0).

2025 Schedule of events/ideas

January: no events

February 16: Winter Karaoke Competition

February 25: Dungeons & Dragons Night at Bicentennial House

March 22: Willy Wonka Family Dance

April 12: Fishing rodeo

April 13: Egg Hunt

May 18: Vines and Vibes (June 8 rain date)

May 24: Pool opens for Memorial Day weekend

May 31: pool open for weekend

June 7: Pool opens for season

June 9: Playground program begins

July 4: 4th of July Celebration at the pool

August 1: Playground program ends

August 4: Pool hours change to 12-6pm for rest of season

August 5: National Night Out

August 25: Pool Closes during the week

August 30: Final pool weekend

September 1: Pups at the Pool

September: Karaoke TBA

Oct 10/11: Haunted House and Hayride (Oct. 17/18 raindate)

October 23: Haunted House only 6-7:30pm (no games or activities)

Dec. 5: Tree Lighting (Dec. 8 raindate)

Dec. 19-21: Holiday Decorating Contest

Zumba with Valerie: Every Saturday 10-11am in Pavilion Apr. 13-Aug. 24.

Yoga in the Park with Nest Collaborative: Saturday morning, May-Sept. in West Reading Parkland

Discussion of Facilities Fee Schedule for Nonprofits

Discussed policy and form that is already established. Need clarification on the role of Recreation Commission in making recommendations.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Taryn Duncan. Seconded by Kristin Hawley. Motion carried (7-0).

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen English
Recreation Commission Secretary