

Approved May 3, 2021

**TENAFLY RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021  
CALLED TO ORDER 7:35 PM**

**I. ROLL CALL:** Michael Greeley, Michelle Merchant, Nahuel Quiroga, David Reichel, Sara Levinson, Judi Feinberg, Amy Lerner-Alpine Liaison, Jamie Cannon, Carol Roux, Adam Michaels-Council Liaison

**ABSENT:**

**II. MINUTES:** January 28, 2021 **Mr. Quiroga motions to accept the minutes, Ms. Merchant seconds the motion, all in favor, the motion is carried.**

**III. CORRESPONDENCE:** Jamie Kraft-Tenafly Junior Soccer- Mr. Kraft states registration began late due to the pandemic, they only held registration for K-5. Groups had a 1:8 ratio with 40 players per grade level. The program was training only held at Sunnyside Park on Saturdays & Sundays. Parents helped with questionnaires, a member of the Tenafly Ambulance Corp. took temperatures. All Covid-19 guidelines were followed. The program was held for 7 weeks. The Spring will consist of Little Kickers only for 3-4 year olds held on Sunday mornings in the Tiger Cage. There will be 4 sessions with 10 players in each, and 2 trainers. The program will begin in mid-April and last for 6 weeks. There will be temperature checks and masks will be worn. The Summer Camp will be held with smaller groups. Mr. Greeley asks if there were any specific Covid-19 issues. Mr. Kraft states they rules were set in the beginning and everyone followed them. Mr. Kraft states the toughest was turning players away to follow the Covid guidelines. Mrs. Levinson compliments Mr. Kraft on a great job and encourages inclusiveness for this Fall.

Katy Martinelli-Tenafly United Soccer-Mrs. Martinelli states they had an amazing season with 16 teams, masks were worn by both towns and there were no issues. The guidelines were sent to all teams coming to Tenafly and the home and visitors were in separate areas. Mrs. Martinelli states there were no Spring tryouts and it was more about playing then winning. They will be adding 3 high school and 3 younger player teams in the Spring. Temperatures were taken and all protocols were followed. Mrs. Levinson asks if Mrs. Martinelli plans to incorporate the players added this year to the future teams. Mrs. Martinelli feels the more the merrier and that kids need something to do and they will be inclusive.

Josh Levine-Tenafly Youth Basketball-Mr. Levine states there was not championship last year due to Covid-19. All Covid-19 protocols were followed. Mr. Levine states an outdoor Fall season was held on the courts and they will hold a Spring in-town season outdoors beginning in mid-April for 8-10 weeks. There will be 8 players per team for grades 3-8. Mr. Quiroga asks

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if there was a waitlist in the Fall. Mr. Levine states there were approximately 10 players on the list and they accommodated the late registrations.

Dan Cohn-Tenafly Lions Little League-Mr. Cohn reports the Summer and Fall seasons were very successful. Spring registration has begun and there are 350 players registered. There will be 27-30 teams in grades Pre-K-8. There will be a T-ball clinic with 4-5 groups and will be parent run. Mr. Cohn reports there will be no parade this year and they are hoping to maybe have an end of season parade. Mr. Cohn reports all Covid-19 protocols will be followed including masks and temperature checks. Mr. Cohn reports they will have travel teams on all levels. Mr. Reichel and Mr. Cohn will coordinate schedule between Lacrosse and Baseball so there is no conflicts for players. Mr. Cohn states they are hoping to have travel players play in local tournaments on weekends. Mr. Greeley asks how the registration numbers compare to past years. Mr. Cohn states they are very similar. Ms. Merchant asks if joining tournaments is new. Mr. Cohn states yes and they are hopeful that the players will be interested in the tournaments.

Jim Morrison-Tenafly Junior Football-Mr. Morrison states there were 18 players in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, they played a B schedule and all players played. There were 2 scrimmages and 3 games. Temperatures were checked and the helmets had shields for safety. Mr. Greeley states that Mr. Morrison did a great job with many challenges. Mr. Greeley inquires about the Flag Football Clinic. Mr. Morrison states this is the first time for a Winter Flag Football Clinic and it is going very well, 10-12 high school players help out each session. There are 24 players at each level. Mr. Morrison would like to begin in December next year. Mrs. Levinson asks what the plan is for football moving forward. Mr. Morrison states we will need to merge next year to have a program and Ms. Cannon is looking for options. Mr. Morrison feels Dumont would be a good fit. Mrs. Levinson feels the Dumont merger was not a success. Mr. Morrison states his team had a good experience with Dumont and the people who were an issue are no longer with the program. Mr. Morrison states everything will be in writing prior to the season. Mr. Quiroga asks if Mr. Morrison can verify the problems will no longer exist. Mr. Morrison would have to reach out to Dumont to confirm. Mrs. Levinson states there needs to be respect for all players. Mr. Greeley states there is time for Ms. Cannon to find a proper merger. Ms. Merchant states we need to do whatever is best for the players. A discussion ensued.

Mrs. Feinberg thanked all volunteers who worked so hard to run programs for kids during a difficult time.

