

NORTH ROYALTON RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

The Recreational Board meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Russ Wells

PRESENT: Committee members: Todd Althouse, Larry Antoskiewicz, Larry Battaglia, John Kelly, Diane Veverka, Russ Wells, Barbara Zindroski; Administration: Mayor Bob Stefanik; Other: Pete Ragone, Terry Veverka, Tom Grassi, Bob Baran, Jeff Snider, Joe Maddock, Andrew Sadowski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Althouse, seconded by Mr. Wells to approve the minutes of February 28, 2012.

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Memorial Park Playground Improvements

Jeff Snider, Snider & Associates, Inc. presented options for improvements for current playground at Memorial Park, two phases; the first one includes swings and a slide. Mr. Kelly presented input from young age groups regarding what they are looking for in a playground. Mr. Wells made a recommendation for Council to pursue funding for Phase #1 and Phase #2, including 3 sets of swings, double slide and canopies for Memorial Park, seconded by Mr. Althouse – motion carried.

2. Coordination of Girls H.S. basketball program and Girls Rec basketball program.

Mr. Kelly contacted Bo Kuntz, NRHS Athletic Director, regarding coordinating the Girls H.S. Basketball program with the Girls Rec Program. Mr. Kuntz is in favor of this; in the absence of a Girls H.S. coach, Tim Matus will be contacting Mr. Grassi. Mr. Kelly will follow up if needed.

3. Gym usage for basketball and summer volleyball

John spoke with Jim Presot and Sam Grida regarding request to provide more slots for gym time for basketball and basketball clinics; at this point there are no plans to increase or provide more slots for gym time for basketball or basketball clinics. The Basketball scheduling will continue to go through Mr. Grassi; if Bob Baran would like slots, he will need to coordinate with Mr. Grassi. As far as summer gym availability, because of building maintenance, there is not an opportunity to add a summer volleyball program at this time. At a later time, if the city recognizes a Youth Volleyball program as an official city program, Mr. Battaglia and the Rec Board would then decide how to reallocate available gym time among all the city Rec programs.

4. Soccer Fence Repair

Fencing behind fields #1 & 2 are in need of repair; leaning telephone poles and fencing causing a safety issue. Mr. Ragone received quotes for repair/replacement of fencing with galvanized poles and 16' vinyl coated fencing; he questioned whose responsibility is it for payment of this large project. If it is a boundary fence, as well as a safety issue, would it be paid for out of the city capital improvement fund or is it NRSC responsibility. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that it is the responsibility of NRSC, if they can afford the cost. Mr. Ragone asked if the city would help on the removal of the current telephone poles and fencing; possibly in July when the ground is hard. Discussion tabled until next meeting so we can look into the conditions of the property

and what is necessary for the project. The need to have the area behind the fencing cleaned up was also discussed. The city will look into doing the cleanup.

5. Restrooms at York Field

The restrooms located by the batting cages are currently being used exclusively by RTA. There was a discussion regarding opening the restrooms up for use by the baseball teams as we had done in prior years. Mr. Battaglia will review Rec Department files regarding what arrangements were made with RTA

6. YMCA

Grand opening is scheduled for June 3rd. A small playground will be located in front of the YMCA

NORTH ROYALTON RECOGNIZED CLUBS:

Baseball: A 2012 working budget submitted. Registration is down this year. Fencing is complete and the gated entrance to field #7 is complete. Question was raised regarding Men's softball and whether the league is covered under the city's insurance plan or the NRBB organization's insurance. Mayor Stefanik believes they are not covered under either plan. Andrew Sadowski, who works in the Rec Dept. expressed his concerns regarding fields being unlocked at all times and leaving it up to coaches discretion if fields are playable. Discussion followed. Per Mr. Battaglia, during transition of Rec Dept., if fields are not locked it will then be up to the coaches' discretion to decide if the fields are playable. John Hornsby, in the Rec Department is our point of contact regarding field conditions; we can call him directly.

Soccer: Spring registration is complete; numbers are down. Picture day was held at the H.S. We are excited to be able to use the stadium facility for practice and games. The NRSC Treasurer's report will be presented at our June Trustee meeting for approval; it will then be submitted to the Rec Board at the June meeting. We are in need of Port-a-potties at the practice fields. Mr. Ragone asked, due to cost of insurance for the NRSC, if the \$10/per player registration fee be reduced to \$5/per player. Mr. Stefanik felt the request was reasonable and asked that he put the request in writing or an e-mail to the city.

NORTH ROYALTON UNOFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Basketball Club: Mr. Grassi met with the YMCA to discuss partnership in a basketball program. He also met with Kyle Kuntz in the hopes of getting a connection between high school program and the youth rec program.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Stadium usage meeting

Meeting regarding stadium facility use will be March 28 for all of the community groups regarding use of stadium facility, including minor restrictions, how to reserve it, etc.

2. Golf Lessons

Mr. Battaglia asked for direction regarding N.R. Golf Lessons (two summer sessions) the first one starting April 18. The suggestion was made to allow Mr. Divots to handle the program this year and if they choose to, they can use the North Royalton name.

3. St. Alberts Run & Walk will be Saturday, March 31 at 8:30am.

4. Cemetery and displaying of the American flag on city and school property

Joe Maddock expressed his concern regarding the need for repair on the cemetery crypt, as well as suggestions for displaying of the American flag on city and school property. Mayor Stefanik thanked him for his input and said he would pass the information on to the correct department to handle his concerns.

5. Future field expectations

Mayor Stefanik asked that the clubs to look at what their expectations and needs for future fields. Discussion followed regarding reasons for the registration numbers being down and whether the cause is due the economy, how children are spending their free time (computers, etc.), or are the restrictions of promoting the upcoming sports at the schools creating a lack of communication. We may need to consider thinking outside the box and looking for alternative ways of promoting our rec program; possibly sending a Rec calendar promoting sign-up dates and important Rec information in the sewer bills. Discussion followed regarding the necessity of a year-round field house facility.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Althouse, seconded by Ms. Veverka to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 24 at 6:00 in NR Council Chambers.