

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD
February 16, 2021
7:00 PM
GENERAL MEETING

The Palmer Township Recreation Board held a General meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Charles Chrin Community Center. The following were in attendance: Chairman Liam Brohan, Vice-Chair Cheryl Nielsen, Member Richard Bulette. Also, in attendance were Dan McKinney, Chuck Romfo, President of the Palmer Township Athletic Association and Robert Smith, Palmer Board of Supervisors.

Liam Brohan called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes – January 2021.

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the minutes of January 2021.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Cheryl Nielsen, Seconded by Rick Bulette
Passed. 3-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Brohan, Bulette, Nielsen

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Palmer Township Field House Project

INFORMATION

Brohan welcome everyone to the meeting and said he wanted to bring up something regarding the meeting that took place one and a half weeks ago discussing the Palmer Kiwanis BIP Youth Center. It was discussed in that meeting that they are looking for a fundraiser for the youth center by their next meeting. Romfo stated that he will be at the monthly meeting and can get regular updates from those meetings. Brohan notified everyone that the next meeting will be on February 25, 2021, in person meeting held at the Community Center. Breaking ground in the Fall of 2022 is a go and he is unable to make the meeting. Bulette and Nielsen stated they would go. Romfo explained that a 501C3 application has been filled out board and board had been generated. Fundraising plan will be coming.

3. New Business

INFORMATION

Romfo offered a general update for the PTAA. He stated there is usually two winter sports but this year there was only one, basketball. Wrestling originally did not have enough placed and organizations to participate, not enough to form a league, so decided not to have a program. Basketball is usually the CBL league. Palmer commissioners got together with other facilities and started the Micro League with Nazareth and Palmer. Brohan asked if any Palmer teams played in the competitive league at Forks. Romfo answered that there was one Palmer team that played. Brohan then asked if any Easton teams played and Romfo responded that Easton had no rec sports this winter. He went on to say that they are going to try to run Spring sports. The PTAA opened registrations for Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball and Baseball. He also clarified that the Township is responsible for field maintenance and the PTAA is responsible for everything else. At this time, he would like to bring up some concerns.

1. Replace the job box at Upper Briarcliff
2. Softball is looking for a more convenient job box at Labarre
3. Homeplate at Upper Briarcliff needs some maintenance
4. Batting cage nets need to be replaced at Fairview and Palmer Elementary
5. Baseball chain link fence extended at Upper Briarcliff

These are the things for the Township. Brohan asked if this is the new way to request. Romfo responded that he believes that this is the way since both parties are involved. Brohan questioned what would be the next step? McKinney answered that ideally this conversation will take place in August for the following year and it didn't happen this past year. Chain link fences can be a little expense. I also think I can present this in the budget process. Brohan stated that this is a present laundry list. Romfo clarified that this will be in the August 2021 Recreation Board agenda to present for Capital Improvement. Brohan and McKinney suggested that it be on the July Recreation Board agenda. McKinney went on to explain that in July it is for the following calendar year. Romfo stated that in terms of Spring he had only reached out to the Spring commissioners, but he can reach out to the Fall commissioners for a wish list. McKinney stated sooner than later. Smith said I have been looking at the budget to see if it's feasible, think we stock the nets. Romfo said are request are mostly maintenance and Smith responded if it's a concern it's a safety issue then needs to be fixed. Romfo questioning that under the new regime of requesting things, I am just trying to set expectations of who can help with motivation. Smith stated that seed and field allocation, that's where is usually comes from and don't think it will be a problem. Brohan asked if we should be providing a report card for the parks in July as well? McKinney answered yes. Nielsen stated we've done this before and things have been done. Brohan suggested that he would like to resurrect the parks report card. McKinney explained that it then goes through the budget and it is a very effective procedure and that it needs to be done. Brohan asked if there was anymore and Romfo responded that he gave the commissioners a deadline and that's all he has and he will try next month for Fall sports.

4. Director's Report **INFORMATION**

McKinney acknowledged that the District II Wrestling is being held at the Community Center next weekend, February 20th, 21st and 27th, Regionals. Brohan asked if they were letting people in? Dan replied no spectators and stated that we are excited and that we are bringing some money in. Smith commented that it was great for the Community Center and it will be great publicity. All our programs are on hold currently. Brohan asked if the pool is even swimmable? McKinney explained you still must use chemicals even if you let it be, 100 people or 1000 people, so it is all or nothing and a small discussion occurred about the pool. McKinney asked Smith if he knew anything else and Smith replied that he thinks McKinney hit it on the head, great points and watching it very closely. McKinney stated that the primary plan talking to Public Works is to do the bare minimum now, repairs pumps, etc. To close and open the pool is 13,000, then chemicals. We would hate to ask the Palmer residents to pay a \$500.00 membership. Might have to take it on the chin this year. Smith said that the BOS will be discussing and making a discussion by May 1st. McKinney stated May 1st, we will not be able to staff. Smith commented that camp as well might be the same as last year. McKinney went on to explain that the Turf Field before the snow was making \$1500 a week and it will be a month before the snow melts, once it does, we will be jamming. Starting in April people want to get in for shows. We are doing okay. We are exploring options for camp, a group that has run sports camps at our facility is a way to make revenue without any salaries. Nielsen questioned whether there was equipment that can clear snow off the Turf Field? McKinney responded that the developer said it hurts the field duration but might have to be revisited because we are losing money. Nielsen then asked if Lafayette College has equipment? McKinney responded it's more of a manpower issue as well but needs to be revisited. Brohan volunteered to help with the Wrestling event but McKinney said their people were handling everything.

5. Egg Hunt **INFORMATION**

Brohan asked if they were any updates on the Egg Hunt. McKinney stated that the Egg Hunt will not be happening this year.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Cheryl Nielsen made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 7:43 pm., the motion was seconded by Liam Brohan.

Board Members voting Ayes: Brohan, Bulette, Nielsen,
Passed. 3-0.

Next meeting March 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lazarus
Corresponding Secretary