

Borough of Wildwood Crest Tourism Commission Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 2020

Crest Pier Recreation Center

Meeting called to order by Brian Cunniff at 4:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of the Sunshine Ordinance – In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 231 175, the notice requirements have been classified as to the time, place and date of holding said meeting by posting notice of the same on the bulletin board in borough hall and by mailing the same to the Press of Atlantic City and the Cape May County Herald.

Roll Call:	Don Cabrera, Mayor/Commissioner	not present
	Joseph Franco, Tourism Commission	present
	Dennis Hall, Tourism Commission	present
	Lester Klayman, Tourism Commission	present
	Bob Patterson, Tourism Commission	present
	Frank Basile, Recreation Supervisor	present
	Brian Cunniff, Asst. Rec Supervisor/TDC secretary	present

A quorum is present.

Dennis Hall made a motion to accept the minutes from the October TDC meeting. Joe Franco seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Brian Cunniff reported that, based on a discussion held at the October meeting regarding rentals rates for the use of outdoor facilities, he researched and found that Wildwood and North Wildwood each charge more per hour than Wildwood Crest does. He also spoke with Avalon, which does not charge sports camps to use their fields but takes a percentage of what's brought in.

Lester Klayman asked Brian if he had checked with Ocean City. Brian said he did not.

Bob Patterson believes there is some value in looking to lower rental rates to entice sports camps to come to town. People may come to stay overnight.

Dennis Hall added that if sports camps are three- and four-day events that they should get a discounted rate.

Bob Patterson added that if people are coming for a four-day sports camp that they might be bringing a lot of business to town. Lester Klayman added that we should be looking for ways to bring these types of events here. Dennis Hall added that it's exactly the kind of thing we want.

Frank Basile reiterated his comments from the October meeting that those renting indoors don't seem to have a problem paying the rates.

Brian Cunniff stated that he would discuss this matter with the mayor, administrator and CFO to see if there's way to adjust rental rates.

Joe Franco asked if the Little League field would be ready for next season. Brian Cunniff stated that he was unsure based on a quick recent conversation with the borough engineer.

Brian Cunniff stated that, as per Mayor Cabrera, the upgrades at Sunrise Park are scheduled to be mostly complete in December, save for some fencing.

Joe Franco asked if the recreation staff was planning as if bands were going to perform at Centennial Park next summer. Brian Cunniff stated yes, that we are going forward as normal. Joe Franco asked about attendance numbers for Saturdays and Wednesdays. Brian said that Saturday attendance seems to range from 1200 to sometime upwards of 2000 and that Wednesdays are usually around 400-500 but that some Wednesdays can come close to 1000.

Brian Cunniff stated that some of the 46 beach boxes owed to the borough by DEPTCOR have already been delivered. The rest are expected well in advance of next Memorial Day weekend.

Brian Cunniff stated that the borough's tree lighting ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 1, but that we're awaiting guidance from Mayor Cabrera on if to move forward due to tightening COVID-19 restrictions.

Frank Basile asked Bob Patterson if there was any kind of an update about GWTIDA. Bob stated that the convention center is still closed and that no events are scheduled. He said those decisions are made by the state and not locally. Bob added that GWTIDA is scheduled to have its first meeting in a long time next week.

Lester Klayman asked about events for 2021 with regard to GWTIDA. Brian Cunniff stated that Beverly Trapp sent out an email recently asking about the status of 2021 events. Brian said he responded accordingly.

Brian Cunniff stated that the one positive aspect of the cancellation of many 2020 events was that not much money came out of the TDC. Could be extra money there to help a new event.

Meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.