

Independence Township Recreation Committee

Board Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2016

Board Members:

Present: Dave Sawicki, Dan Stroessenruther, Jim O'Donnell, Cathy Rafalko, Agatha Wilke, Matt DeGregoris, Tony Wood, Rob Patton, Carmen Feula, and Rec. Leader John Cummins.

Absent: Tracy Klimas

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Motion made to approve March 3, 2016 minutes. Approved unanimously.
- Justin Choka, disc golf representative, asked for permission to hold a disc golf tournament on July 2-3, 2016. Approximately 90 participants each day. Blackstones restaurant may provide food for event.
- Justin also mentioned that disc golf club wants to hold a clinic for kids.
- John Cummins explained that a food vendor is interested in having a food trailer at FOD. Twp. Committee to decide on this.

Recreation Directors Report:

- Warren County softball issue is still moving forward.
- Mulch has been applied at FOD.
- Part time employee has begun working.
- John talked to Alan about having pitchers mound built up.
- All fields rented out to date have generated \$4600.00 in rental fees.
- Softball uniforms are in. The cost was approximately \$22/uniform via co-op.

- Banners to go up on ball field fences for local sponsors.
- Township to order a 60" cut lawnmower to cut grass inside ball field fence areas.
- Fertilizer has been applied to some ball fields.
- Some old netting from batting cages has been used to patch holes in current batting cage netting.

Booster Club Report:

- Approved purchase of windscreen and backstop padding for some fields at a cost of approximately \$900.00.
- Approved to donate funds to assist in movie night in the park.
- Asked to have Township Committee pass a resolution to hold a 50/50 raffle.
- Dave mentioned having Booster Club come under the realm of ITRC. Benefits would include more involvement with more members. Have to look into legality of doing this. Approval of any and all spending would have to be approved by the ITRC.
- ITRC made motion to approve funding from Booster Club for improvements to ball fields. Approved unanimously.
- John reaching out to local vendors to run concession stands. We are still having trouble finding people to volunteer. If none are interested, Jim and Rob agreed to organize a group to work concession stand during 7v7 tournament and disc golf tournament.

Little League Report:

- 159 baseball players registered for league. 3 times more than last year.
- Used gear donated by ITRC including tballs, catching gear, helmets, etc.
- Opening day is April 23, 2016.

Soccer Club Report:

- Approached by Liberty Twp. to combine leagues.
- Matt raised question that if this happens how will it effect residency #'s and field fees.

Old Business:

- Our requested budget was approved by the Twp. Committee and we got the increase.
- Motion was made to approve softball league photographer. After a brief discussion, Sohl photographers was chosen by a majority vote. Dan Stroessenruther abstained.

New Business:

- ITRC looking for ideas to make basketball league better next year.
- Tony brought to light that both boys and girls basketball teams struggled during the season. He attributed the lack of practice time for our teams was large cause. One of our teams got only one practice time for whole season. Practice time at Liberty School would be beneficial.
- Tony asked if coaches and ref's should meet before the season. Referee's should also be more proactive to keep games under control.
- Should there be a score limit to avoid blow-outs?
- Motion made by ITRC to approve Movie Night in the Park for a mid-September showing. Costs to be approximately \$1000.00. Approved unanimously.
- Dave stepping down as Softball Commissioner. Rob Patton to take over position.
- Cathy and Jim had previously requested to use Senior Center for possible teen night. Due to the historic nature of building, request was denied. Instead, they would like to hold a teen night at FOD during July.

- Discussion came up about other possible Community projects. Some of which included mud volleyball, letter to Santa, karaoke night, parents night out, 5K run, pumpkin carving, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Secretary, James O'Donnell