

Approved January 13, 2014

TENAFLY RECREATION BOARD
Minutes – December 9, 2013

I. ROLL CALL: Robert Silber Matthew Mercurio, Carol Roux, Steve Hamersma, Monica Zaccario, Jeff Pattison, David Reichel, Nadia LaMastra-Council Liaison, Edward , Sara Levinson, Ed Salaski-Board of Education Liaison,

ABSENT: Naomi McDermott, Amy Lerner-Alpine Liaison,

II. MINUTES: November 18, 2013 **Mr. Hamersma motions to accept the minutes, Mrs. Zaccario seconds, the motion is carried.**

III. AUDIENCE:

1. Tenafly Youth Basketball Pre-Season Report-Andrew Etter and Andrew Budkofsky co-presidents of Tenafly Youth Basketball report that 1st and 2nd grade level registration is way up and they are using professional coaches, the program is held on Saturday. There are professional coaches at the 7th & 8th grade level. There are 18 travel teams this is the highest ever. In town basketball is strong. The By-laws are being updated.

Mr. Silber asks where did basketball get coaches.

Mr. Budkofsky states that they are based on recommendations from parents where their kids have gone.

Mr. Silber states that he understands that basketball has both large sponsors and smaller sponsors.

Mr. Budkofsky states that sponsors feel they get nothing back they are looking for something creative to bring people into stores.

Mr. Silber suggest that TYB take out a full page ad in the paper thanking their sponsors

Mr. Budkofsky feels that this is a good idea

Mrs. LaMastra inquires about this years fees. Mr. Etter states that in town Is \$ 90 travel is \$300 pee wee is\$ 85 and the challenger program is free.

Mrs. LaMastra asks if the season expanded.

Mr. Budkofsky stated that TYB started tryouts earlier to give time to order travel uniforms etc.

Mr. Silber inquires on the process for deciding the pay for coaches.

Mr. Budkofsky states that all coaches are paid the same, there are no Standings or playoffs for in-town teams.

Mrs. Levinson asks if TYB is filing taxes and if they are a 501C. She requests that a copy of the taxes be sent to the recreation department.

Mrs. Levinson states that her daughter made the 6th travel team, prior to the 1st practice she received an email from a non TYB member stated that there will be an additional charge of \$160 per player because TYB decided to hire an

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outside coach because the kids did not want to play for the man who coached the team from inception. The total fees are now equivalent to a local private for profit program the only difference is that it is run on Tenafly property.

Mr. Budkofsky states that TYB always asks for feedback from parents about travel coach, there was enough negative feedback so they told the coach they could not have him come back. They tried to find a volunteer parent coach, however no one stepped up.

Mrs. Levinson states that her husband and herself were never asked to coach.

Mr. Budkofsky stated that TYB does not have the funds to pay a coach so 8-9 parents said they would pay the bill for a paid coach.

Mrs. Levinson states that she has a problem with the fact that the parents were told 2 hours before it happened.

Mr. Silber states that TYB has made a policy decision.

Mrs. Levinson asks how many sponsors are there for the In-town teams.

Mr. Etter states they received 57 sponsors for 54 teams.

Mr. Budkofsky states that TYB is paying for the 7th & 8th grade travel coaches since that team was never coached by parents.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. Football Update-Mr. Mercurio reports that the awards dinner sponsored by the boosters had over 200 people in attendance and that the Mayor spoke. Mr. Mercurio reports that in regards to the Cresskill issue, himself and a coach viewed the tape and there were no helmet to helmet hits.

Mr. Hamersma states that a Tenafly coach on the junior level wedged a conflict between officials, the league and other teams he has filed many complaints. Mr. Hamersma inquires if the coach contacted him before lodging the complaints to league. Mr. Mercurio states that he was notified only once. Mr. Mercurio states that he has spoken to Cresskill and they do not hold it against us.

Mr. Mercurio reports that regarding the boy who played in Closter, he spoke to The league representative and the league said is not sanctioned by NJSIAA so he can play since he lives there some of the time.

Mr. Silber feels that Tenafly should bring it up at the league meeting if we feel this is wrong.

Mr. Silber states that the coaches need to have a liaison to league and that they should contact Matt first before contacting the league and that this coach did not follow proper protocol.

Mrs. Levinson feels that this can be avoided by having by-laws.

Mr. Silber states that this is not a by-law and should be discussed at coaches preseason meeting.

Mrs. Levinson feels that there should be a document in writing stating the repercussions.

Mr. Mercurio states that he will discuss it at the meeting with the coaches.

