

**TENAFLY RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 10, 2008**

ROLL CALL: Chairman Jerry O'Brien, Vice Chairman Naomi McDermott, Tony Favorito, Peter Fidler, Robert Sabatino, Rich Rodriguez, Tim Roetman, Tom Swift, Council Liaison Nadia LaMastra

ABSENT: Susan VanPoznak, Alpine Liaison Jim Schwartz, Board of Education Liaison Mark Aronson,

MINUTES: Mr. Rodriguez motions to approve February 11, 2008 minutes, Mr. Fidler seconds the motion, all in favor and minutes are approved.

AUDIENCE: Tom Giordano, 12 George St. No Comment at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Tony Favorito to Joe DiGiacomo regarding Valentine's Day Dance. Mr. Favorito reports this was a new special event that went over very well.
2. Letter from Casey and Steven Palumbo to Tony Favorito requesting an exception to be placed in Little Tigers program. Mr. Favorito recommends allowing an exception based on the child's age and ability. There are no objections.
3. Email from Dana Wolfe requesting entry for her daughter into Tenafly Recreation's Girls Softball program. Mr. Favorito reports he has contacted Mrs. Wolfe and informed her they are not eligible based on their residence in Cresskill. Mr. Sabatino informs the Commission there is a softball program available in Cresskill as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Alpine Recreation – No Report. Mr. Favorito reports no girls from Alpine are registered for softball. Mr. O'Brien asks Mr. Roetman to contact Jim Schwartz to follow up and find out if flyers were delivered to students at the Alpine School.
2. Board of Education – No Report. Councilwoman LaMastra would like Mr. Roetman to contact Mark Aronson and ask for his attendance at the next meeting.
3. Youth Services – Mr. Favorito reports he has sent Mark Slawson, Youth Services Director a memo regarding Grace Chapel's request to share space on the Municipal Field with the Youth Services Summer Camp. Mr. Favorito is waiting for a response.
4. Joint Use – No report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. Last fall Pee Wee football games had to be rescheduled from Friday nights to different days of the week in order to allow enough time for Junior and Senior football teams to get their games in under the lights before the curfew. This year Mr. Favorito would like the Pee Wee team to play on Friday nights with the other squads. There will be two dates Mr. Favorito would like the Mayor and Council to approve extending the light use to 11:00 pm. The lights would be turned off

earlier if the games ended earlier. Mrs. LaMastra will take this request to the Council for review.

2. Mr. Favorito states the projected payroll for spring programs is enclosed for review. Mrs. McDermott would like to break the salaries down per hour. After review, salaries range from forty dollars to one hundred twenty dollars per hour. Councilwoman LaMastra states this has been discussed between Governing Body members and would like to bring closure to this issue. Mr. Rodriguez states he has reviewed payroll information in the past and does not feel there is anything out of line with the salaries. Mr. Sabatino thinks everyone is entitled to earn a living and the salary information doesn't represent the whole amount of preparation time put into the programs. Mr. O'Brien states he has not heard any resident complaints regarding the fees paid for programs. The salary information is acceptable to the Commission.
3. Mr. Favorito reports the Safe at Home softball tournament will be held the weekend of May 15-17. Tenaflly Little League has been asked to move off the Wilkins Lane field to allow for the tournament to occur. Mr. Tom Giordano informs the Commission there was discussion about the dates at the previous Little League meeting. He believes they were not in favor of moving, but never formally voted. Mr. Favorito suggests Little League can move to the High School JV Field or Stillman that weekend. Mr. Giordano suggests sending a letter to the Little League board stating the alternate field arrangements. Mr. Favorito will follow up with a letter.
4. Mr. Favorito reports as of May 19 the Senior division of the Girls Softball League will begin playing games under the lights at the Municipal Field.
5. Mr. Favorito reports the Morton Tournament is set. Brackets are now available. The tournament will take place beginning March 15.
6. Mr. Favorito has spoken to Ed Craumer at Tenaflly High School about beginning a weight training program with the high school trainer. Councilwoman LaMastra identifies the trainer as Mr. Mason, and recommends he does an excellent job.
7. Permit requests:
 - a. Grace Chapel – permit is awaiting a decision from Mark Slawson of Youth Services.
 - b. U.S. Sports Institute – has requested use of the Municipal Field the week of August 11-15 to run a multi-sports camp. Mr. Favorito will have to move them to Sunnyside Park. Other than that there are no conflicts. Mr. Rodriguez motions to allow use of Sunnyside Park. Mr. Fidler seconds the motion and it is carried unanimously.
 - c. Adult Soccer times are provided to the Commission. Mr. O'Brien states there are still men using the field at un-permitted times. Mr. Favorito reports Site Supervisor Lou Smaragdakis has reported unpermitted field use. Mr. Rodriguez motions to send a letter to all field users advising them not to use fields at unpermitted times. Unpermitted use may result in revoking a permit. Mr. Sabatino seconds the motion, all in favor and the motion is carried.
 - d. Tenaflly Little League and Junior Soccer will be splitting field use at the Municipal Field on Sundays from March 15 through June 15.

- e. Soccer will be holding tryouts for fall traveling teams on June 7. They are requesting use of the Municipal Field for the tryouts. Mr. Favorito has advised Travel President Lori Leskin to start after 1:00 pm to avoid conflicts with girls' softball. Chairman O'Brien states he would not want softball moved off the Municipal Field.
- f. TJSJ Soccer Camp is requesting use of Sunnyside Park, August 18-22 for their annual camp. This year they are teaming up with Ashley's Soccer since their former sponsor the Red Bulls no longer exist. Mr. Swift motions to approve the camp. Mr. Fidler seconds and the motion is carried unanimously.
- g. Mr. Favorito informs the Commission he has approved Tenafly Little League use of Walnut Park for T-Ball.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Background Checks – Mr. Favorito reports the latest draft is waiting for the Council's approval. Councilwoman LaMastra is unsure of the Council's position. Concerns are expressed regarding who the ordinance would cover. There are questions regarding other Tenafly events such as the 5k Race and private camps that use Tenafly facilities. Councilwoman LaMastra mentions a second ordinance to cover these groups may be necessary in the future.
2. Mr. Swift would like to know the status of the tree wall at Sunnyside Park. Mr. Favorito reports Recreation is still waiting for contributions and Capital funding approval. Also, Mr. Swift would like to know the cost of lightning detection equipment. Mr. Roetman reports the equipment costs approximately \$6,000 plus an annual maintenance agreement.
3. Mr. Rodriguez asks about the status of purchasing new bleachers for the Municipal Field. Councilwoman LaMastra states the budget has not been finalized yet.
4. Mr. Sabatino would like the swim clubs and the Board of Education to contribute to purchasing lightning detection equipment.
5. Mr. O'Brien would like to review the Recreation Center plans at the next Commission meeting. Mr. O'Brien would like Mr. Roetman to obtain copies for the April meeting. Mr. O'Brien also would like to see a gate added to the Municipal Field near Froggy Park to allow spectator access to the opposite side of the field.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Roetman has met with a potential instructor to teach a Korean cultural music class called "Samulnori". Mr. Roetman would like to pursue this for the fall season.
2. Mr. Roetman reads aloud a new bill introduced by the New Jersey State Senate. Beginning in 2009 the State will mandate AED machines at athletic facilities as well as CPR training for coaches and staff. There may also be implications for the Recreation summer camp program as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned 9:23 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Roetman