

# PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD

JANUARY 16, 2018, 7:00 PM

The regular monthly meeting of the Palmer Township Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, January 16th @ 7:00 pm with the following in attendance: Chair, Cheryl Nielsen, Vice Chair Thomas Lee, Richard Bulette, Liam Brohan, Michael Weaver and Dan McKinney. Robert Smith was also in attendance.

Nielson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Brohan makes a motion to approve the December 2017 minutes, Bulette seconded to approve motion. Motion carried.

**New Business:** Reorganization: Dan McKinney discussed terms for officers, it is a 2-year term and then called for a motion to nominate a member to act as Chair for 2018 - 2019. Lee made a motion to nominate Cheryl Nielsen as Chair. Rick Bulette seconded the motion. Passed 5-0

Cheryl Nielsen called for a motion to nominate a member to act as Vice Chair for 2018 – 2019. Michael Weaver made a motion to nominate Thomas Lee as Vice Chair. Liam Brohan seconded the motion. Passed 5-0.

McKinney – discussed the board and its vacancies. 1. Jeff Vincent has not been here and would need a motion to do something formal and 2. two positions open on the board.

Nielsen – suggested sending Vincent a letter stating if he wants to stay on the board he has to attend and if he misses 3 meetings, he will be officially done.

Discussion: About candidates

McKinney – can put a blurb in the next newsletter

Nielsen – we should wait until the newsletter goes out for a decision on new members, should Dan do the letter to Jeff Vincent?

McKinney – I will make it very professional. Did anyone get a letter about term? Some members got one last year.

Lee – everyone should maintain their positions.

**Public Comment:** N/A

**Directors Report:** Pool Update – McKinney – leak fixed and holding water, legal might have to get involved about the fixes.

On the fields - McKinney - light posts went up as discussed in the last meeting, they were here today working on fields, in a week, lights will be ready to go.

Weaver – Do we need legal approval to use the fields?

Smith and McKinney – No

Smith – explained maintenance

McKinney – maintenance contract is complete, punch list completed. Insurance has given us the go.

Brohan – black top area? Stands?

McKinney – handicap accessible, lights pre-pointed

Nielsen – when did the poles go up?

McKinney – two or three weeks ago

Lee – two days before our last meeting

McKinney – LED lighting is tremendous, can we discuss the walking path's rules and regulations, is was a strong subject last time?

Brohan – walking paths or the fields?

McKinney – walking path

Lee – I was able to look at other municipalities and took some pictures, Bethlehem Community Center is truly a walking path, has fit stations, no dogs, no bikes.

Brohan – Forks has fit stations and bikes.

Lee - Signage is posted at the start and the end, jogging and walking path is clearly marked with signs and spray painted on the path directly.

Weaver – we have enough bike paths and it is tough here because it is a sports complex.

Nielsen – stated a woman I spoke to said she doesn't mind sharing it, like the others.

Smith – when we applied for the grant, how did we define it?

McKinney – I can check the verbiage

Nielsen – I feel it should be everything

Smith – hooks into the bike path

Nielsen – a real biker would use it

Lee – when people were walking and/or talking, bikers would not continue or go around, there was lots of benches to sit down on, sponsored by a variety of people

Smith – The Boy Scouts did a beautiful job in other areas.

McKinney – Can I try to crystalize something, what about dogs?

Weaver – would have to have clean up stations

Smith – there is no dogs allowed on any fields

McKinney – had a discussion with Thom about safety first.

Lee – this is a modern facility, I love dogs, I have a dog, but feel it is not the proper place

Smith – if we continue the no dog policy, we need the proper signs

Lee – one sign that really stuck with me, “You must have a permit to play on this field, violators will be subject to police action.”

McKinney – Ordinances are usually related to the fees

Brohan – do you know we have a building or permit department?

McKinney – they enforce ordinances

Brohan – different group?

McKinney – Yes, then proceeded to go over the handout, likes page 3, Field Scheduling and Reservations, would like to adopt the first 2 bullets, not concerned about 8 kids playing but groups, so need to go the ordinance route

Smith – problem – if the email is not received on who is playing, then kids show up and wreck it. If we post on the website – Major Fields Closed.

McKinney – will make sure that happens, township website, CC website, Facebook, explained the Miracle League signage.

Nielsen – we don't want them to think they can't use the fields and I understand weather.

McKinney – but that means even the neighbor kids? Went over the handout, Request for Field/Facility Permit.

Smith – Let's use Fairview as an example, there should be a list of rules in big bold print – Baseball Field – Usage Rules.

McKinney – needs to be talked about further

Brohan – No steel cleats need to be defined

Lee – Also should be no gum on the turf field

McKinney – important that we have rentals with well-known organizations that will treat the field correctly but overall still have to put signage up

Lee – What do you need today?

Smith – need to go to each individual field and make the rules for that field.

Weaver – showed signage from Pohatcong, NJ, liked the verbiage.

McKinney – Dogs?

In unison – no dogs!

Nielsen – Do I hear a motion?

Thomas Lee made a motion to prohibit dogs on the walking path. Seconded by Rick Bulette. Passed 3-2.

Nielsen – Now need to make a list of all the fields

Brohan – has a spreadsheet and will send it out, and add a column

Smith – include signage of open and closed fields

McKinney – will make that happen – we just have to add to what we already do have. If someone rents, they will sign the contract and they will be held to follow the rules. Included in the handout, a copy of an ordinance which also includes fields.

McKinney – Turf Field – AA Lacrosse scheduled starting in March, after I spoke to AA, I started to schedule other groups @ \$120.00/hr., there is no good reason we can't have 50 hours. It's a good start but scheduling has to be way ahead of the game.

Nielsen – Is all the money from rental fees going into special account?

McKinney – It is going into the budget, extra for maintenance.

Smith – No soccer or field hockey?

McKinney – spoke to people about scheduling for the fall to stay ahead of it. Fall will be more of a challenge to get revenue.

Bulette – Tournaments?

McKinney – The one that is at Keystone

Smith – What about a drop down batting cage and/or pitching machine indoors?

McKinney – Nice idea, is there ramifications? High School and College drop the balls right down on the floor, not good for the gym floor, we could take a look into the Multipurpose Room?

Lee – Agreed

Weaver – Is it high enough?

McKinney – Yes, back to the fields, raising \$40,000, would like to raise \$70,000. Ten o'clock the lights go out, have people to play on Sunday mornings.

### **Old Business:**

McKinney – Pickleball is booming – we went five days a week

Nielsen – Do they pay?

McKinney - \$3.00 per person or Healthcare

### **222 Report:**

Bulette – did not meet

### **Egg Hunt:**

Nielsen – Candy and prizes are ordered except for younger groups. This might be the last year at Palmer School but then moved to Community Center.

Smith – Can't we use the football field and use the Community Center to give out the candy and prizes?

Nielsen – It is already in the Newsletter that it is at Palmer School.

Smith – already have a linked path

Discussion about using Community Center and Miracle League for the Egg Hunt.

### **Public Comment:** N/A

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**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, February 20, 2018 @ 7:00 pm

Nielsen asks for a motion to adjourn. Lee motions to adjourn, seconded by Bulette. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Brenda Lazarus: Corresponding Secretary