

Approved December 12, 2022

**TENAFLY RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2022
Called to order: 7:37 pm**

I. ROLL CALL: Nahuel Quiroga, Michael Greeley, Sara Levinson, David Reichel, Jamie Cannon, Carol Roux,

ABSENT: Judi Feinberg, Michele Merchant, Amy Lerner-Alpine Liaison, Adam Michaels-Council Liaison

II. MINUTES: Mr. Reichel motions to accept the minutes, Mrs. Levinson Seconds the motion, all in favor the motion is carried.

III. CORRESPONDENCE:

IV. AUDIENCE:

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. Community Night-Ms. Cannon reports this year had the best attendance ever with 3000 plus people, new rides, new business and a live band. We are expanding every year with the police, fire, ems, maintenance and DPW. Mr. Greeley states the live band was from the Summer Concert series he suggests Ms. Cannon touch base with Councilman Grossman to schedule the final concert on Community Night.

Mrs. Levinson states the band was Stacy Esser's band who is a resident and feels we should ask either her or John Pasternak also resident to perform free. Mr. Quiroga suggest we reach out to the high school marching band to perform at Community Night.

A discussion ensued

2. Football/Cheer Team-Ms. Cannon reports we were in a new league this year we had 3 full teams and 85 cheerleaders. The juniors made the playoffs and the seniors made championships. The seniors had to forfeit their position due to illnesses and injuries.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ice Rink-Ms. Cannon reports opening day will be December 10th and the rink will be closing on February 11th on the basketball courts. Ms. Cannon states the rink is in need of a permanent home. Ms. Cannon states the Skate Park is not level enough to house the ice rink. Ms. Cannon reports the old skate park is not level enough to put up the ice rink.

- 2. Community/Skate Plaza-** Ms. Cannon reports Phase 1 funds of \$100,000 was approved in the Capital Budget she will ask for another \$100,000 in 2023 budget. Ms. Cannon suggests a concrete lower skate park, they are more durable. The council have decided to place the skate park at the old Tenafly Swim club. Ms. Cannon reports she is currently receiving quotes from skatepark company's and mock up designs. Pricing and prevailing wage has gone up substantially since the last quotes and reports prior estimates are void. Mrs. Levinson states camera's would be needed. Ms. Cannon state it will need to be fenced off as well. Mr. Greeley suggests we should explore an ADA compliant skate park. A discussion ensued
- 3. TUSC & TJSL Restructure-**Ms. Cannon reports both organizations worked together and completed a phase plan for the full restructure next year.Mr. Kraft worked with TUSC board for the transition. This year the programs ran as follows: TJSL ran Little Kickers & a clinic for grades 2-6 with mini games. TJSL is using TSF trainers. NEXT year all programs will be run under TUSC and Recreation will take over Little Kickers. Mr. Quiroga ask what is TUSC's plan. Ms. Cannon states they are creating a recreation type travel so everyone plays. They will be using TSF trainers but still need volunteer parents.
- 4. Basketball Ball Court Lights-**Ms. Cannon reports the lighting project is complete. Two new LED light posts were installed and in working condition. We also installed new safety pole padding for all five courts.
- 5. Recreation Department Vacancies-**Ms. Cannon reports Site Supervisor Rob Spina left the department on October 21st to pursue another job opportunity and our newly hired part time Assistant Site Supervisor resigned. Ms. Cannon reports the new full-time site supervisor will start on November 21st, he was a landscaper. Ms. Cannon reports we are still looking for a part time assistant site supervisor. The Teen Center has a new part timer. Everything at the Teen Center is going well we held a Halloween party and had a waitlist. Ms. Cannon reports there was food, games, contests and everyone came in costume, we charged a \$10.00 fee. Mrs. Levinson asks if we should use the middle school so we have more space. Ms. Cannon states next year we will open the McCandless Room for the Halloween Party to have more room and be able to accept more registrations, we will utilize the McCandless Room and the Teen Center. We are holding a Friendsgiving on Friday, November 18th.
- 6. Pickleball-**Ms. Cannon reports we temporarily lined court 7 and placed a portable net, everything seems to be going well there is a small community playing. Ms. Cannon reports the school is using the pickle ball courts for their physical education classes. Mr. Reichel asks if you have to reserve the court. Ms. Cannon states we did accept reservations or residents could go and play when the court was not reserved by another resident.
- 7. Geissinger Field Netting/Tennis Court Locks:**Ms. Cannon has not heard an update from the Board of Education's Buildings and Grounds Director regarding the netting on Geissinger Field. Ms. Cannon states she offered to

pay for half the cost. Ms. Cannon met the head of Buildings and Grounds and the company representative but there is no quote at this time. Mrs. Levinson asks what the netting is for. Ms. Cannon states this is to protect those on the track when a sport is on the field. Mrs. Levinson ask what is the cost, Ms. Cannon states she does not have a quote. A discussion ensued Mr. Michaels will speak to the Board of Education regarding the quote. **Mrs. Levinson motions Ms. Cannon reach out to company to get a quote for net, Mr. Reichel seconds the motion, all in favor motion is passed** Ms. Cannon reports the Board of Education will pay of half the cost of Tennis Court locks, these will be 4 digit lock pads. The locks are necessary to secure the courts for residents, currently Non-resident pro's are using our courts to give lessons to non-residents..