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2. Cheerleading Update-Mr. Mercurio reports season is over we received great feedback on our coaches, there were. 32 girls
Mrs. Levinson states that the coaches were great
3. Fence at Municipal Field Update-Mr. Mercurio reports that the fence is complete as well as motion lights, Mr. Mercurio states that next we will replace the netting.
4. H. S. Basketball League 2014-Mr. Mercurio reports 55 kids have registered which will be 7 teams, the season starts in January. Mr. Mercurio states that this is a great program.
Mrs. Levinso inquires as to how captains are chosen
Mr. Mercurio states that Alex Gold the league coordinator brings the names of players interested in being captain to him, they have to be 18 years old.
5. Wrestling-Mr. Mercurio reports practices started last week there are 23 kids registered which is down 4 from last year.
6. Lacrosse-Mr. Mercurio reports-set for Sunday clinicians looking for some for weekdays. More clinicians we will reach out to parents
7. Spring Volleyball-Mr. Mercurio reports recreation will be holding coed adult volleyball in the Spring, all of the fall teams are interested.
8. To Facebook or not-Mr. Mercurio reports a NJRPA study was conducted and recreation departments either have Facebook page or will in the next few months.
Mrs. Levinson does not agree with the way the recreation department uses Facebook.
Mr. Pattison asks if we have a policy on how we respond to posts.
Mrs. Roux states that as a municipality we do not allow comments on our posts.
Mr. Silber asks what is our mission, are we missing people in our programs because of this.
Mrs. Levinson states that we should send updates on Facebook
Mr. Mercurio states that we use Facebook for the purpose of making announcements as well as sending updated information.
9. Rate your coach-Mr. Mercurio reports that an email was sent out to parents asking that they rate their child's football coach, we have received a few a reminder will be sent.

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VI. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Bike Giveaway-Mr. Mercurio reports we are waiting for clearance of waiver from towns attorney

2. Shared Services Agreement with Board of Education-Mr. Mercurio reports that the Mayor and Council will be voting on Tuesday night.
Mrs. LaMastra reports that it is a good agreement,
Mr. Pattison asks if the Board of Education has put together a light policy
Mr. Salaski states that the lights will be done in the Spring
Mrs. Levinson suggests that the Recreation Board compose a statement for the Mayor and Council in favor of the agreement.
Mrs. Levinson motions that a statement being composed and given to Mrs. LaMastra to be read at the meeting, Mrs. Zaccario seconds, all in favor the motion is carried.

3. Mrs. Levinson asks what is the timing for the Recreation Department sponsored sports by-laws, can the final by-laws be presented in February.
Mr. Mercurio states that we can start in January

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mrs. Levinson states that the 6th grade travel basketball coach is being paid. What is the policy if someone is accepted to coach in town why are they not eligible on travel level?
Mr. Silber states that it is up to the sport, some people are ok on the in-town level but not with the competition on the travel level.
Mrs. Levinson feels that not informing the parents prior was wrong and that now the cost is the same as playing for a private coach. Mrs. Levinson states that there was no communication regarding this from a TYB board member and that a parent emailed all the parents. If TYB is paying for 7th & 8th grade they should pay for 6th grade girls.
Mrs. Zaccario states that when 7th & 8th grade was under the recreation department and was always a non parent coach.
Mr. Mercurio agrees that the miscommunication was wrong.
Mrs. LaMastra states that communication was lacking,
Mr. Silber agrees that this was not handled correctly.
Mr. Mercurio states that TYB realizes they made a mistake
Mr. Pattison asks what can we do?
Mr. Mercurio will relay to TYB that the recreation board feels in the future they need to over communicate.
Mr. Pattison states that Mr. Mercurio should send a statement to all sports that a fee schedule needs to be set upon registration and there should be no deviation from the schedule.

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Mrs. Levinson states that in the past parents have come together and paid coaches because a parent coach was not available. This year it was not communicated to parents.

Mrs. Levinson asks how does TYB check that all kids are residents, it has been brought to her attention that there are non-residents playing on teams.

VIII. SPECIAL EVENTS:

1. Visit with Santa-December 18th 3:00-5:00 pm-FYI
2. Super Bowl Cook Off-January 27th FYI
3. Soccer cage-Mr. Mercurio states that the pre meeting is being held on Tuesday, December 10.

Mrs. Levinson motions to go into closed session, Mrs. Zaccario seconds the motion, all in favor the motion is carried.

Mr. Silber motions to go back into public session. Mr. Hamersma seconds all in favor the motion is carried.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 pm

Mr. Hamersma motions to adjourn, Mr. Reichel motions to second, all in favor motion is carried.