

NORTH ROYALTON RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

The Recreational Board meeting was held on March 30, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mr. Wells.

Present: Committee Members: Russ Wells, Todd Althouse, Tony Santangelo, Dr. John Kelly, Jason Swim, Jeremy Dietrich; Recognized Clubs & Organizations: Michelle Lanese (NRBB), Guy DiSiena (NRSC), Dejana Cinquepalmi (NRCG); Non-recognized Clubs & Organizations: Jeff Jacko (YMCA)

Absent with Cause:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept February 2021 meeting minutes by Dr. Kelly, Mr. Santangelo 2nd - Motion carried.

REPORTS

Recreation Department: Jason Swim – The city opened baseball fields last week. This is the earliest in many years. They are still planning to spread 96 tons for Diamond Pro next month. They are repairing parking lot and adding extra spaces at York Rd. They are getting bids next week for Phase 2 of lighting project. The old concession stand and RTA bathrooms have been demolished and will be paved over. Mr. Wells inquired about using Royal Redeemer, Mr. Swim stated as of now, they should not need to use the field, since the schools changed the demo schedule for Albion and gave NRBB access to Albion field until June 30.

School Board: Dr. John Kelly – See attached report for NRCS.

Council: Jeremy Dietrich – Mr. Dietrich asked Dr. Kelly about fire hydrant painting. The idea was to paint fire hydrants school colors. The Fire Chief and Schools superintendent have been in discussions. The city is seeking summer help for recreation and service departments.

NORTH ROYALTON RECOGNIZED CLUBS:

Baseball (NRBB): Michelle Lanese – Registration closes on 3/31. Overall, registration down approximately 18% from 2019. There was an increase for Boys and Girls rookie leagues. Team assignments will begin after registration closes. Practices should begin the week of 4/12. This is a very busy time of the year for NRBB getting things started. NRBB are waiting for an update from City on a field use ordinance.

Soccer (NRSC): Guy DiSiena – See attached report for NRCS.

Basketball (BANR): Mike Lee – Not present but Mr. Lee emailed a report after the meeting. BANR are finalizing financials for the season. All teams are done playing tournaments. The Boys Varsity coach resigned. They are waiting on his replacement

to develop Spring and Summer activities for youth off-season development. They are also hoping to engage the girls in camp and skills training as well.

North Royalton Community Garden (NRCG): Dejana Cinquepalmi – NRCG gardeners completed the building and installation of 7 high boxes. They were filled with the Hügelkultur method. NRCG have a work date scheduled for Sat April 10 to do general garden cleanup and bring in more soil to fill the boxes and plots. Their gardeners will work alongside NR High School Students, who will earn community service hours towards their Key Club and Honors diplomas. They are also working with a Girl Scout from Hinkley on her project to build two trash bins with a planter on top – they will be installed at entry gate. This project will earn her a gold scout award. Our greatest appreciation goes out to our Rec Dept for all their help with the garden's needs. Mr. Marnecheck donated his grape vine to the garden; it will serve as a welcoming treat when you enter. Looking forward to another fabulous season with the gardeners and being able to give back fresh locally grown produce to the community.

NORTH ROYALTON NON-RECOGNIZED CLUBS:

YMCA: Jeff Jacko – Spring session started this week with capacity limitations. T-ball and men's softball registration opened. As vaccinations increase the membership is returning. Seniors are the largest group that has returned. YMCA has created a membership advocacy group to ensure the Y is delivering what people need. Summer camp registration is picking up. They hope to be able subsidize 10% of campers.

Mayor Larry Antoskiewicz – The city is starting Flee markets on the first Sat of each month May – Oct. on the City green. Movie night will be on July 16th at memorial park and the Fishing derby July 23rd. A Cookout is planned for July 22nd at Memorial Park. In lieu of Home Days the city is planning an event on Aug.22 that will include evening fireworks. Ms. Cinquepalmi asked about how clubs could sign up to participate in flee market. The Mayor said they have not discussed it yet. Shred days are May 8th and Sept 12. Limited to 5 standard file boxes or 5 paper bags – no plastic. Mr. Wells asked the Mayor about park plans – he said the city is still going through comments and making adjustments.

Paul Marnecheck, President of Council – No Report

OLD BUSINESS

No old business

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Kelly discussed the status of NR Youth Football (formerly southern hills youth football). They thought they were a city recognized group. However, they are not and must decide whether to renew stadium sponsorship, so they could use stadium as a city recognized group. If they do not renew sponsorship or become city recognized group, they will have to pay out of city group rate to use the stadium. Mr. Swim said they need to contact him to find out requirements for a city recognized group.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27th, 2021 at 6:00pm. Mr. Santangelo moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Dr. Kelly. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Schools Report for March Rec Board

SPORTS:

Improved weather has brought the start of Spring sports. All teams are very excited to shake off the rust and to have a season this year. There have been some relatively minor Covid issues during the indoor practice period, but all teams are beginning their seasons.

In addition to final fund raising to replace the stadium artificial turf for the 2023 football season, NRSF voted last week to fund 1/2 the cost of a new digital scoreboard in partnership with the District. A meeting will be held on March 31 to look at all proposals and decide on the final product. The scoreboard will have video and replay capabilities and should be installed and in use for the 2021 Fall sports season.

