

Approved October 17, 2016

**TENAFLY RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 26, 2016**

I. ROLL CALL: Matthew Mercurio, Robert Silber, David Reichel, Sara Levinson, Nadine Shubailat, Michelle Merchant, Michael Greeley, John Finnerty, Ed Salaski, Amy Lerner, Mark Zinna
ABSENT: Carol Roux

II. MINUTES: June 13, 2016-**Mr. Greeley motions to accept the minutes, Ms. Merchant seconds, all in favor the motion is carried.**

III. CORRESPONDENCE:

T.J.S.L.-Pre-season Report-Mr. Mercurio presented the report to the board members. Mr. Mercurio reports that the registration numbers were down this year. T.J.S.L. sold over 300 tickets to the Red Bull Game for Tenaflly Night. T.J.S.L. once again collected used equipment to donate to the Boys & Girls Club. Mr. Mercurio reports that the Kinder Kickers preschool division has 75 players registered. Mrs. Levinson states that she is one of the Tenaflly High School Girl's Soccer Booster Parents and that T.J.S.L. has always donated money to the high school teams. Mrs. Levinson states that since she is aware of how much money the group has she called Jamie Kraft and asked that they increase their donation this year. A discussion ensued.

IV. AUDIENCE:

T.U.S.C.-End of Season Report-Mr. Toonkel-Dobbs Ferry, NY-Mr. Toonkel reports that the new mandate changing from grade based to calendar year age based for team division has been disruptive especially with girl's teams, this is due to girls wanting to be on teams with friends. Mr. Toonkel mentions that in the minutes from a previous meeting soccer was criticized for raising their fees by \$15 which was the first fee increase in a number of years, they now offer 3 training sessions a week from 2 a week. They made many monetary gifts to help the soccer program. Mrs. Levinson states that soccer is reallocating tax payers money and making donations with that money on behalf of Tenaflly United Soccer. Mr. Silber states that this is the same for any program since the participants are tax payers. Mr. Silber states that the whole board did not agree that the raise in fee was an issue. Mrs. Shubailat states that her two children love the soccer program. Mr. Toonkel states that Mr. Mercurio will be missed. A discussion ensued.

T.L.L.-End of Season Report-Alex Morik-Tenaflly-Mr. Morik reports that numbers were down from 394-352 this year, 2nd grade numbers were very low, Kindergarten t-ball was the highest, accepted preschoolers this year, this division had clinics. Travel numbers have remained the same. Fees for In-town had a

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\$50 early sign up discount. Andy Escala is the new director of Travel. Fall baseball has 9U-15U teams. A discussion ensued.

Tenafly Softball-End of Season Report-Marc Guitmann-Tenafly-Mr. Guitmann reports that numbers are dwindling; however the quality of the program has improved with training, travel teams are winning tournaments. Softball will focus on increasing the quality by revolutionizing the in-town teams, the talent difference between in-town and travel players is vast. A discussion ensued.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. Reckys Summer Camp-Mr. Mercurio reports that camp was a huge success this year. Camp was held at the high school; however we are looking forward to returning to the middle school. There were 400 kids in Reckys, 50 in Camp Toddle and 35 in the Pre-School Camp. All trips were sold out. Parking and traveling to the pool was easier. Mr. Mercurio states that it was very hot behind the high school there is no shade.

2. Summer Programs-New programs that ran during the summer include: Lego Camp, Art Camp, Golf Camp, Tennis Camp, Basketball Camp
There were 650 kids involved in camps this year up from 540 last year.

3. Lacrosse-Mr. Mercurio reports there are 175 kids in the clinics for boys and girls. We registered as a team with N.J.J.L.L. for the Spring and will look to open registration in early November, the scheduling meeting is in December. We will be able to accept players from Tenafly, Alpine, Englewood, Cresskill and Englewood Cliffs for this league. Mr. Reichel gave a synopsis of the program from his point of view.