**IV. AUDIENCE:**

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

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***\*\*All Sports, Programs and Events are subject to the Governors EO, NJDOH and any changes to COVID guidelines/protocols\*\****

- 1. Boys Lacrosse:** Ms. Cannon reports there will be a coaches meeting this Wednesday to finalize game, practice schedules. Ms. Cannon states we currently have over 100 players registered for lacrosse. 80 (3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>), 24 (K-2<sup>nd</sup>). Mrs. Feinberg ask if a coach has been found for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade team. Ms. Cannon states she is confident a coach will be found.
- 2. Girls Softball:** Ms. Cannon states there are currently 45 players registered. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be in a clinic format this year with some pick-up games, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> with 1 team at each grade level, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> has 1 player-practices and game play with surrounding towns is currently being organized. We usually recruit at the school and hold a clinic, but it has become difficult during COVID. Mrs. Feinberg suggests having the elementary schools include the information regarding registration in the morning announcements. A discussion ensued.
- 3. Spring/Summer programs:** Ms. Cannon reports we currently have 170 Spring registrations & 30 Summer registrations and registrations will remain open. Ms. Cannon states all Covi-19 guidelines will be followed. These programs include tennis and sports programs.
- 4. NEW Spring/Summer programs include:** Ms. Cannon reports we will offer Pickle ball-free play and Karen Silber offered to help with the program. Ms. Cannon reports we are currently offering Brixology, Under the Sea Art Camp, Robotics, Ice Skating, we have re-structured the youth and adult tennis program.
- 5. Recky's Tiger Summer Camp (K-6<sup>th</sup>):** Ms. Cannon reports we currently have 110 registrations, we will be capping registration at 150. Ms. Cannon states we will increase the limit as per Covid-19 guidelines. Mrs. Levinson inquires what the restriction are. Ms. Cannon states we will modify camp as we did last year, we are offering a few outdoor trips with limited numbers. Mr. Greeley asks where camp will be held this year. Ms. Cannon reports we put a permit in for the middle school, however during the pandemic the high school may be a better choice, we are awaiting a decision from the board of education. Mr. Michaels asked if we will have access to the pool Ms. Cannon states we will if they open this year.
- 6. Tennis Memberships:** Ms. Cannon reports we will be offering tennis memberships which will be including Teen, Adult, Family Tennis Memberships & Pro memberships. This will allow better access to the courts by allowing reservations. Mr. Greeley suggests reaching out to the board of education to use the high school courts. A discussion ensued. Mr. Michaels asks who is reaching out to the company regarding the issues with the newly resurfaced courts. Ms. Cannon states the D.P.W. director is handling that issue. Mr. Greeley asks about the fence at the Tiger Cage. Ms. Cannon states the D.P.W. director has a welder coming to do repairs. Mr.

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Quiroga asks about putting up a hockey boarder. Ms. Cannon states it is not approved by the insurance company, it must be a fence.

- 7. Ice Skating Rink:** Ms. Cannon reports assembly of the rink will be starting tomorrow, registration will open shortly after and the rink will open the week of March 8<sup>th</sup>. Recreation staff, DPW and Councilman Michaels have all been hands on deck in getting the rink up and running for the community. Mr. Greeley asks if basketball play will be allowed. Mr. Michaels states play will be allowed on the other court. Mrs. Feinberg asks how the sponsors will be advertised. Mr. Michaels states there will be banners along the inside of the rink fence and a large banner will be displayed on the basketball court fence. Mrs. Feinberg asks where the rink will be placed after April 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Michaels states possibly by Café Angeliq. Mr. Greeley suggests it be put in the skate park. Mr. Michaels states the town does not want to take away from the skate boarders. Ms. Cannon states she believes the skate park would be a great place for it. A discussion ensued.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1. Tiger Cage:** Ms. Cannon reports a welder is coming to look at the fence and possibly add fasteners to the bottom of the cage to secure the areas that are pulled up.
- 2.** Mr. Quiroga asks for an update on the skate park. Ms. Cannon states we are waiting for the budget.
- 3.** Mrs. Feinberg asks if announcements can be made at the Alpine Schools. Ms. Cannon reports she sent information to the Alpine Borough Clerk. Ms. Merchants suggest sending it directly to the school.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1.** Mrs. Levinson suggests a term be placed on the leadership roles of the Recreation Board, possibly 2 years to allow for more diversity. Ms. Merchant states that they want to have someone who is committed to be on the board and to be collaborative. Ms. Merchant states there is a vote each year for the Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Greeley states there is a 3 year term to serve on the board but no term limit on the leadership roles. Mrs. Feinberg feels all members can bring things to the meeting. A discussion ensued. Mr. Reichel suggest this be tabled until the next meeting.
- 2.** Mrs. Lerner saw the Jets and Nike have partnered to bring girls flag football to high schools in New Jersey. Mrs. Lerner suggests offering a girls flag football clinic in the Fall. Ms. Cannon agrees this would be a great program.
- 3.** Mr. Greeley asks how we advertise without sending flyers. Ms. Cannon states she submitted a 2 page spread to be placed in the borough newsletter.

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4. Mr. Greeley asks for an update on the borough website and App. Mr. Michaels states he has no update at this time.

**VIII. SPECIAL EVENTS: FYI**

1. **Spring Spectacular-Easter Bunny Brigade:** Ms. Cannon states we will hold an Easter Celebration on March 31<sup>st</sup> 3:30-5:30 @ Municipal Field (photos with the bunny, quick activities, crafts, egg giveaway)
2. **Learn to Ride Bike Event-TBD**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT: 9:22 pm**

**Mrs. Levinson motions to adjourn, Ms. Merchant seconds the motion, all in favor, the motion is carried.**