

**OAKLAND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the Oakland Recreation Commission was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chairman Guadagnino, with the Flag Salute, at the Danny D'Elia Recreation Center under the public sunshine laws. Commissioners Perneti, Logatto, O'Brien, Scalabrini, Haas, Saliani, King, and Malmud were present. Councilwoman Coira and Recreation Secretary Lori Dent were also present.

The meeting was opened to the public upon motion made by Comm. Perneti seconded by Comm. Saliani and passed.

Dave Caviello, 70 Thackery Road was here to discuss the travel baseball 10U tryout and hear Comm. O'Brien discuss what happened with the tryout proceedings.

Comm. O'Brien explained what happened during the team selection process. The teams had been set based on the information that they had received during the tryout process. Later he received a phone call from someone that said that based on what he knows and what he saw during rec, he thinks something may be wrong. The person was not the parent or coach. Comm. O'Brien double checked the information and all of the different check lists and found that there was important information that was not there. That information tipped the scales to have that boy make the A team. On behalf of that kid, Comm. O'Brien wanted to correct the mistake and do right by that boy.

Caviello feels that people don't believe Marty's explanation. The perception is that something else was going on. People want to know what was missed that was so crucial to make this big of a mistake.

O'Brien said the data that was missed was the player's information from the last season.

Caviello feels that information is important to get to the people to make the reason for the mistake more believable. He said the attitude is that the "fix was in".

Chris Yousefora, 187 Lakeside Blvd. – his problem is how do we prevent this from happening again in the future. Feels the process is turning people away and is flawed. The kids that are not making the A team are blatantly missed. We need to fix this for the future. Chairman Guadagnino said that they have been working on this for years trying to perfect the system. Chris said Comm. O'Brien did an excellent job this year. The process of evaluation is flawed specifically for the 10U and he feels it's a problem. Chairman Guadagnino said he doesn't know any of the kids that were trying out and has tried all different types of tryouts to do it the best way possible. He totally understand what Chris is saying but Chris feels the process is flawed. Comm. O'Brien said when they're young it's very difficult to evaluate so many kids. Every year the process is evaluated and tried to improve upon. He is open to all suggestions to try and improve the process.

Caviallo feels bad for the concerned family and the kid. There are consequences to these mistakes.

Comm. O'Brien mentioned that he is honored to be the commissioner. His greatest moment was watching the kids on the field. He wanted to deliver a great program for the kids of Oakland and apologizes that it ended up this way but it wasn't for a lack of effort and he would do his best to rectify the situation.

Neil Pellar, 165 Franklin Ave – he hasn't heard anything from his team (B) and feels that the player that was moved deserved to be moved. His concern as the B coach is that he wants his team to grow together and not be picked from. He's ready to move forward and has no issues with what happened.

The meeting was closed to the public upon motion made by Comm. Perneti and seconded by Comm. Scalabrini and passed.

A motion to approve the Rec Minutes from the October 27, 2014 meeting was made by Comm. Malmud, seconded by Comm. Logatto and passed with changes that were brought forth by Comm. King.

Comm. King requested that the discussion on the Rec. Secretary being a paid position and the discussion from Comm. Malmud regarding the budget be put in last months minutes.

The following reports were made and upon proper motion unanimously accepted:

BASEBALL – Comm. O'Brien – No report.

BASKETBALL – Comm. Scalabrini – Travel teams are practicing. Girl's rec teams are picked and will start next week. Boy's teams are still being picked. 3rd grade only has 15 kids so that will be more instructional with equal rotation.

FOOTBALL – Comm. Perneti – Season is over. Peewees and Junior's went to Super Bowl. Equipment return is done. Beefsteak was last weekend and we are in good shape. Relationship with IHHS went much better this year. Kids loved playing up at IHHS. We cut practices short on Friday nights to get the boys to go up to the games and be able to go in the locker rooms. The C league resurrected the Mountain Bowl and Oakland won.

GOLF – Chairman Haas – Has been cancelled for fall but getting ready for spring.

ROLLER HOCKEY – Comm. Haas – Sign-ups are done and everyone is practicing. Rink has been fixed and all equipment has been ordered. Found a coach for midget level. Need more keys.

SOCCER – Comm. Saliani – Season is done. Numbers were within the same range as last year. We had more kindergarten participation than last year even though there are less actual kindergarten children in town.

SOFTBALL – Comm. Logatto – Signs ups will be in January. Will get dates to Lori so that we can get something into the schools by December.

SPECIAL NEEDS – Comm. King – Football just ended this past Sunday. The volunteers were amazing. Kathleen was very happy. She wants to not keep all of the equipment in her garage. Comm. Perneti said they can keep it in the shed. Comm. King wanted to have a pizza party but they have already moved on to tennis. Comm. Perneti said people all over Bergen County are talking about how great our special needs program is. Tennis is going to Franklin Lakes tennis club. All volunteers will get community service credit.

TENNIS – Comm. Scalabrini – Season is over and the lights are off.

WRESTLING – Comm. Guadagnino – Program is getting ready to get started after Thanksgiving

CHEERLEADING – Comm. Perneti – Season over, uniforms have been returned.

