

**OAKLAND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 21, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Oakland Recreation Commission was called to order at 8:05 PM by Chairman Guadagnino, via remote Zoom Meeting under the public sunshine laws. Commissioners Guadagnino, Hagerman, Laterra, Logatto, Saliani, Scalabrini, King and Coira were present. Commissioner Walker was absent.

Prior to opening to public session, Chairman Guadagnino reviewed procedures to speak during open sessions via zoom.

A motion to excuse absent Commissioners was made by Chair Guadagnino and seconded by Commissioner King. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair's Report:

1. Someone was snowplowing the tennis courts with no authorization. The police were called and filed a report. I was given a copy of the police report today. It was a Franklin Lakes resident. I will be discussing with the borough on whether he will be ticketed and/or fined. Not sure how he got in there, but the gates are chained up for now.
2. There have been discussions within the Great Oak Park committee about a spot in in the park for a basketball court. I met with Boswell Engineering and asked for a quote to reconstruct the disturbed area in the park for a basketball court. Boswell came back with a quote for \$200,000, which we rejected. Jenn and I have been discussing and we will meet in January to further discuss how to raise funds, get volunteers and turn this area into a basketball court for a realistic cost.

Commissioner Laterra spoke about fundraising for this program.

Open Session- Motion made to open to Public by Comm. Saliani and seconded by Comm. King. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Folkerts, -chairman of the Sports Association of Oakland (SAO)

- The SAO is an Independent, non-profit organization.
Jim presented overview of activities the organization supports, requirements and their media communication. Providing accountability and transparency for fundraising and expenses, relieves the responsibility from the team members and the parents. SAO holds the license to manage these finances. Each year we develop guidelines and ensure everyone adheres to them.
- In the past, the SOA has supported:
 - Rec Commission projects ie: field enhancements, sprinklers recess equipment, playground equipment
 - Travel sports teams -fronting referee salaries

- After school classes
- Great Oak Park
- Oakland summer camp
- Other various activities
- Media Communication
 - Link on borough website including all our email addresses
 - Facebook
 - Monthly meetings

Comm. Hagerman asked Jim to explain about the gambling license

- This is a 2 year license. Gives us the legal authority to be able to sell tickets to raise funds. SAO needs to be aware of any fundraising activities held in the town especially if our name is being used. Forms need to be completed, tickets purchased and town council has to approve. We need to allow plenty of lead time, 35-45 days at least. There are fundraising Long forms for 501C3.

Jim plans on meeting individually with each group to review fundraising guidelines. We need to have structure in place to ensure the process is followed correctly. Also, any proceeds need to go into SAO bank account.

Comm. Logatto asked if we do a can shake and collected multiple cans with loose change what is the best way to handle? Jim verified to roll the coins, deposit money into your personal bank account and write the SAO a check.

Comm. Hagerman suggested going to a Coin Star, they give a receipt and cash so no rolling of coins involved and have a receipt. Then hand that over to the SAO.

We don't have Venmo but we do have Paypal. We're also looking into "Deposit only" debit cards...allow you to make deposits at the Chase branch in Oakland. Perhaps thru the ATM.

Jim continued to review the requirements for running a raffle, documentation and handling unused tickets. Note: reports need to be completed in two weeks. No questions so Jim thanked everyone for the time and opportunity to speak.

Chair Guadagnino motion to approve minutes, Comm King seconded

The following reports were made and unanimously accepted.

BASEBALL – Comm. Saliani – signups mid January, all online

BASKETBALL – Comm. Laterra -season should be starting on January 11th, preparing for rec and setting up for travel. Chair Guadagnino asked if travel has been practicing outside, Comm. Laterra is not aware.

FOOTBALL – Comm. Hagerman – all equipment in, nothing new since last report.

GOLF – Comm. Laterra – no report

ROLLER HOCKEY – Comm. King – we have a humongous program this year. Most likely because parents are more comfortable with the kids being outside. Season start January 9. Each team plays 10 games mostly on weekends and during the week as needed. Our “Learn to Skate” or Clinic program is huge. The program will definitely grow now that we have a bright and shiny new rink.

We were originally going to have two midget teams (grades 4, 5 and 6) but they have a total of 26 kids. Will have one team so its easier to manage with any Covid issues.

We’ll have 2 junior teams with approx. 30 kids including Wyckoff kids since they were not having a junior team. Also created a Senior team with kids from Wyckoff, Franklin Lakes and Ridgewood.

Comm. Saliani asked what nights they practice. He has a soccer team that needs practice time. Comm. King said 3-5pm would work since roller hockey practices start at 6pm. We have some of the strickest covid requirements among all the towns. So they need to make sure they are off the rink in plenty of time to prepare for the next practice.

