

**TENAFLY RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES – June 12, 2006**

ROLL CALL: Chairman Jerry O'Brien, Anthony Favorito, Vice Chairman Naomi McDermott, Pam Walsh, Alpine Liaison Ann Shaner, Robert Sabatino, Peter Fidler, Tim Roetman

ABSENT: Tom Swift, Council Liaison Robert Thompson, Board of Education Liaison Mark Aronson

MINUTES: Mr. Sabatino motions to accept April minutes, Mr. Fidler seconds, minutes accepted.

AUDIENCE: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Mayor Rustin regarding girls softball and the cancellation of games in inclement weather. The Mayor feels the Recreation Department should have someone available to call off games on the weekends if the weather's bad. The policy has always been it is the umpire's decision. Mr. O'Brien believes it is not a big deal, the umpire should continue to make that decision.
2. Email from Mayor Rustin regarding emergency access to fields in injury situations. Mr. Favorito reports Public Works Director Bob Beutel is and has been handling the distribution of keys to emergency personnel. All emergency services including the police, fire, and ambulance corps have received the necessary keys.
3. Letter from Andrew Chin of the Tenafly Swim Club denying Recky's Day Camp access to the pool for swim time this summer. Mr. Favorito and Mrs. Walsh have both spoken to management at the swim club, the message received has been the clientele at the swim club do not want children around.
4. Letter to Mayor and Council regarding the Borough's Anti-Nepotism policy. Mr. O'Brien feels his volunteer position on the Recreation Commission should not negatively affect his children's ability to apply for employment with the Borough. Also, Mr. O'Brien and Mrs. McDermott state they along with the other Commission members were never informed of this policy when they took their oath of office. The Recreation Commission would like Mr. Favorito to draft a letter to the Borough Administrator, Mayor and Council regarding the Commission's position on this issue.
5. Letter to Mayor and Council requesting permission to clear the Municipal Field of pedestrians while men's league softball games are in progress. Letter acknowledged. Policy has been approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Alpine Recreation – Mrs. Shaner reports Tenafly Junior Soccer League is using the Alpine field. The town is looking into re-conditioning the field for more use. Tenafly Little League is also using the field for games.
2. Youth Services – Mrs. Walsh reports there are approximately 35 students registered for the Youth Services summer camp. An open house was held for all 5th grade students. There has been some discussion about setting up a flag football tournament at the end of summer. Mrs. Walsh reminded everyone field

space is limited and all efforts should be coordinated with the Recreation Department.

3. Board of Education – No Report
4. Joint Use – No Report

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. In September, over the Jewish holiday there is a Jr. Football game tentatively scheduled for Sunday night. Mr. Favorito would like the Commission's approval to play the game on the final night of the holiday. Mrs. McDermott points out a conflict with the ending of the holiday. The game has to wait until after the holiday ends at sundown Sunday. Mr. O'Brien suggests moving the Pee Wee game from that weekend, or cancelling it. Mr. Favorito will look into alternative dates to play the game.
2. Administrative Fee proposal from Mr. DiGiacomo to the Tenafly Recreation Commission suggesting the use of the increased fee be put toward building a new restroom/concession facility at the Municipal Field Complex. The Commission unanimously approves this idea.
3. Non-residents on wait list for summer camp. Mr. Roetman reports there are currently 62 people on the wait list and 115 registered for camp. Mr. Sabatino motions to allow the non-residents into summer camp. Mr. Fidler seconds and the motion is carried.
4. Tenafly Little League has requested the Recreation Department set up a white sport fence on the Oak. Ave. field at Sunnyside Park. This fence may conflict with the men's league games that will be occurring. Mr. Favorito suggests two solutions. Either set up a fence allowing Little League to commence at the same time as the men's league, or don't set up a fence and only allow one of the two to play on the field. There is a safety concern for the men hitting the ball into the Little League field. Mr. Fidler is asked to coordinate between the Little League and Recreation Department the use of field times. He will get in touch with Little League President Steve Ratty to help coordinate field use.
5. Mr. Favorito forwarded a copy of a proposed survey to the Commission members prior to the meeting. The survey is a recreational survey aimed at the town's residents. Mrs. Walsh compliments Mr. Favorito for covering all the aspects of the town's recreational programs. The survey is unanimously approved.
6. Girls Softball Commissioner's Cup and BBQ is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13. Free hot dogs and hamburgers will be available for all.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mr. O'Brien would like to know when the Municipal Field lighting project will commence. He has not been informed of any progress. Mr. Roetman states there is a meeting with the engineer on Wednesday, June 14 to discuss the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. DiGiacomo has asked Mr. Favorito to discuss with, and have the Recreation Commission set a policy regarding use of the Municipal Field. Mr. Fidler believes the field should be used by permit only. Proper judgment should be used if there is a group of kids playing ball. Mr. O'Brien agrees. Mrs. McDermott states a policy is only as good as its enforcement. Steps need to be taken to

- enforce the policy. Mr. Fidler motions to establish a permit only policy. Mr. Sabatino seconds and the motion is carried.
2. Mrs. Shaner asks how the Fuel Fitness training sessions are going with the youth sports programs. Mr. Favorito reports there has been nothing but positive feedback, and he would like to continue working with Fuel in the future.
 3. Mr. Sabatino mentions a soccer goal chained to the fence on the Municipal Field may be in play during a men's softball game, which could be a safety issue. The soccer net should be moved behind the shed to avoid any collisions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Roetman
Asst. Director