

OAKLAND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING FOR JANUARY
Monday, October 25, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Oakland Recreation Commission was called to order at 8:05PM by Chairman Guadagnino, held via Zoom (869 1250 4552) under the public sunshine laws. Commissioners Guadagnino, Scalabrini, Coira, Saliani, Hagerman, LaTerra, and Logatto were present. Commissioner Bleeker arrived late. Councilman Van Eck was also present.

Chair's Report: Chairman Guadagnino stated that there were some tennis players who were upset about pickleball being played on the courts. Pickleball was originally set up as a trial program and grew exponentially. We even held a very successful tournament earlier in the month. There was a meeting held with some tennis players. We came to nice agreement over the situation and the conclusion was that one court would be reserved specifically for Pickleball and the remainder will remain for tennis. This will be implemented when the courts are resurfaced this spring.

Open Session- As there were no public in attendance at the time of the public session, no public session was held.

Approval of previous months minutes- A motion to approve the September 2021 regular meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Saliani and seconded by Commissioner Logatto. The motion passed unanimously.

The following reports were made and unanimously accepted.

BASEBALL – Comm. Saliani – Try outs are completed. Very successful. Had a great opportunity having George Hill meeting with the 7th and 8th graders to get to know him. We will make the teams following wrap up of fall ball. There are playoffs and once they are over we will announce the teams. No drastic changes with some cuts but overall very good.

BASKETBALL – Comm. Laterra – Currently conducting travel tryouts and will complete this week. We are reaching out to the schools for something on letterhead coming from the Board of Education of the policy for parents. The recreation season will Need a reminder on board of ed letterhead with their policy to enforce. Season will begin in January for recreation.

FOOTBALL – Comm. Hagerman –Finished final A home games this past weekend. Pee Wees had a great season with the final three games very competitive against Northern Highlands. The Pee Wees and juniors all won in the last minute with seniors very close at the end. Pee wees are 6 and 1 and juniors and seniors will make playoffs. B games on Sunday, October 31st with our

final games. We are preparing for the full cheer and football dinner on Tuesday, November 30th. Successful 50/50 from senior night. Field held up well over the season with just a small patch in the middle. Suggests closing the field following end of season until March. Chairman Guadagnino suggested meeting with Peter to discuss replacing the sod in the patchy areas and then maybe putting down a winter blanket.

GOLF – Comm. Bleeker – No Report.

ROLLER HOCKEY – Comm. Bleeker – No Report.

SOCCER – Comm. Saliani – Having a great season. Our older teams are doing very well. Our Rec team are basically the middle school teams. We have some great cross over with those teams and had the freshman coaches come by to see the Rec Practices. We are aware of at least 11 girls going to Indian Hills who are planning to play soccer.

SOFTBALL – Comm. Logatto – No report

SPECIAL NEEDS – Comm. Scalabrini – Football and cheer have been playing since September 12th and has run well. Only had one rain day that cancelled program. Have been holding the program at the Indian Hills turf field. Looking into a basketball program and will look at registration next month. Also looking at the possibility of Pickleball.

TENNIS – Comm. Scalabrini – Rec Tennis ended October 9th. Had 16 participants and believe it was low because of other sports overlapping and also had difficult hours on Saturdays in afternoons due to difficulty with getting instructors. In the spring we plan to go back weekdays. This past Saturday we had a fundraiser at the tennis courts. October 2nd had a pickleball tournament. We will hold Pickleball season starting in November on Monday and Thursday nights and Saturday mornings. Lights will be on until 10pm until the weekend after Thanksgiving.

WRESTLING – Comm. Logatto – We are midway through registration. We are up to about 40 kids registered. Spoke to Bobby before our meeting and have 12 8th graders. These are kids who have been in program for several years. These kids are committed to the program and will all be going to Hills. Will begin Monday after thanksgiving. The league they are in requires coaches to be vaccinated or show negative test before they go on mat 48-72 hours for league matches. This is the league rules. Only requirement for the stands in wearing a mask. Kids don't need the masks while wrestling. NJ sports house will not require masks for kids. Coaches not required to wear masks. Major scrub down on all mats at NJ sports house and league meets. This is a mandatory rule set with the league. January 23 will be Oakland tournament. There will have 2-4 dates set for the Indian Hills coaches to be able to watch practices.

CHEERLEADING –Comm. LaTerra – Great season. The theme nights were a success. Pink out went well. It was too windy to put up the helmet last weekend. One week left of regular season. Cheer pictures were located.

LACROSSE – Comm. Coira – Reached out to Franklin Lakes to coordinate so they can set up a night meeting. Oakland is pulling the boys 3-4 grade competitive program home and the girls will happen next year due to the girl's league rules. The clinic will go through 2nd for the boys and 3rd for the girls since we are doing the competitive program for boys 3rd grade this year.

SUMMER CAMP – Chair Guadagnino- No Report

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS - Chair Guadagnino- Will shut down filed 8 until spring once the football season ends.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS –Comm. Laterra – No Report

MOUNTAIN BIKE – Comm. Hagerman – No Report

VOLLEYBALL –Comm. Coira – We are trying to decide if to go back in doors or stay outdoors. The weather last year was tough in the summer but the coaches can't do the spring or fall because they are teachers and it's tough for them. We are currently reviewing the options. We used to do NJ sports house but the prices have gone up too high. We can look at possibly doing it at Valley who has volleyball nets. We liked the outdoor program however the weather posed a challenge. We did have a great turnout for the outdoor program and may consider doing both.

CAPITAL PROJECTS –

Tennis Court- Following the meeting with the tennis players, we decided to turn one tennis court into a permanent pickleball area. We would like to wall off the pickleball area by court 5. The plan is to resurface the courts in the spring using grants and trust to make up the difference.

COMMITTEE REPORT – No Report

COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION – No Report

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

LIAISON REPORT- Councilman Van Eck- Chairman Guadagnino asked about an article that was written regarding the tennis and pickleball situation and the meeting was held. He felt a quote from Councilman Van Eck was misleading and stated that he and other commissioners were misquoted in the article. Councilman Van Eck stated he was also misquoted and share what he actually said with the Commissioners. Councilman Van Eck sated he would follow up with the article's author to have it adjusted.

OPEN SESSION- As there were no public in attendance at the time of the public session, no public session was held.

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

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION WILL BE HELD on November 29th AT 8:00PM.