

OAKLAND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 16, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Oakland Recreation Commission was called to order at 8:01 pm by Chairman Guadagnino, with the flag salute, at the Danny D'Elia Recreation Center under the public sunshine laws. Commissioners Guadagnino, Logatto, Coira, Lattera, Scalabrini and King were present. Commissioners Saliani and Walker were absent.

Chairman Guadagnino requested for a motion to excuse absent Commissioners. Commissioner Logatto motioned to excuse the absent Commissioners and Commissioner King seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Session- Chairman Guadagnino requested for a motion to open to a public session. Commissioner King motioned to open to the public and Commissioner Logatto seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Matt Pellegrini (1 Laurel Lane) - stated he had a question regarding Rec wrestling. Mr. Pellegrini said he has been a coach for a few years and has an issue with the conditions of the NJ Sports House. He feels they have done a poor job of salting and plowing the parking lot. Commissioner Logatto responded saying that he has notified them recently of this concern and that they have not followed through with cleaning it up.

Chairman Guadagnino said that he will call the owner of NJ Sports House to ask them to clean it up following the conclusion of this meeting.

Commissioner Logatto followed this with stating that they will look elsewhere if they cannot fix the situation.

Chairman Guadagnino stated that he will in addition if necessary he will ask the Borough Attorney write a letter to the NJ Sports House with a list of all complaints that need to be addressed in order to be in good standing with their contract.

Mr. Pellegrini also asked where he can obtain a breakdown of the Borough's Recreation Budget. He wants to see exactly where the money they are paying for programs goes. He wanted to know why other sports give out things like T-shirts or sweatshirts and would like one for his kid for wrestling. He also asked for clarification on process to become a commissioner. Also wanted to know why there aren't commissioners for each sport rather than 2 sports per commissioner.

Chairman Guadagnino responded that the commission is set up by state statute and that statute says how many members can be on the commission and how it is divided. When we need another "commissioner like person" we bring in directors such as in the wrestling and summer camp programs. This gives us further reach around the state statute. The budget is openly

discussed yearly at a council meeting where anyone is welcome to attend and ask questions. The written budget can be obtained at borough hall. A quick synopsis of the rec spending is we must purchase items off the borough's BID list. We pick the item, volume etc then create a purchase order. The borough administrator approves, denies or asks for further clarification. Once the items are OK for purchase the rec secretary places the order. Once the items arrive the council approves to pay the purchase order, the CFO writes the check and the mayor signs the check. The commissioners are not permitted to pick and purchase items on their own.

Melissa Bayani (44 Spear Street) – feels that the 3rd grade football uniforms need to be replaced. She stated that last year, her son didn't have a matching game and practice jersey with the same number. She also asked why we hire medics instead of having the volunteer first aid squad at games. Also stated that the medics are not the best and need to be reviewed.

Chairman Guadagnino said that there was a reason but wasn't sure why and can look it up. He believes it was due to their trauma level. He also said that the issues with the medics can be brought up to the new commissioner when they are appointed.

A motion to close the open session was made by Commissioner Logatto and seconded by Commissioner King. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the minutes from the November's Regular meeting and Executive Session was made by Commissioner King and seconded by Commissioner Coira. The motion passed unanimously.

The following reports were made and in proper motion unanimously accepted.

BASEBALL – Comm. Saliani – No Report.

BASKETBALL – Comm. Walker – Recreation Basketball has begun for all levels except 7/8 grade boys. We need 5 coaches and only have 3 so far. We have contacted and gone down the list of approved coaches, but no one else has stepped forward yet. We sent out one last final plea otherwise there will be 15 or more kids on each team. We are working on it!

Travel has begun. We feel we have our teams flighted correctly.

We removed the 4 boys teams from Jay Shevins league and placed them in Williams Spector's league and our teams were getting beat by 15 to 20 points. I felt this was not the best situation for our players and placed them back in Jay Shevins league where they have more flights that would be more competitive for our players.

Picture day has been scheduled for Saturday January 25, 2020 with a snow date of the following Saturday February 1, 2020. email

FOOTBALL – Comm. TBD – No Report.

GOLF – Comm. Lattera –No Report.

