

Approved September 16, 2024

**TENAFLY RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES MAY 13, 2024
Called to Order 7:33 pm**

I. ROLL CALL: Mike Greeley, Nahuel Quiroga, Chad Coleman, Gia Alvarez, Melissa Garden, David Reichel, Jamie Cannon, Carol Roux, Jamie Corsair-Council Liaison

ABSENT: Glen Anderson-resigned his position on the board, Amy Lerner-Alpine Liaison

II. MINUTES: March 11, 2024-Mr. Quiroga motions to accept the minutes Mr. Coleman seconds the motion, all in favor, the motion is carried.

III. CORRESPONDENCE: Ms. Cannon states she has forwarded Glen Anderson's resignation letter to Mayor Zinna and the Borough Clerk confirming he runs Ultimate Frisbee and has established a non-profit therefore there is a conflict. Ms. Cannon reports the co-sponsored sports will attend the September meeting.

IV. AUDIENCE: Principal Morrison from the Tenaflly High School attended the meeting speaking about the referendum. Mr. Morrison the need for turf on the athletic fields is born from problems on baseball field, the field is not level and the Board of Education has tried to level it out to no avail. The referendum includes installing turf on the complex where the varsity baseball field and tennis courts are, this would include moving the softball field where the tennis courts are and moving the tennis courts to the Middle School. The turf will also be lined for soccer and lacrosse. There will be a 4 lane walking track on the outside of the fence around the fields. Lights will be installed. Mr. Morrison states Recreation will get time on field. Mr. Morrison states $\frac{3}{4}$ of the high school soccer games were played on the Municipal Field due to rain. Mr. Morrison stated the area behind the high school where the baseball field and tennis courts are do not flood so the turf will be beneficial. Mr. Morrison states the new facility will give Recreation 8-10 hours per week on the field which will free up time on the Municipal Field which is overbooked. Mr. Quiroga asks if the Tennis Courts will be moved to the area behind the middle school which currently houses trailers. Mr. Greeley asks if any work will be done to the high school. Mr. Morrison states there will be a new field house, the current one is beyond repair. He states the new field house will include multiply boys and girl locker rooms and coaches rooms. The old field house will be gutted and used for vehicles and will include larger rest rooms for the public. Mr. Reichel request Mr. Morrison add netting around Geissinger Field to the referendum this will add more time on the field making it safer for Lacrosse to be on the field while the track is being used.

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Mr. Morrison states they will renovate the locker rooms, bathrooms making them ADA compliant, replace the gym floor and the divider in the gym, the auditorium sound system and lighting system also the back rows need to be updated there will also be security updates with a person trap, they will replace all windows on first floor with shatterproof glass, partial roof replaced and replace the air conditioning system. Mr. Morrison states they are waiting to hear from the state on what percentage they will pay the state should pay 20-25 million of the 78 million.

Mr. Greeley asks if the Board of Education has you looked at the worst case scenario if the money needs to be paid solely by residents.

Mr. Morrison states they don't have exact numbers however it may cost tax payers \$600-\$800 more a year in taxes.

Mr. Greeley asks if we will we still be able to have camp at school. Mr. Morrison states yes.

Mrs. Alvarez inquires about the timeline.

Mr. Morrison states once they hear from the state, they will educate the community and hopefully it can be put to a vote on September 17th.

Mr. Reichel asks if the referendum is passed what will the timeline be.

Mr. Morrison states they do not want to disrupt learning.

Mr. Quiroga asks how many years will it take to complete

Mr. Morrison they have to finish plans before breaking ground. The middle school will expand the cafeteria out onto the patio

Mr. Greeley asks if there is any other ground work being done. Mr. Morrison states the turf will be replaced at Maugham. Mr. Greeley states he hope when the turf needs to be replaced at Mackay the Board of Education will pay for that also.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- 1. Spring Program Registration/New programs-** Ms. Cannon reports our Spring program registrations included 250 registrations. We have 30 tennis and pickle ball memberships. We have 290 participants in our Spring sports which include boys and girls Lacrosse and girl softball. Ms. Cannon states we are growing programs but there is not enough field space
Ms. Cannon states the Recreation sports get 2-4 hours a week on Geissinger Field. Ms. Cannon states according to the agreement with the Board of Education when the town paid for 50% of the turf on Geissinger Field Recreation was supposed to get 30 hours a week on the field.
Mrs. Garden asks who we need to speak to regarding the net on Geissinger Field for Lacrosse.
Mr. Greeley states that Mr. Morrison will speak on our behalf.
A discussion ensued
- 2. Summer Programs-**Ms. Cannon reports we have begun registrations and it is still ongoing we currently have 150 registrations for our Summer Programs.
- 3. Summer Camp-** Ms. Cannon reports we currently have 200 campers in the Tiger Camp (K-5th), there are 20 campers in the Pre-school Camp and there are 55 campers in the Teen Camp. We have 750 registrations for field trips all

are filled to capacity for all camps. Staff to camper ratio is maxed to the state limit. We hired 2 more staff for teen camp for a total of 4.