4. Jr. Football-Mr. Mercurio reports the juniors have won 2 games, the seniors have lost 2 games. We have 36 juniors and 21 seniors, this is 7 more players than last year. Mr. Mercurio reports that many towns are lacking teams on certain levels. Flag Football numbers are up this year with 28 players, the flag team will be playing games this year.

5. Community Night-Mr. Mercurio reports that he feels this was the best event so far. We had more people involved and more in attendance. Mr. Mercurio shared the list of participants and donors with the board. Mr. Mercurio gives credit to Sgt. Roux and Sgt. Greeley and the Community Police for their efforts in getting people involved.

6. Fall Programs- The programs that did not run this season are Yoga, Kiddie Soccer, Adaptive Fitness for Special Needs.

7. New Program-Ping Pong ran with 10 kids, we were able to reintroduce Ballet this season with Miss Melissa

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

1. A.D.H.O.C. Committee-Mr. Zinna states a meeting will be scheduled to report on sites that were visited and then recommendations will go to the Mayor & Council.

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2. Marketing-Mrs. Levinson reports that Leonia pays no money for their brochure, it is outsourced and they find advertisers who pay for the printing. Mr. Reichel suggests that we ask our co-sponsored sports to pay to advertise in the brochure. Mrs. Levinson inquires regarding the status of Team Snap. Mr. Mercurio states that Team Snap will be used for team scheduling and registration will remain with Community Pass. Mrs. Levinson asks who will be running the department. Mr. Zinna states that this will be discussed at the Mayor and Council Meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Soccer Cage-Mr. Mercurio states that permitted groups have priority and during other times it is open. Mr. Silber states that a plan needs to be in place to secure time in the Tiger Cage for Tenafly Residents. A discussion ensued regarding suggestions on how to enforce this issue.
2. Mrs. Shubailat states that Maugham School is having a Fall Event and they inquired if they could post this on the Recreation Facebook Page. Mr. Mercurio states that the principal could request a posting on the message board and that he will check with the Borough Administrator regarding the Facebook Page.
3. Mrs. Levinson thanks Mr. Mercurio for his support in getting the Under the Lights Project information out, this project is sponsored by the high school girls team. Mrs. Levinson asks what the plan is for the Municipal Turf. Mr. Mercurio states the Board of Education ran their machine over it in September but that it only looked nice for a few weeks. Mr. Mercurio states that he has been putting new turf in his budget for years and that it will soon become a danger. Mr. Zinna states that the turf has been moving up on the priority list and hopefully it will make it to the top of the list soon. Mr. Mercurio states he has the specs from Field Turf and their mark out as well as the information on a second softball field.
Mr. Silber asks for a motion to support sending a letter to the governing body giving our complete support on the replacement of the turf, with the increase of usage and a tremendous return on the investment, if the field was to go off line or becomes unsafe we would be in a very difficult situation, we have already gone over the useful life of the field.
Ms. Merchant motions the board write a letter to the Mayor and Council strongly advocating that the budget include replacement of the Municipal Field to be included in the next budget cycle to be undertaken next August, Mrs. Levinson seconds the motion, all in favor the motion is carried.
4. Mrs. Levinson states that the Tenafly High School Football team played in Paramus and that the players were heckled and rocks were thrown at them. Mrs. Levinson inquires if this is a town issue. Mr. Salaski states that the Board of Education has been in touch with Paramus, and are handling the issue.
Mrs. Levinson inquires who is responsible for the banners on Geissinger Field. Mr. Greeley believes it is the Football Boosters. Mr. Mercurio suggests that Mrs. Levinson call Mr. Kilday.

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VIII. SPECIAL EVENTS: F.Y.I.

1. Halloween Celebration-October 29th

Mr. Silber thanks Mr. Mercurio for his commitment and guidance and that the department was better with him there.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 9:05

Mr. Reichel motions to adjourn, Mr. Greeley seconds, all in favor the motion is carried.