

ELMWOOD PARK BOARD OF RECREATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

January 27, 2014

Prior to the start of the meeting the following statement of compliance was read:

Now therefore be advised that the notice requirements of this meeting have been satisfied by providing an annual notice of posting a schedule of such meetings in a conspicuous place in the Municipal Building and by filing a copy of such schedule in the office of the Municipal Clerk which said notices were filed or provided on January 3, 2014

Chairman, Rich DeLorenzo called the meeting or order at 7:42 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Rich DeLorenzo, Myles Garvey, Sandy Balistrieri, Brenda Huffman and Bob Calabro, Wally Nowosielecki

Commissioners Absent: Robert Burke

Recreation Department – Donna Puglisi

Council Liaison – Councilman Pettigano

A motion was made by Bob Calabro to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 meeting. Motion seconded by Brenda Huffman.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						X

A motion was made by Myles Garvey to open the public portion of the meeting. Motion seconded by Bob Calabro.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

Public Speakers –

Keith Work – Keith was following up on the stipend. He informed the Commission that there is a much higher demand of uniforms and equipment due to the recent merger of Little League and EPJBL. They are anticipating over 350 registrations this year. Keith mentioned that April 12 at 11am is opening day for Little League. On a basketball note he made a copy of a rules and manual template to give to Donna Puglisi to help nullify the recent problems arising on the court. It was decided to laminate the set of rules given in the beginning of the year to tape to the scorer’s table.

Councilman Joe Dombrowski – Councilman Dombrowski asked for the Commission to reconsider putting a hockey rink in the English Ave park, giving reasons such as; safety for children, accessibility for law enforcement, and also an insurance liability. He brought up that Birchwood Park, Elmwood Park, and Rosemont Park would be better because of more visibility and a better parking situation. He also mentioned to put in passive lighting. The Commission informed him that they already looked lengthily into the other parks and felt that English Ave Park is still the best fit.

Tom Conboy – Mr. Conboy started out by welcoming Sandy Balistreri and Councilman Pettigano to the Recreation Commission. He emphatically mentioned that none of the parks in Elmwood Park are safe. He brought up several examples of problems happening in visible areas. He also said that he has never heard of someone filing a JIF claim on a child getting injured in one of the parks.

A motion was made by Myles Garvey to close the public portion of the meeting. Motion seconded by Bob Calabro.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

A motion was made by Wally Nowosielecki to open the work portion of the meeting. Motion seconded by Myles Garvey.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

Director’s Report

Donna reported that the Human Growth Series can do an afternoon class for the Senior Citizens, and a discussion was made on how to promote the Series to get more of a turn out. She reported that the Basketball Clinic and Indoor Soccer League are running smoothly. Basketball is experiencing some problems while Penni is out, especially with cleaning up the Senior Kitchen. Donna presented pictures on how disgusting the kitchen was left. A coaches meeting was recommended. Donna reported that the Senior Kitchen remodeling started January 27. She obtained prices on new equipment but also brought forth a letter from Debbie Ricci stating that if the Commission wanted to put in a fryer they would need to hire a full time food manager for food safety. Summer Camp preparations have already started, and she stated we are one of the best Summer Camps and definitely the cheapest around. She asked to raise the prices from 300 to 350 for in town and 350 to 450 for out of town. All agreed to not bring up the price so high in one year and to gradually bring it up. Commission asked to see full salaries of bus drivers

to get full financial analysis. Donna also brought up the idea of a Security Guard to help reduce the havoc during Friday nights in the Gym.

Director’s Report Accepted

Motion made by Bob Calabro to look into prices for a Security Guard. Motion seconded by Brenda Huffman.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

Liaison Report – Councilman Pettigano is happy to be Liaison. He stated that he would talk to Police Department to see about the fees for Security Guard (looking at about 30 to 40 dollars an hour). As far as a fryer, Councilman Pettigano is big on healthy foods. He believes fried foods are bad for invoking healthy lifestyle. He asked Boro attorney about who has jurisdiction on spending money on town Grounds, it is the Council. Discussion will further next month when Commission has a chance to review pamphlet given by Councilman Pettigano. A lengthy discussion was made on if the Council was looking into abolishing the Recreation Commission and why. Pettigano answered yes, and stated reasons why.

