

Borough of Norwood Recreation Committee December 20, 2023

The Public Meeting of the Recreation Committee of the Borough of Norwood was held in Council Chambers on the above date.

The committee members present during the meeting were:

Gene Huelster
Stephen Whaley
Rachel Schanck
Kevin Wilson
Frank Fanelli
Ken Stewart

Also present:

Anthony Plescia, Recreation Director
Rob Tracy, DPW Director
Lindsay Volpitta, Recreation Secretary

Mr. Huelster called the meeting to order and asked the Committee members to stand for the flag salute. The statement of compliance was read, and a roll call of the Committee was taken.

Ms. Schanck made a motion to approve the November 27, 2023, meeting minutes. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously agreed. Mr. Stewart abstained.

Directors Report

Mr. Plescia advised the Committee that the flag football team finished with an undefeated season. Mr. Plescia asked Mr. Tracy for a status update on the red lights at Kennedy Field that need to be changed for the helicopter. Mr. Huelster said he had met with Mr. Tracy to discuss the possibility of suspending the helicopter landing at Kennedy Field November-March so the field can be blanketed. Mr. Tracy stated he was waiting for the Chief of Police to respond to the request.

Soccer Report

Ms. Sullivan was not present to give the soccer report.

Football Report

Page Two

Norwood Recreation Committee – December 20, 2023

Ms. Volpitta read the Football report for Mr. Rossi. The football program is currently working on the 2024 budget and will submit the requests by the January 5, 2024, deadline. There will be a Raiders Board meeting in the first quarter of 2024, where Mr. Rossi will step down as NFCA President and new Board members will be voted in. The program will be contacting the schools to set up assemblies to recruit new players. The Raiders Board is discussing making changes to their registration process, including opening registration earlier and requiring a deposit.

Cheer Report

Mr. Rivera was not present to give the Cheer report.

Baseball/Softball Report

Ms. Schanck informed the Committee that she advised Mr. Rinaldi, the Baseball/Softball Board President, that the By-Laws must first be approved by the Recreation Committee, with final approval being the Mayor and Council. The Board voted on positions at the last meeting; Pete Rinaldi, President, Heather Garcia, Vice President, January Burke, Treasurer, Rachel Schanck, Secretary, Jin Bae, Trustee. Ms. Schanck spoke with Harrington Park, Old Tappan, and Northvale about the possible need to combine teams for the upcoming season. Harrington Park and Old Tappan would like to combine teams, Norwood and Northvale would rather play for their town and only combine if needed. Mr. Huelster noted that should the teams combine more thought needs to go into the process of where to place the 8th graders. If the teams combine the registration would have to be split between the towns involved. The Boards would like the registration to open in January with the registration fee of \$150.00 across all four (40 towns). Mr. Huelster reminded Ms. Schanck that no registrations should be opened and no fee amount given until the Borough has approved the By-Laws.

Basketball Report

Mr. Ramessar was not present to give the Basketball Report.

DPW Report

Mr. Tracy reiterated that he is waiting for the Chief of Police to respond the request to divert the helicopter from November-March. Mr. Huelster commanded the DPW on the great job of changing the batting cage lights to LED lights.

By-Laws

Mr. Huelster advised the Committee that a meeting was held with the CFO to discuss the procedure to bring all sports under the Borough. The obstacle would be paying the

umpires and referees. Another meeting will be scheduled with the Borough Attorney
Page Three

Norwood Recreation Committee – December 20, 2023

present to discuss options. Mr. Huelster also stated that he would like to see the individual sports present their requested Budget to the Committee, along with their current financial status. All requests for purchases related to the budget should be brought before the Committee and presented, at which point a vote will be had to approve or deny the request.

Winterfest

Mr. Huelster informed the Committee that the Winterfest subcommittee met prior to the meeting to work on planning the event. The flyer will be posted soon.

5K

Mr. Whaley asked if anyone volunteered to be a part of the 5K subcommittee. Ms. Volpitta stated there were no volunteers. The flyer will be published on the Facebook page again in the hopes to recruit volunteers.

Recreation Committee By-Laws

Mr. Huelster informed the Committee that the By-Laws were outdated and sked for a subcommittee to be formed to review the current By-Laws and rewrite them. Mr. Wilson volunteered to be a part of the subcommittee.

Public Comment

Mr. Fanelli made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mr. Whaley seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously agreed.

There was no one present who wished to speak.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mr. Fanelli seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously agreed.

Mr. Huelster thanked Mr. Stewart and Ms. Sullivan for the dedication to the Committee and said they would both be missed.

Mr. Fanelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Schanck seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously agreed.

Mr. Huelster thanked the Committee and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Volpitta
Committee Secretary