

BOROUGH OF GLEN ROCK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday April 9, 2019

8pm

Attendance: Mark Sabow, Katie Frey, Pete Isoldi, Brian Van Schoonhoven, Jim Leonard, Scott Meltzer, Jon Hendl, Eric Bober, Eric Bober, Keith Stewart, Bob Bourne, Anne Camp

Old Business: 1) Review of the bylaws: When these were written there was no FT rec director so they needed a secretary. It was suggested that there be no secretary and that the rec director or president take the minutes. The old bylaws also say that the president should only serve one term, this needs to be reviewed and worded properly because we are not kicking Mark out but we are not following our own rules. Everyone should review the bylaws again and send their suggestions to Katie for the next meeting.

2) Upper Faber: Katie met with the original project engineers and organic landscapers. At this point it is more of a budget issue because if we go organic it will cost more since we are looking at having an organic landscaper maintain it so that it is treated properly. Council will discuss it at a work session. The mayor who is environmentally aware like organic but as a recreation participant also wants to see the field green with chemical use. If we can get the field to bounce back and get green, then we can look up facts and come up with the proper maintenance plan to keep it green with the use of organics in the future. Katie does not agree that we should keep switching back and forth every year and should we use chemical we should use it for a few years while we create a plan and teach those involved how to use organics properly. The price for an organic landscaper taking care of the field is the same as if we took the time to educate our staff and bought them better equipment and that may be something we investigate. This will also help us in the long run so that when lower faber is improved we could adopt the same practices and have the entire complex on the same plan. If maintenance is an issue then we need the DPW to start attending RAB meetings and if they cant make all of them they need to at least attend the ones before the start of a sports season so that everyone is on the same page.

3) Lower Faber: The mayor informed the board that Carl was working on the survey and they had a sense of the delineations of where the wetlands end. He will give us a couple different options of all grass, a mix of grass/artificial, etc. Then he will be invited to a council work session in the next two months to give council the options and let them digest it, then have a public meeting. The goal is to have him in front of the council by May so that we could have a public meeting by the end of the summer or 1st thing in the fall. We are pushing to have the conversations before September so that if everything is approved we could start working on the renovations, so that if a referendum is needed we could do that in November, or to come up with a plan B. Jim Leonard told the group that he attended a GREC meeting that Carl spoke at and that they were very civil and asked lots of questions. Questions seemed to be about the water line, where water would go, the types of turf, and lighting. One resident was concerned that Carl

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is a turf engineer and is steering us away from grass, but he informed her that he is not and has worked with both. We have to keep putting out information to keep everyone informed and stay transparent so that they don't overturn it again. They have to be aware that this isn't a 100% turf and the same bond ordinance from the past, this is a refurbishment project.

4) Dog Park: The dog park is trying to get things moving. The risk manager said there is no issue with stray balls being hit in the park. They are going to continue to move forward as we continue to work on Lower Faber.

New Business: Jim Leonard brought up the grass infield at Memorial. One of the coach's ideas is to skin the fields and make them 2 multipurpose fields for all the age groups. Only 5 rec teams play at Memorial 2 games/week. Putting in a temporary mound would make it more useful for everyone. Keith said that this would involve ripping up a semi-new sprinkler system and grass that was put down. Maybe a turf infield would be doable. This will be discussed at their next meeting and then can come back to the RAB.

Board of Education Update: No Report

Recreational Athletic Organization Updates

Little League- opening day was Saturday and they had over 1200 people. DPW was out early to fix the fields. The GRPD did an amazing job with Wojtecki out there opening the gates early, getting everyone across Maple Ave, and staying until they all left. All the games got in. Kickball will open on the HS turf with 8 teams playing.

Lacrosse- No Report

GRSC- Started registration and its doing well. 94 pre-k 60 kindergarten and going up. It is currently regular registration, but late fees will go into effect soon. Right now, the battle will be scheduling with Hamilton in the Fall.

GRSS- They christened Panther Field which is a 4v4 field in the outfield at the HS which has been a great solution for them. A big Faber cleanup was done, with Ryan McNair helping cut up an old goal to be recycled and garbage around their trailer was thrown out. The program invested in 4 new goals for Faber and are looking for goals for Panther field. Tryouts are May 6.

Jr Football- No report, early registration will be opening up

Wrestling-Will pick up in the fall

Basketball-Is over. 14 of the 18 travel teams made playoffs, and one team was victorious. They want to get a new banner for the travel team in the middle school and they put score boards in Hamilton.

Men's Basketball-No report

Men's Softball-No rain dates so far but have time if needed. They opened the season is going well. There are 3 new teams. There is a newcomers team with a younger age group and a new GRAC team back and one more with a mix of GR residents. Hopefully the numbers will stay healthy.

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Member Reports- Anne mentioned that the GRHS athletic Hall of Fame induction will be at homecoming weekend this fall. The 1st meeting will be next week. If anyone knows people who graduated 10 years ago who should be nominated, they should send their resumes to Anne and she'll take them to the meeting. It doesn't have to be an individual athlete, teams can be nominated as well.

Recreation Director Report: The Community Clean Up is coming up and they are looking for volunteers. Each group was given a copy of their advertisement flyer. Carl has also looked at the tennis courts and sent a proposal so that we can start surveying and getting this project done even if it is done in phases.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Frey

Director of Parks & Recreation, Borough of Glen Rock