

**TENAFLY RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – OCTOBER 19, 2009**

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Jerry O'Brien, Vice Chairwoman Naomi McDermott, Robert Sabatino, Tom Swift, Rich Rodriguez, Sue Van Poznak, Peter Fidler, Tony Favorito, Tim Roetman, Councilwoman Nadia LaMastra, Alpine Liaison Mayor Paul Tomasko

**ABSENT:** Board of Education Liaison Mark Aronson

**MINUTES:** Mr. Swift motions to accept the minutes from September 14, 2009. Mrs. Van Poznak seconds, all in favor and the motion is approved.

**AUDIENCE:** Keith Gold, Alan Berenbaum and Monica Zaccario representing Tenafly Youth Basketball (TYB). Mr. Gold reports they are approximately 50% complete with registration. They advertised through the schools, with emails and notices to past players. The league fee is set at \$85.00 this season. Mr. Gold asks if the Board could provide more details regarding the background checks. Mr. Favorito would like to get back to Mr. Gold after the meeting since it is a topic on the agenda. Mr. Gold agrees. Mr. O'Brien reminds the representatives to attempt to schedule travel tryouts around the fall sports schedules so all potential players will have an opportunity to try out. Councilwoman LaMastra asks if TYB has enough gym space. Mr. O'Brien reminds them to take advantage of the gym at the Elisabeth Morrow School. Mr. Gold reports TYB will be using the gym at EMS as well as the gym at Alpine School in addition to the schools in town. There has been an issue in the past with use of one of the Tenafly elementary schools. Mr. Gold reports former TYB president Scott Smilen was discouraged from use by the principal at one of the elementary schools. Mr. O'Brien asks Councilwoman LaMastra to find out about this situation at the next Joint Use meeting. Mr. Favorito reports he has a meeting scheduled with Ed Craumer, THS Athletic Director, on Friday along with TYB to discuss gym usage.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Letter from Eifert French insurance company regarding non-resident use of the skate park. Brian Eifert has recommended all guests sign a waiver and suggests the Mayor and Council should approve any changes by resolution. Councilwoman LaMastra recognizes there would be a problem requiring non-resident guests to sign a waiver when the Recreation Office is closed on weekends. Mrs. McDermott suggests passes should be issued similar to tennis badges. Mr. Swift suggests a guest badge could have the waiver printed on the back similar to a ticket to a sporting event. Mr. O'Brien thinks a guest should be able to enter the park with a resident holding a guest badge. Mr. Rodriguez questions whether a resolution would have to be done to enable guest badges. Mr. Roetman states he believes a resolution would be necessary since the Mayor and Council set the rules by a previous resolution. Mr. Rodriguez states the new Board ordinance suggests otherwise. Mrs. McDermott agrees the ordinance gives the Board control. Councilwoman LaMastra asks if there would be an increase in insurance premium to the Borough. Mr. Roetman will contact Eifert French to find out. Mr. Swift suggests a limit of two guest badges per resident. Mr. Rodriguez motions to enable residents to purchase

guest badges similar to tennis, with a maximum of two per family. Councilwoman LaMastra asks what the cost would be. Mr. O'Brien suggests the same as tennis, a fifteen dollar per badge fee. Mr. Swift would like the cost adjusted if there is an additional insurance premium. Mrs. McDermott seconds the motion with the additions from Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Swift. All in favor and the motion is approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Mayor Paul Tomasko is sitting in for Jim Schwartz tonight. The Mayor comments positively on how involved the Board members are. He reports the relationship between Tenaflly and Alpine has been great.
2. Board of Education – No Report.
3. Youth Services – Mr. Sabatino raises an issue where a referee was denied access to the Youth Center restrooms. Councilwoman LaMastra states this issue was addressed by the Youth Services committee a while ago. They felt there was a safety concern with people in an area designated for children's use. Councilwoman LaMastra would like Mr. Slawson copied on the minutes and future agendas.
4. Joint Use – No report.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