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Roosevelt Common Property-**Ms. Cannon states he would like to turn the old skate park into a multiuse area for the community like the Tiger Cage. Ms. Cannon suggests an asphalt or tennis court type coating, lined lacrosse, field hockey, wiffle ball,4 square, free play which can also be permitted out. There can be portable goals placed in the area. Ms. Cannon states she is currently waiting for a price. Mrs. Levinson states maybe the co-sponsored sports could pay for it. Mr. Quiroga feels the board members should sent Ms. Cannon their suggestions. Mrs. Levinson states the council wants to make the area green space. Mr. Quiroga states we need more active space then passive space. Ms. Cannon states the town is responsible for the upkeep of the cage, we have already replaced the fence, this year we need to replace the turf. Ms. Cannon wants a better grade of turf and to line the field. Mr. Quiroga states the lines are pulling up and asks if they can be painted instead. Ms. Cannon states they cannot be painted the paint does not stick to the turf. Ms. Cannon states the cost for the new turf is \$84,000. Mr. Greeley states the fence needs refurbishing and a new concept of goals.
- 2. 2023 Budget-**Ms. Cannon states the following items are on her list for the 2023 budget: Tiger cage turf, multiuse cage, skate park. Mrs. Levinson states the tennis courts need to be redone and the court fences are rusted. Ms. Cannon states the tennis courts are a part of DPW's budget. Mr. Quiroga asks if we are putting money aside to re-turf the Municipal Field, since this will need to be done in 6 or 7 years. Ms. Cannon states the project would be funded by open space money, she will verify this with the CFO. Mrs. Levinson asks if we need anything for our programs, Ms. Cannon states we need more space. A discussion ensued.
- 3. Volunteer Recognition Awards/Volunteer Incentive Program-** Ms. Cannon would like to implement incentive e.g. discounted registration as a way of securing volunteer coaches. The board agrees a half price discount sounds good.

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4. **Community Center**-Ms. Cannon states the Mayor and Council is currently talking about constructing 1 building Sr. Center, Library and Recreation. They would like feedback from the board at the meeting on November 22nd
5. **Alpine Field Conditions**- Ms. Cannon is working with Amy Lerner for an update on field conditions. Ms. Cannon reports TUSC did not utilize the Alpine field in the Fall in hopes for some renovations and grass growth. They are looking to resume in the Spring. A discussion ensued.
6. **Out of Season Sports**-Ms. Cannon reports this subject was raised by Joe Carollo the Tenafly High School AD. Ms. Cannon read Mr. Carollo's email A discussion ensued. Ms. Cannon will invite Mr. Carollo to the December meeting.
7. Mrs. Levinson states she feels that we have not had meetings in months due to a lack of quorum and feels this is due to the fact that the committee does not have the power to make decisions and asks if the committee is necessary. Mr. Greeley state the board is supposed to expand with the teen center acquisition. Mrs. Levinson feels the structure of the committee is not working and wonders if a change needs to be made for the start of 2023 with a group who is committed. Mr. Reichel questions if a Recreation Board is necessary at all. Mrs. Levinson feels if the Recreation Board as is not working should we become a commission again and asks if the board should make statement to mayor and council regarding this. Mr. Greeley states the board should inquire why they were changed from a commission to a board and if reverting back would be problematic. Mrs. Levinson states a commission has legal responsibility. Mr. Reichel states the board is sounding board for the Recreation Department and Ms. Cannon listens regarding budget however the Mayor and Council make the final decisions.. A discussion ensued. Mr. Reichel requests Ms. Cannon invites the Mayor to the next meeting.

VIII. SPECIAL EVENTS: FYI

1. **Mayor & Council Discussion (Community Center):** Tuesday, November 22nd @ 8:30pm-Borough Hall Council Chambers
2. **Recreation Committee Meeting:** Monday, December 12th @ 7:30 p.m.- Wilson Room
3. **Visit with Santa:** Wednesday, December 14th @ 4:30pm-6:30pm

Adjourned: **9:25 pm**

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