Ms. Cannon states we started a CIT program which gives kids a chance to engage and see if they want to be a counselor. We charge \$50 for a week they will receive a t-shirt a C.I.T. kit and gain knowledge of camp. We currently have 7 signed up for the program.

- 4. Capital Budget-** Ms. Cannon reports only one item was approved for our Capital Budget, that item was \$2,500 for football helmets. The truck, golf cart, and Splash Park were denied. Ms. Cannon reports the turf replacement was taken out of the 5 year plan and when needed the turf replacement will go under open space when needed.

Mr. Quirga asks why we are buying helmets for football when Lacrosse buys their own. Ms. Cannon states they need to be safer since they lead with their head in football and helmets have a lifespan of 10 years, we purchase the best and safest helmets having them reconditioned yearly. We need to monitor the safety of the helmets.

Mrs. Alvarez asks what happens with items that were denied. Ms. Cannon states she can ask again next year.

Mrs. Garden asks how money is allocated

Ms. Cannon explains trust accounts vs taxpayer money.

Ms. Corsair asks if we can borrow a truck from DPW.

Ms. Cannon explains they don't have that kind of truck but they may loan us a golf cart type vehicle for camp.

A discussion ensued.

Ms. Cannon states we currently have a lot of projects.

Ms. Cannon states the time line from Collier engineering on the Multi-purpose area is tentatively for September.

Ms. Cannon states the amount of \$306, 500 dollars is for the Multi-purpose area and the skate park.

Ms. Cannon states the Municipal beautification received a \$70,000 grant which the borough matched with \$100,000 this includes dugouts, fix the road which runs alongside the field and clean the area of weeds etc.

Mr. Quiroga asks that Field Turf fix a larger area not just the immediate spot on the field.

Ms. Cannon states the field is no longer under warranty and it will cost \$7,000 to fix the spots on each side of the field.

A discussion ensued

- 5. Capital Projects/Grants-**Ms. Cannon reports the grants which are in process are for the Multi-use cage \$155,000, the Tiger Cage Turf \$85,000 and the Skate Park in addition to money which was designated for the projects.
- 6. Teen Center-**Ms. Cannon reports there is a resolution for couches (should take 3 months), we will also be getting it painted and decorated Jamie Corsair has spoken to the Art Studio downtown regarding painting a mural in the foyer.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Recreation Department Vacancies:** Ms. Cannon reports we are not getting resumes and the salary has not been raised.

Ms. Corsair asks if we can share services with another town.

Mrs. Garden asks if we have called landscaping companies suggest we hire someone to call and secure landscaping companies to do the work.

Ms. Cannon explains the position is grooming the fields, outdoor work along with office work on off season and working special events.

A discussion ensued

- 2.** Mrs. Alvarez states that basketball and baseball are co-sponsored and Lacrosse is not. She asks if it would be beneficial for lacrosse to become co-sponsored so they can hire coaches.

Ms. Cannon explains co-sponsorship, explaining you would need a board, to do all the work, scheduling, order equipment etc.

Mr. Quiroga states you need volunteers to be co-sponsored.

Mr. Reichel states being part of Recreation does not prevent us from hiring coaches, however to do this every team would need to have a coach and during the season it is too hard to find available coaches. Mr. Reichel does not believe being co-sponsored would change anything.

A discussion ensued

- 3.** Mr. Quiroga asks if disc golf was cut from the budget. Ms. Cannon states we can see if we have any funds at the end of the year.

Mr. Greeley asks Ms. Cannon to speak to the Borough Administrator regarding using the space.

VII. NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business discussed.

VIII. SPECIAL EVENTS: FYI

- 1. Recreation Committee Meeting (if needed):** Monday, June 12th @ 7:30 p.m.-Wilson Room
- 2. First Day of Recky's Tiger, Pre-School & Teen Camps:** Monday, June 24th through Friday, August 2nd
- 3. July 4th Celebration:** Saturday, June 29th (RD: 6/30) 10am-2:30pm Roosevelt Common
- 4. July 4th Fireworks:** Saturday, July 6th (RD: 7/7) 7:30 p.m. start 9pm display Roosevelt Common
- 5. June 11th -Stepping into Middle School Event**
- 6. Community Night:** Tuesday, September 10th (RD: 9/11) 5pm-8pm
- 7. June 8th-Fire Department Muster Antique Apparatus 12-4**

Mr. Greeley states Lacrosse Day was an unprecedented event there was no rain, the turnout was great and the high school varsity team won.

Mr. Greeley states he attended Spring Fling and it was a wonderful event.

Mr. Greeley wanted to thank Glen Anderson for serving on the board.

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IX. ADJOURNMENT: 8:57 pm

Mr. Quiroga motions to adjourn Mr. Coleman seconds the motion, all in favor motion is carried.