Old Business

Update Senior Kitchen – See Director’s report

Fence Proposal – Donna presented Proposal on fencing. 1,900 dollars for fence on the hut side along the Blvd. Pine St would be 1,750 dollars and Cherry Hill 750 dollars. Everyone agrees bottom rail is a must.

Street Hockey border prices – Contrary to early beliefs the Street Hockey pads costs 6,087.75 for the borders and not 3,500 like previously mentioned. Donna’s main concern is storage.

Little League Stipend –

Myles Garvey made motion to give stipend to Little League. Motion seconded by Sandy Balistrieri.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES			X	X	X		X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT	X				X	

Discussion on Master Plan –

Brenda Huffman made a motion to table Master Plan. Motion seconded by Wally Nowosielecki.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

English Ave Update – See Director’s Report

New Scoreboard Update – Donna consulted an electrician on the outdoor scoreboard. He is getting back to her with an estimate, he believes it is somewhere around 1,500-2,000 dollars.

Website Update – It was discussed that updates need to be done to Recreation Portion of website. Liaison Pettigano does not see a problem with updating the website and enhancing the technology.

New Business

Fencing Issues – See Old Business

Softball Lights Issue – Bob Calabro stated that continues problems with teenage children playing soccer at night with the lights on with no key. They were breaking in the box to turn on the lights. Bob Calabro mentioned that replacement of the top fence and putting a pad lock on light box is best solution. Problem has not occurred since Elmwood Park Police intervened.

Cleaning Crew status – Street Hockey is coming in early on Sundays and is sick of cleaning up after Basketball. Donna was informed of this problem and is going to speak to cleaning company on coming in earlier on Sundays to assure that Street Hockey does not have the burden of cleaning up after Basketball.

Summer Camp – See Director’s Report

Letter from County – The Commission looked over the letter from the County and fully supports the decision being made.

Letter from Pat Dell Santi Regarding Rec Department – All agreed that it is refreshing to see a letter stating how well everything is going. The Commission praised the Recreation Department for a good job.

Club Soccer Expenditures – Donna informed the Commission that there will be a Spring Pep Rally with a Bonfire on March 29th. A discussion was done about how Recreation Department could pay referees without volunteer coaches paying out of pocket.

Community Day – Preparations are being made for Community Day and Donna concretely set a date for June 7th, which is a Saturday. Commission all agreed that bringing in Chamber of Commerce too help run it is a good idea.

Resolution by Boro Council for employees to use facility – A resolution was passed by the Mayor and Council that all Municipal employees (family members are excluded from this resolution) can receive a free Rec card to use the facility.

Committee Reports

Brenda Huffman – No report

Wally Nowosielecki – Progress

Bob Calabro – Hockey is going well. Bob stated there would be no Hockey this week due to Super Bowl Sunday. He is also excited to take Street Hockey to the next level.

Sandy Balistrieri – Looking forward to working with the Commission. She also mentioned how great Soccer Clinic was, she experienced it through her granddaughter. Because of the guidance given by the staff of the Clinic her granddaughter now wants to play soccer.

Myles Garvey – Progress

Rich DeLorenzo – Thanked everybody for another year of hard work and hopes to continue progress.

A motion was made by Rich DeLorenzo to nominated Robert Burke for Chair 2014. Motion seconded by Brenda Huffman.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

Myles Garvey nominated Rich DeLorenzo for Vice Chair 2014. Rich Respectfully declined

Bob Calabro nominated Myles Garvey for Vice Chair 2014. Motioned seconded by Rich DeLorenzo.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

Rich DeLorenzo motioned that Jobs of Secretary and Liaisons of Sports was tabled until next month. Motion seconded by Brenda Huffman.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						

There being no further business, a motion was made by Rich DeLorenzo to close work portion and the Recreation Commission meeting at 10:40pm. Motion seconded by Wally Nowosielecki.

	RB	BC	BH	WN	MG	RDL	SB
YES		X	X	X	X	X	X
NO							
ABSTAIN	ABSENT						