LACROSSE – Comm. King – We had a productive meeting and then someone sent Comm. King an email saying that anyone that signs up by January 5th will not be put on a waiting list. The next newsflash will mention that.

SUMMER CAMP – Comm. Malmud – We had a meeting with Mark to discuss the possibility of opening open camp and not limiting it. Found out the bid threshold for bussing is much higher than we thought. We will not have limitation on the weeks of open camp. It was suggested to have the sign up at VMS and give out tickets and let someone call numbers so that people can sit more comfortably and wait.

KINDERGARTEN CORE - Comm. Saliani – We still do not have an instructor.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS – Chairman Guadagnino – No report.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS – Comm. Malmud – Going to expand wrestling, football, volleyball and boys basketball. Coach is going to run a boy's camp in addition to the one Coach Leicht runs.

MOUNTAIN BIKE – Chairman Guadagnino – Season is over.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Complex Lights – Lights are scheduled to begin this week.

Fields are closed and no one should be down here due to construction until further notice this spring.

Walking Path – Put on hold until March/April. Met with Rebecca and is going out to bid.

Roller Rink Scorers booth – pricing has come back but need more time.

COMMITTEE REPORT – No report.

COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSION –

Overall because we are adding in 5 new sports our budget was going up approximately \$24,000. However, if you take those out, our budget was going down \$17,000. The problem is that Comm. Malmud has to match expenses to what is collected. The other thing that came up were the fees, they were increased in almost all sports from \$2 to \$4 to try to get close to the expense numbers that you were shooting for when you gave him your budgets. Rich had asked that we consider an \$8,000 contribution from the town. The town has incurred some revenue shortfalls and was looking to make some of that up. There will be a \$2.00 fee increase for administration line to help meet the cost of administration. Two capital projects to be spread out over the next couple of years are for 6 more dug outs. Also a request for 21 new bleachers with safety railings, double planking, and five rows due to the ones we currently have being non-compliant.

Board of Education policy request – They have set up a policy that they are asking us to follow. So when recreation is using the gyms then we are responsible to follow the policy submitted by the BOE. As requested by the commission, Chairman Guadagnino spoke with Jim Gaffney to discuss the comparison of recreation and other events such as PTO. Mr. Gaffney said that the PTO is a school event and that all “outside groups” such as recreation are required to have some sort of safety procedures in place prior to using the buildings. Motion to approve document was made by Comm. Malmud, seconded by Comm. Logatto. Everyone approved except for Comm. King who is opposed that the policy is for rec and no other organizations.

We are having issues getting bills paid by Borough Hall. The problem seems to be that the CFO keeps changing causing delays. Lori stated that the bills should be paid between 30-45 days. The month of August was bad due to no CFO and the problem with the tax bills since there was no money in the town to pay the bills. The town should make an announcement that it is not the recs fault for bills not being paid. Chairman Guadagnino would like Councilwoman Coira to bring back to the borough that they should make some sort of public statement that it is not Lori’s fault and it is the fault of the system due to lack of funds and or slow payments and reimbursements. The town hall just updated there computer network which hasn’t been an easy road which has put us behind. Once the tax bills were settled, the bugs were worked out and Lori was able to get back on track.

OLD BUSINESS –

RECREATION AID REPORT

Lori Dent – There are a few coaches that have not handed in their background information.

The refund form needs to be put up online. When you know you need a refund, download the form and give it to Lori ASAP. It should typically take 45 days.

Background check – Lori has emailed everyone that will need to update their information. It is very important that everyone return the application. It has addresses that are needed. Don't know when we will hear from Kanka Foundation. Hoping we find out in December that could be a positive with the budget.

Insurance report – emailed everyone regarding accident report. Needs to know the number of teams listed by division and the beginning and ending of the season.

Deposit forms – when you have someone with a late payment you have to separate it from the fee of the program.

LIASON REPORT

Councilwoman Sandra Coira – Will ask Rich to make a statement regarding payment issues. Since January we have not had a CFO, we had a temporary CFO for a couple of months, have gone through 3 CFOs and still don't have anyone causing delays.

The new network is phasing it in by department.

The council no longer has to see every requisition to try and speed up the process but it hasn't seemed to help.

Councilman Kulmala spoke about proposing a change order to what is going on with the rec lighting project. The town would like to propose putting a pipe in during the construction of the new lighting project to put in fiber optic cable in the future. He would like to work with the schools, first aid, senior center, borough hall, DPW, library and the police department to add security and to provide internet access at the rec complex. There is money in the budget to cover the change order.

Sandra thanked Councilman Kulmala and said how it makes more sense to do this now as it will save a lot money.

The meeting was opened to the public upon motion made by Comm. Malmud, seconded by Comm. Scalabrini and passed.

There was no public business at this time.

The meeting was closed to the public upon motion made by Comm. Logatto, seconded by Comm. O'Brien and passed.

No further business pending and upon motion made by Comm. Saliani, seconded by Comm. Scalabrini and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Cheryl Logatto

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION
WILL BE ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014 AT 8:00 PM**