CONSTRUCTION:

Last week the move was made of the remaining teachers into the newly renovated sections of the humanities wing. Over spring break the construction crews will put up the segregation walls to separate the 300 and 400 halls from the rest of the building and abatement of that area will begin April 12. It is anticipated that demolition will occur beginning April 26 starting in the northern most area and proceeding south. We will get details of the brick availability put out to the community very soon.

The bids for the renovations at NRMS were due last Monday and the initial look at them was very positive. It is anticipated that the base bids for HVAC, the Stem renovation and handicapped access will be under budget.

At NRES the furniture will begin to arrive on March 26! Work on the sewer line continues and should be complete by mid-April (except for the electrical upgrades at the pumping station). This will be followed immediately by the road widening.

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

We welcomed back all students to 5 day a week classes on March 22nd. About 300 families have elected an all-virtual option for the remainder of the school year. Thankfully there has been no demonstrable increases in cases or quarantines. End-of Year planning is moving forward for graduation, prom etc. Although final guidelines are not issued from the State, we have a pretty good handle on the limitations.

Finally, the BOE completed the second-round interviews for Superintendent with a very strong group of 6 semi-finalists. There were 48 applications and no internal candidates. We have reduced the field to two finalists. The final stakeholder interviews for both finalists will be held on April 14th. The board will then conduct final interviews and make the selection that evening. We heard from the final 6, as well as several of the preliminary candidates, that the North Royalton community and School District is considered a destination job. We look forward to a deep dive into both finalists as we do our due diligence and complete the process. We strive to have a completed signed contract with our new superintendent before the end of April. This will

allow for plenty of collaboration time with Mr. Gurka before his retirement. He has made it clear however, that after a short family vacation in June that he will be available and is willing to provide whatever assistance we need for a smooth transition.

REC BOARD MEETING REPORT for March 30, 2021



Registration for Spring add players.

- Probably because of the lighter Fall registration, we had a larger Spring sign up.
 - Bears Academy (U5 & U6 Boys and girls) added 74. Adding as many as we had for fall.
 - Rec League Players (U8, U11 Boys & Girls & U14 Coed) added 113.
 - Formed 3 more each Boys & Girls U8 teams
 - Filled out other age teams.

Spring Season

- Field conditions are always unpredictable in Spring. Thanks to the HS we will get our "Week 1" of games on the Stadium Turf over two Saturdays. No indoor games were possible due to covid spacing.
 - April 3rd B&G U11, U14 CoEd
 - April 10th Bears Academy (B&G U5&U6) B&G U8
 - April 11th some Travel home games.
- April 17th all Rec games will be Saturdays at Heasley thru Soccer Days May 22nd & 23rd.
- April 18th all travel games will be at Heasley & Memorial, some weeknights through June 6th with makeup possibly on the 13th.

50th Anniversary Season (Fall 21 Spring 22) registration will open May 1st online.

Memorial Field Work

The field took a beating last fall a combination of wet weather and HS practice use/scheduling that has been addressed. Although the Recreation Staff was able to roll, weather prevented further work. Last week we had Agricultural Design top dress the field with 120 tons of sand (\$7,500) and hope to have them out by the end of next week to Verti-Quake aerate the field (\$2,000) a deeper aeration that won't leave the cores for spring play. Combined with some follow up overseeding and fertilization by Staff the field should be smoother for play now and with favorable spring weather have a chance to fill in and grow back healthier with continued maintenance and improved scheduling.

The Lights on one pole still need repair and other poles bulbs replaced.


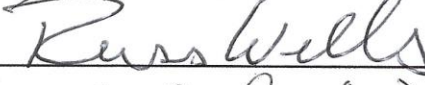

When we saw Council Pres Marnecheck newsletter article about the grant for additional tree plantings at the park, we passed on to Jason and Council Pres Marnecheck a request for a few of the trees be planted in the gaps of the tree line behind the west fence to help block the setting sun that makes evening games difficult. This would fill in and complete the designed tree border on that ridge.

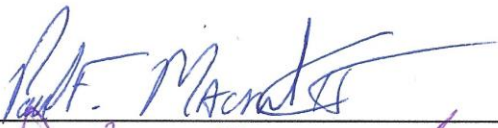
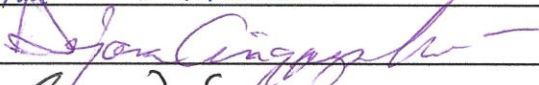
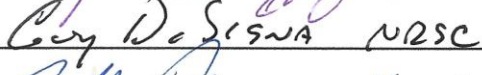


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NORTH ROYALTON RECREATION BOARD

Attendance Sheet

March 30, 2021

Jason Swim	Recreation Director	
Todd Althouse	Board Member	
Tony Santangelo	Board Member	
Russ Wells	Board Member	
Dr. John Kelly	School Board Member	
Jeremy Dietrich	Council Representative	

	
	
 Cory DeSisna NRSC	
 John Smith YMCA	
 Nichelle Lause NRBB	