ROLLER HOCKEY – Comm. King – The season has started. Everyone is happy with the new rink. A parent fixed the new score board and saved the town \$1500. There are 3 teams in all age groups. Sr. team is doing well and haven't had to forfeit due to low numbers yet. We will be doing a fundraiser and it is all set up with SAO.

SOCCER – Comm. Saliani – No Report

SOFTBALL – Comm. Logatto – Registration will begin online Jan 1. In person registration will be held on Saturday February 1st 9-12 and Wednesday February 19 6-9pm. Parade date will be Saturday, June 6th.

SPECIAL NEEDS – Comm. Scalabrini – No Report.

TENNIS – Comm. Scalabrini – No Report.

LACROSSE – Comm. Coira –Online registration begins Jan. 1st. Beginning a pre k-2 program beginning April 4th and will like run Saturday mornings but is not confirmed. Registration for the new program will also begin Jan. 1st.

SUMMER CAMP – Chair Guadagnino – The posting for the Camp Director will be up by end of week.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – Chair. Guadagnino – All 3 flags have lights now. Walking path lights are up until 8:30 every night; which the playground and parking lots will be lit until 10:30pm.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS – Comm. Lattera– No Report.

MOUNTAIN BIKE – Comm. TBD – No Report.

VOLLEYBALL – Comm. Coira – Volleyball registration will begin Jan. 1st. Program will begin for Tuesdays on January 21st and Thursdays on the 23rd. Program will run at NJ Sports House.

WRESTLING – Comm. Logatto – 96 kids are registered for this year. We can not grow the program any bigger in the space that we have. Only issue as of now is that the parking lot is not being cleaned well. First match Sat Jan 24th and it's an away match.

Discussion opened amongst wrestling parents who were in attendance to discuss the wrestling program and gave feedback on the program.

Parents in attendance :

Matt Pellegrini
Jen Pellegrini
Melissa Bayani
Carla Rodriguez

CHEERLEADING – Comm. Walker – Our competition - we canceled the competition for this Sunday December 15, 2019 and will enter another competition in February. We needed more time to work on more advanced stunts for the next competition to give the girls the best opportunity to place. Our next competition is scheduled for January 11, 2020. Email

CAPITAL PROJECTS –

Truman & Field 8: Guadagnino said that he's been investigating solutions, he met with landscape companies and they've all been telling him to sod. They have also said to seed would require closing down the fields for up to 6 months. Other options would be looking at having games at the high school. A suggestion was to also have the fields covered for fireworks. Chairman Guadagnino will be meeting with DPW to discuss and once a new football commissioner is named they will work further on the field 8 issue.

Tennis Courts Commissioner Guadagnino- Waiting for the grant to come through in order to resurface the courts.

COMMITTEE REPORT – None.

COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION – **Chairman Guadagnino** will be assuming the role of football commissioner until the new one is appointed.

OLD BUSINESS – No Report.

NEW BUSINESS – No Report.

RECREATION AID –

COUNCIL LIASON – Councilman Kulmala stated that it was his last meeting and that he has enjoyed his time with the commission.

Open Session – A motion to open to a second public session was made by Commissioner Coira and seconded by Commissioner King.

Jen Pellegrini- asked about holding baseball parade at the beginning of the season. Chairman Guadagnino responded that they used to hold it at the beginning of the season and that it would always get rained out or it would be too cold and people would leave immediately after the

parade. One year we held in in June due to a tragic reason, and the parade/party had the best attendance and weather ever, so they have kept in in June.

She also asked that if they are having a hard time with getting coaches for sports, has there ever been a thought to hiring coaches for those sports that they can't get coaches for. Chairman Guadagnino stated that it would bring rec fees up quite a bit, then it may create problems where it would be difficult to determine which children play for hired coaches, which play for volunteers etc.

Councilman Kulmala suggested a mentorship coaching program, or hiring someone to do a coach training clinic. Chairman Guadagnino said that was a good idea, that we presently do this First Shot Soccer offering coaching support for soccer and we have Coach Leight and Coach Hill do the same for softball and baseball.

Ms. Bayani- asked about adding gaga to the recreation offerings.

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

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION WILL BE HELD Monday, January 27, 2020 AT 8:00PM. The 2020 Reorganization Meeting will be held at 7:30pm