Comm. Guadagnino - has anyone been working with Sandra about scheduling for the high school lacrosse that’s supposed to take place? Comm. Coira will check with Matt on the schedule and ordering equipment.

Comm. Saliani asked when season ends, Comm. King said hard to say, not anticipating it to run too far into march

SOCCER – Comm. Saliani – no report

SOFTBALL – Comm. Logatto - begin online signups for both rec and travel on January 11 and will continue throughout the spring. We fully expect this to be the first season where we’ll have no issues. We’re following all protocols. Travel season try outs begin in March.

SPECIAL NEEDS – Comm. Scalabrini - no report

TENNIS – Comm. Scalabrini – no report

WRESTLING – Comm. Logatto – state mandates wresting starts March 1. I spoke with the wrestling director Bobby, there is not much interest in wrestling right now, no requests being asked when program would start. Out of 90 participants last year, there are less than 30 people willing to sign up. They will attempt to begin March 1.

Chair Guadagnino suggested maybe a summer wrestling camp if we can’t hold a season.

CHEERLEADING –Comm. LaTerra –season went really well. Made it thru with no Covid and thankful I had Brian to work with. With the exception of one squad, all uniforms handed in. I’ll finish up with them after the holidays. It was a great season and a lot of fun.

LACROSSE – Comm. Coira – schedule to begin the first weekend after spring break for 6 weeks. I don't know what Franklin Lakes is doing, if they're going thru with the sport. This year we're going thru with pre-k thru third grade. Comm. King said she's believes they plan on going thru with the season in the spring. She suggested if anyone from Franklin Lakes contacts Comm. Coira they should contact the Franklin Lakes rec dept to get on the waiting list. If enough people sign up they could make a team.

Chair Guadagnino asked when sign ups are, most likely end of February into March. I haven't finalized this yet.

SUMMER CAMP – Chair Guadagnino- Planning for the six week program. We'll see what happens in the next 6 months.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS - Chair Guadagnino- tennis courts are closed. We ask everyone to please follow the signs on the fields to whether they are open or closed.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS –Comm. Laterra – I talked with Kevin from TGA he would like to start conversations about the different camps but we'll have to discuss in the next 6 weeks or so.

MOUNTAIN BIKE – Comm.. Hagerman – no report

VOLLEYBALL –Comm. Coira – volleyball is one of the sports affected by Gov. Murphy's order. Normally begins in January. Right now scheduled to start end of February and end around mid April.

I'm confident we can run it safely but my concern is how the comfortable the parents will be to sign up their kids. Volleyball costs about \$5K to run for the season. We would need at least 40 kids to sign up to break even. If we only have 10 kids, it's not feasible.

Chair Guadagnino asked how many nets are up? They have 2 full courts. Volleyball by nature has minimal contact and they do mostly drills.

Comm. Guadagnino asked if Governor Murphy shuts everything down by march or April, would we be able to set up some courts in the Rec field? This is something we can consider.

CAPITAL PROJECTS –

D'Elia sign- Chair Guadagnino

Informational sign- waiting for delivery in spring.

COMMITTEE REPORT – Chair Guadagnino - Steve sent something out about the travel sports policy. The committee has not met, it's been over 60 days. Chair Guadagnino recommended he update the policy and present it at next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION – no report

OLD BUSINESS – None to report

NEW BUSINESS – Chairman Guadagnino

1. Comm. Saliani – the Oakland Communications Commission (OCC)

reached out to us to see if the Rec Commission could partner with them on the following:

- Channel 77, Oakland news channel - would anyone on the Rec Commission be interested in creating slides regarding any rec events, sign ups, news etc.
- Add cameras to Rec fields – this would be a long term project to televise games. Looking for us to help finance/fundraise. Looking for volunteers.

They are looking for rec commission volunteers to help the OCC regarding rec type events. Let them know if anyone is interested in being the liaison between us and OCC and updating channel 77 with rec events. Chair Guadagnino said to let them know we're thinking about it.

2. Our Roller Hockey commissioner, Comm. King is leaving us. Chairman Guadagnino said she has devoted a lot of time to this organization communicating behind the scenes at the rink etc.

Thank you for all your efforts and dedication and you always put the kids first.

Comm. King-thank you very much. You've taught me a lot and it's been a pleasure working with all of you. I've learned a lot from each and every one of you. I wish you all the best of luck.

My term on the Board of Ed is 3 years.

Chair Guadagnino - I invited Mike Bleeker who scheduled to be the new roller hockey commissioner. In January I will take over Roller Hockey and I will officially name him when the Mayor appoints him a commissioner the next roller hockey commissioner at the next meeting

NO LIAISON REPORT

OPEN SESSION- no public in attendance so there was no second open session.

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Saliani and seconded by Commissioner Scalabrini. The motion passed unanimously.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION WILL BE HELD via Zoom JANUARY 25, 2021 AT 8:00PM.