1. Mr. Favorito reports the DPW has repaired the fencing in the Municipal Field outfield. They did a nice job.
2. Mr. O'Brien would like to table the quotes on fencing and schedule a day with Mr. Favorito and any other members of the Board to walk the field and decide exactly what is needed. There are also quotes for a new ball field groomer. Mr. Favorito reports the Recreation Staff was able to demo one unit during the Safe at Home Tournament. He would like to move forward with the purchase of a new unit to replace the old one. The third set of quotes is for a camera security system for the Municipal Field. Mr. Roetman explains there are three different options available. Mr. O'Brien feels the cost is too expensive and the Board should continue to monitor the situation once an additional Site Supervisor is hired. Mr. O'Brien would like to see the police more involved as well. Mr. Fidler believes the cost should be between five and six thousand dollars for a security system, the proposals were too high.
3. Mr. Favorito would like the Board's feedback on future capital projects. Mr. Roetman hands out a printed balance of funds available in the Recreation Administrative Trust account and explains the Board should subtract the restroom facility and McCandless Room partition from the balance. Mr. O'Brien asks what is made per year. Mr. Roetman reports approximately fifteen thousand is generated annually. Mr. O'Brien points out the cost of the field lighting are being charged to this account as well. Mr. O'Brien doesn't want to keep assessing more fees to the co-sponsored groups. Councilwoman LaMastra asks if lights on other facilities like the basketball and tennis courts are charged to Tenaflly Recreation's trust accounts. Mr. Favorito answers no. Mr. Rodriguez would like Councilwoman LaMastra to go to the Mayor and Council and see if the charges for the Municipal Field lighting could be covered by the Borough like the other lights. Councilwoman LaMastra asks Mr. Favorito and Mr. Roetman to meet with her and the interim CFO to review the lighting bills. Mr.

Favorito reports the color coating of the basketball courts is another capital item that needs to be addressed.

4. Mr. Favorito reports the Halloween Celebration is this Saturday, October 24. The travel basketball and wrestling flyers will be distributed soon. Mr. Favorito is also anticipating another good year for the High School Basketball League which will have a meeting in November and the draft in December.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. Favorito has prepared two forms, an appeal form and a release form for the background checks. To review, Mr. Favorito reports a volunteer would have to sign the release provided by the Borough. Then, the volunteer would receive a Sagem Morpho registration form. They would register online for an appointment, then travel to Paramus or Elmwood Park for fingerprinting. The Recreation Department would receive a copy of the form and receipt from the volunteer. Mr. Roetman reports the Borough would receive notification from the State within two weeks of a check. Mr. Favorito would like to see coaches go for the background check one month prior to the start of the season. Councilwoman LaMastra asks how often a person would need to be checked. Mr. Favorito states the ordinance reads "annually". Mr. O'Brien asks Mr. Favorito and Mr. Roetman to find out if there would be any additional fees to having a person re-checked and if the individual would have to go back to the location to be screened again. Mrs. McDermott suggests the draft of the appeal form should be revised to simply ask for reasons of appeal and a date received by Borough Clerk. Both documents should be reviewed by the Borough Attorney. Councilwoman LaMastra will place the forms on the Mayor and Council's agenda.
2. The McCandless Room partition and Municipal Field Restroom projects have been approved to move forward by Mayor and Council at their last meeting.
3. Mr. Rodriguez would like to discuss the control of the Municipal Field lights. Mr. Rodriguez feels the ordinance that established the Board should enable the Board control of all fields and facilities as stated. A formal request should be made to rescind the previous resolution passed by the Council controlling the field lights. Councilwoman LaMastra suggests the Council would be willing to listen to a request, but specific changes to the rules should be put in writing. Mr. Rodriguez motions for a letter from the Board to be written to the Mayor and Council asking them to rescind the previous resolution regarding the lights. Mr. O'Brien seconds the motion, all in favor and the motion is carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The Board considers winter program fees for 2010. Mr. Roetman has provided the Board members a spreadsheet containing proposed fees for each program. Mrs. McDermott asks for the limits of participants for each program. Mr. Roetman provides the details for each program. Mr. O'Brien motions to accept the proposed fees for the winter programs. Mr. Swift seconds the motion, all in favor and the motion is carried.
2. Mr. Rodriguez asks Mr. Favorito to update the permit board at the Municipal Field. As of Saturday it had ended. Mr. Favorito reports it was done earlier today.

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3. Councilwoman LaMastra reports the annual street fair is scheduled for October 24 and 25. The Mayor and Council have appointed an interim CFO, Gene Vinci and an interim Administrator Greg Ferenbach.
4. Mr. Roetman informs the Board he and Mr. Favorito are evaluating a few bus trips for the winter/spring. They are looking into Disney on Ice, the circus and an overnight trip to Cooperstown.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting Adjourned, 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Roetman  
Asst. Recreation Director