

**BOROUGH OF INTERLAKEN  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
JULY 21, 2017  
7:00 P.M. BOROUGH HALL**

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The workshop meeting of the Borough of Interlaken was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Nohilly. Sunshine Statement was read by Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich. "The notice of the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act has been satisfied by forwarding notice to the Coaster and Asbury Park Press. A copy of the notice is posted on the Borough bulletin board and is on file in the Borough Clerk's office."

Present: Mayor Nohilly, Council members: Butler, Franks, Gunn and Watson

Also Present: Borough Attorney Richard Shaklee and Borough Clerk/Administrator Lori Reibrich

Absent: Council President White and Councilwoman Horowitz

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1. **ANNUAL PICNIC:**

The Council had a discussion regarding the annual picnic.

Mayor Nohilly stated that the picnic started as a community effort. It was a neighborhood picnic in the park where everyone brought something. Now the picnic is being marketed as a kids' event. Mayor Nohilly expressed his desire to go back to basics where the kids can just run around and have a good time on the swing set and enjoy the Allenhurst water spray down.

Mayor Nohilly stated that attendance is unpredictable. Last year's attendance was light, but the year before exceeded expectations.

Councilman Franks stated that the picnic is at a crossroads. The past couple of years the Borough employees helped with the picnic and it was a tremendous success. It is a lot to expect from the employees. Previous employees were never involved. It was the residents who organized the picnic. The picnic used to be an adult event where residents went to socialize. It changed a few years ago when all the old timers were lost, because they were told they were not needed. A caterer was brought in to do the food. Now it will cost more money to replace the hard working employees.

Councilman Franks believes that the residents should be involved in the picnic. If the residents want a picnic, the Borough can help them run one. Councilman Franks is not opposed to not having a picnic. It may be good to check the pulse of the community for their desire for the picnic.

Councilman Watson expressed his love of the picnic. Councilman Watson feels it is the only thing that the Borough does as a full community. The 5K has been given up. The Halloween and Easter events are shared with other towns. It is an event that bridges people who have been here a long time and the newbies. Councilman Watson feels there is a lot of turnaround in town and the picnic is a good opportunity to meet new neighbors.

Councilman Watson believes an arrangement where there is a volunteer committee and the Borough provides the guidance can work. Councilman Watson stated that correspondence could be sent to say that this year the picnic is short staffed and solicit volunteers. Council may be surprised by a response from those that want to be involved. Councilman Watson does not want to close the door on the picnic.

Mayor Nohilly stated that he did not want to walk away from the picnic. The picnic could be downscaled. Make it a meet your neighbor event.

Councilman Watson stated that he has organized block parties where everyone brought something.

Mayor Nohilly stated that there were volunteers in the past, but since have fallen away. The event began to be catered due to lack of volunteers.

Mayor Nohilly said that the picnic is pretty self-sufficient and is currently being organized by about four volunteers along with Borough Clerk /Administrator Reibrich and Deputy Clerk, Gina Kneser. It does not take an army. It would be great to get a few solid volunteers.

Councilman Watson stated that new volunteers could be used, but they may also have ideas on how to get a better pulse on attendance.

Councilman Butler stated that attendance may be affected by the fact that everyone is busy in summer.

Councilman Watson suggested to move the date until after Labor Day.

Council had a brief discussion regarding dates.

Councilman Gunn asked questions about the earlier days of the picnic and who organized the event.

Mayor Nohilly stated that is it was not a Council run event. Residents organized the picnic. A previous administration then organized a Recreation Committee that dwindled of volunteers over time.

Councilman Franks asked how many residents actually attended the picnic last year.

Councilman Butler volunteered at the registration table last year and stated that about fifty percent of the attendees were residents.

Councilman Gunn stated that he feels one of the keys to successful picnics in the past was that everything was done by the residents, including cooking. Work was not done by two or three individuals, but a mass who were vested in it. Councilman Gunn does not think the initiative for the picnic should be from Council. Councilman Gunn stated that the Borough should let the residents know they could take up the mantle for the picnic planning. If they want to do it fine. If they don't want to do it, fine.

Mayor Nohilly stated that is a big assumption that residents would do that when we could not get a many volunteers in the past. Mayor Nohilly stated that he agreed with Councilman Gunn that it would be ideal for the residents to run the entire event. It was brought in house by a previous administration and made into a Borough run event.

Councilman Watson suggested the picnic be moved to September. Councilman Watson has spoken to several people who have said that they miss the picnic every year, because they have it in the summer.

Councilman Watson asked about getting six volunteers to do the activities. Councilman Butler suggested a hybrid from what it is now to a simpler event.

Mayor Nohilly suggested that Council each pick up the phone and ask someone to volunteer.

Councilman Gunn stated that he is not against incrementally turning the event over to the residents, but it has to be something the residents want and are willing to support.

