

## **Northvale Recreation Meeting Minutes January 18th, 2024**

**Present:** Sarah Kirch, Alexis Connelly, Matthew Connelly, Debbie Smith, Mario Nikac, Beatriz Negrón, Joel Negrón, Krissy Mueller, Brendan Reilly, Ken DeGennaro

Councilman: Marty Mattessich

Others Present: none

Meeting called to order at 7:33pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Approved minutes from 11/14/23 meeting. Motion made by Krissy Mueller; seconded by Joel Negrón. Motion approved.

### GENERAL:

- Scholarship Application - needs to be shared with high schoolers ASAP
- Should we save money for larger projects?
- \$500 scholarship, can we keep the application the same?
  - Where should we cap the number of scholarships we award? Four; two male, two female vs one male and one female, up to six max?
- 8th grade awards will be discussed in more depth at the next meeting. Sarah will prepare a google form for us to review that we can send to coaches for feedback.
- Sarah is scheduling a Rutgers virtual training prior to Baseball/Softball - Late February-early March
- Banners - need to reach out to local businesses
  - Dedicated some of the banner purchases toward scholarships; will help to drum up business for those who want to support
- Need to have consistent fees between sports where possible
- Constant Contact is down right now;
  - Preschool is emailing registration information
  - PTO will email
  - The School will email
  - Can send home a paper version - Alexis will create
  - Can blast through TeamSnap
  - Social Media blasts
- Need to be careful that players are only playing up when needed as stated in the rules

## SOCCER:

- Games have started; everything going well
- Tuesday practices have missed out because of weather
- No 7/8 boys team this season
- Is there a way to add goalie training to REC? Maybe a goalie or position clinic(s)
  - The fall season might be easier to schedule
  - Maybe high schoolers can help
- Town Day - tends to be opening weekend for soccer
  - Can we have a blackout date? Already avoid scheduling home games.

## BASKETBALL:

- Travel - 3/4 & 5/6 girls went to HP and it is going well. No 7/8 girls wanted to play with HP so no team.
- REC - 9 teams and K & 1/2 Clinic
- Games started the first week of January
- Plenty of gym time for all teams, especially because of Chodae
- Everyone had uniforms ahead of games

## BASEBALL:

- T-Ball: find t-shirt sponsors, \$300+ in the future, find local businesses
- First league meeting was 1/8/24, Opening Day in other towns 4/27/24
- Timelines and fees are aligned with other towns, Old Tappan - handles late registrants by telling parents the player is waitlisted until a spot opens for them
- Following REC season and playoffs - all-star mixed town tournament

## SOFTBALL

- Registration opened today, deadline of 2/9/24, late registration was planned until 2/23/24
  - Let's shorten the deadline to 10 days, 2/18/24
  - Plan for a few really late stragglers but cut it down to ten days
- League meeting is 2/7/24 - discuss things, including playoffs.
  - Need black out dates before then
  - April 13th - league opening day
- All decisions need to be made by 3/1/24; we may or may not need to combine with surrounding towns and order the appropriate uniforms
- Debari is lined-up as ump assignor for baseball \$75 and softball \$65
  - In February DeBari will send out another information sheet that will layout the rules etc, then we will send him his assigning fee
  - We need to find out if he will accept a check this year, last year he was cash only
  - Wants to be paid on the field, no acceptions

- Uniforms - t-shirts with combined teams would be covered by us, all other uniform pieces would be aligned between the towns regarding colors
- Invited to a tournament in Dumont for 3/4 & 5/6 – 4/24-4/28, \$550 per team, 10% discount for multiple teams
- We met with surrounding town softball commissioners; discussed the possibility of combining programs in the future if numbers dwindle
  - Could improve the quality of the program

#### Snack Stand:

- Issues:
  - Stove isn't hooded so we aren't allowed to use it - can we fix this before Opening Day 4/27?
  - Marty would like a key to check it out the facility to figure out what we can do

#### Storage:

- Basement of Borough Hall has been used for storage
  - Joel Negron and Dave Ernst recently volunteered and cleared it out
  - We were told we can no longer use the space for storage; it is also not available at all times
  - We are allotted the shed at Hogan's but it is not weather safe and efficient
  - Trailers - we cleaned out but whatever was stored in there was ruined. We need something better.
- We need a modernized space
- Marty - will contact the DPW to check on the shed to possibly fix up, he will also follow-up at Borough Hall to see about storage space

#### Field Conditions:

- New grant writer
- Priority Fields for improvement - Field 1: Softball Field, all Hogan's fields, Veterans in general but only one REC team currently plays there

Motion to adjourn made by Krissy Mueller; seconded by Debbie Smith. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.