Councilman Watson suggested residents pay in advance to be able to figure out attendance and resources needed for the event. Councilman Gunn asked who would communicate that to residents. Mayor Nohilly stated that most residents want to pay the day of the event. Councilman Watson suggested that pay at the door costs could be higher suggesting \$20 early and \$40 at the door. Mayor Nohilly stated that there were complaints that residents don't want to pay to sit in the park and eat a hot dog.

Council briefly discussed a hybrid approach to the picnic planning. An unofficial committee can be created of residents.

Councilman Watson stated that he would like to volunteer, as a resident, to see what is needed and orchestrate the event. He would like to sit down with Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich and Deputy Clerk Kneser to discuss it.

Councilman Franks agreed with Mayor Nohilly, that someone has to reach out to residents. Mayor Nohilly stated that flyers asking residents to call Borough Hall and volunteer have never worked. Mayor Nohilly suggested that the picnic be simpler, not a big complicated carnival.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that Borough Hall can organize the licensing and portable restrooms. Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that she would contact the Police Department about the kickball game.

Councilman Butler stated that the Interlaken merchandise should be sold. Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that something would need to be designed for the merchandise, if new merchandise was being purchased.

Councilman Gunn stated that the Borough has experience and contacts that the residents can use. There will be a period of transition to a group of people identified to be responsible for making the picnic happen. Borough Administration and Council can participate, but with the notion to making it clear that this is a transition to volunteers in the community. Mayor Nohilly agreed, but advised the process be in steps. If Council can get residents excited about the event, it will be an easy transition.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that she will begin making arrangements for a caterer for September 9, 2017.

Councilman Butler asked, if a meeting can be arranged to discuss the picnic.

Council had a brief discussion regarding the need for a DJ.

Councilman Watson stated that the transition would be easier, if the volunteers were provided with a plan packet of what steps should be taken.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Reibrich stated that there has been little interest in the past for volunteers.

Mayor Nohilly stated that it will be a lot of work to get the residents involved, but he feels good about the change in direction to a more simplified gathering.

2. **NEW BUSINESS:** No new business was discussed at this time.

3. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Mayor Nohilly opened the floor for public comment.

Jodi Heinz, 512 Bridlemere Avenue, stated that she had attended a previous picnic. She had no interest in going back to the picnic, because the picnic was all geared toward kids. There was nothing for adults to do. Ms. Heinz gave examples of games played at her company picnic that encouraged adult involvement. Ms. Heinz said she would not mind bringing a salad to the picnic and was disappointed there were no baked goods at the picnic she attended.

Jennifer Wentz, 614 Windermere Avenue, suggested a clam bake or maybe a fundraiser clam bake. It is unique. People are interested in fundraisers.

Councilman Butler stated that a fundraiser could be for a charity or to do something special for the Borough. Councilman Gunn stated that a charitable significance would cause people to think. Councilman Gunn does not believe it is a money issue. People value their time. People could chose to spend part of their life being there just to be with their friends or being there to do work for a worthy cause.

Jodi Heinz asked that Council consider incorporating an invasive species component into the tree ordinance and presented Council with a copy of the ordinance that Ocean Township recently passed and that it be included in the requested discussion with the Shade Tree Commission regarding the ordinance.

Ms. Heinz also stated that she would like Council to consider some advice she received from Mr. John H. Anlian, Attorney in regard to the ordinance, as it pertains to the cutting and damage to shade trees and also the creation of a designated code enforcer who would be authorized to enter on to private residences.

Mayor Nohilly stated that that the Commission is not set up for Shade Tree committee member to be permitted to enter private property. Council definitely does not want to go down that route.

Jennifer Wentz asked Council to consider recent events on her block. In the past three years many trees have been decimated. The fine does nothing to deter people. They do not care. If this continues, Interlaken will look remarkably different. We need to be thinking about that now. Enforcement is needed.

Ms. Wentz went on to say that we are the caretaker of these old trees and are losing a lot to storms and old age. We do not need to lose them because someone decides that they do not want them.

Ms. Heinz stated that the code enforcer is here part time and you cannot know if someone is lying about how many trees they are cutting down.

Ms. Wentz said no one goes out to supervise. Contractors cut tree roots when fixing sidewalks. People need to be educated and supported.

Councilman Watson suggested that the Shade Tree Commission set up a table at the town picnic.

Councilman Butler and Ms. Wentz agreed.

With no additional public comments made, Mayor Nohilly closed the floor.

4. **ADJOURNMENT:** Councilman Gunn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Franks and unanimously carried.

	Mayor Nohilly	Council President White	Councilman Franks	Councilman Gunn	Councilwoman Horowitz	Councilman Butler	Councilman Watson
Motion to Approve				X			
Motion to Second			X				
Approved			X	X		X	X
Opposed							
Abstain/ Recuse							
Absent/ Excused		X			X		

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Lori Reibrich, RMC  
Administrator/Clerk