



Brecksville Recreation Commission December 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The Recreation Commission Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Redinger at 7:30pm. Please note this meeting was held in person for members of the Commission, and the Recreation Department, and was live streamed for on Facebook live for the public to hear.

Roll Call

Members present: Boulware, Firestone, Hanna, Kern, Moleski and Redinger

Absent: Lazaridis

Also present: Rachele Engle, Jim Kolesar, Jamie Mewhinney, Luis Pena Ochoa, Meg English, and Carolyn Jatsek

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Redinger, seconded by Firestone to dispense with the reading of the October 25, 2021 minutes and to approve them as written.

Council Representative Report:

Councilwoman Redinger welcomed Rachele to her first Recreation Commission Meeting. There is a lot going on at the Community Center and Recreation in general right now. We are looking forward to the field house opening, and year two of the outdoor pool. We are looking forward for her to put her own touch on Commission in the coming year. City Council had their annual finance department budget meeting in November and the budget will be presented at Council for approval on December 8th. There is approximately \$120, 000 in capital for the projects pertaining to the Recreation Department including concrete work outside the Community Rooms, women's locker room updates, Field E & F Light re-bulbing, design project for improvements for Kids Quarters, game room equipment update, housekeeping equipment for the field house and replacement pumps for the competitive pool. Council is taking a conservative approach to the budget to see how the years starts out, and can always look at other items that come up as the year goes on. We will be welcoming three new Council members in January, AJ Ganim, Beth Savage, and Brian Stuckey, along with Daryl Kingston returning for another term. Councilwomen Redinger also took a moment to thank Council President Harwood, who is the hardest working member of Council she has worked with during her terms on Council, along with Lou Carouse and his history from all his time on Council, and Kim Veras for quietly doing a great job on Council.

Director Report:

Rachele began by thanking everyone for welcoming her to Commission. She shared a few Community Center updates. We are looking to update some of the mats throughout the Community Center including 2 new Logo mats for the Front Entrance and Concession Lobby. The work on the women's locker room should begin in January or February, we recently approved the layout and fabrication proofs. There will be fresh coat of paint on the upper walls of the track and we are looking into having the lines on the tracks repainted. Registration recently opened for Winter Learn-to-Swim, Taekwondo and Run 4 Your Life. We going to have a Break-a-thon over Christmas Break this year. Some highlights include a Christmas Luau, Kids Craft, Cookie Decorating, Breakfast with Santa, Sip & Chat and a Noon Year's Eve Celebration. In addition the annual Gingerbread House contest will be returning. All these items are open for registration to Brecksville Residents and their guests.

Athletic Report:

Youth Basketball has begun. Current enrollments are:

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
1 st & 2 nd Grade	96	29
3 rd & 4 th Grade	17	17
5 th & 6 th Grade	11	13
7 th & 8 th Grade	18	<u>11</u>
Total Teams	15	9

The league play for grades 1-6 began this Saturday, and both courts were running all day long. About 8 or 9 new scorekeepers got trained for the season as well. All 1st & 2nd grade teams will be practicing at the Community Center and grades 3-9 practice at Blossom Hill. Blossom is booked solid M-F afterschool until 9:30-10pm daily.

The Athletic Department met last week with all the leaders from the CVYO spring sports, BSA, CSVA and Lacrosse, to schedule the turf unit for the spring. If there is any additional time as the spring begins, some baseball and softball teams may also use the turf.

Currently Men's Basketball registration numbers are at 35+, 7 teams; 50+, 4 teams; and 60+, 6 teams. We are hoping to pick up a few more 50+ teams. Games will be on Sundays evening at Blossom and the Community Center. Adult Coed Volleyball ended up having about 36-39 games each team with weekly double headers. The season will conclude this Sunday with a single elimination tournament.

The fall fields A,B, and C got new Concrete Pads for the bleachers, and restoration has been completed. On January 2nd registration will begin for PeeWee Basketball, Little Dribblers, and the Youth Volleyball Clinic. Additionally we are looking into a youth spring volleyball league similar to the one we participated in this fall. The 5/6th grade team won their tournament this fall.

Aquatic Report:

The High School Swim team season is in full swing. They began practicing daily 3:15-5:15 in November and will continue until February with the exception of winter break when they will practice 10am-noon. They have had one home meet, and then there are 3 more scheduled, including tomorrow night. Winter programs will begin in the middle of January and will run on Saturday mornings. Registration is currently open. Break-a-thon Events are currently open for registration, and there will also be some daily specials in the Concession and Activity Pool.

Staffing is slowly and steadily increasing, and currently there are about 43-45 lifeguards. There have been 2 classes in the past month, and more scheduled throughout December. There are a lot less staff members involved in winter sports, which helps staffing numbers as well until spring sports begin. We are still looking for additional guards for daytime hours. We are currently on track for a better summer staff wise as long as the majority of the staff from last summer come back.

As the weather has turned colder, we have seen an increase in the usage of the Activity pool most evenings and weekends.

CVYO Report:

As the Athletic's report mentioned CVYO spring teams and the City met last week to allocate fields usage for spring sports. BSA, CVSA, and Lacrosse are the main users for spring, but Baseball and Softball will supplement before the fields open. The Chippewa Fields are widely used for soccer and lacrosse. A conversation will need to be had on how those fields will be replaced when we lose that facility. Will something need to be done with Stadium to get extra practice fields? This would be looking forward to possibly fall of 2022 or spring of 2023. Most of fall has wrapped up, and Basketball is up and going. Dan Kalinsky was able to secure a bunch of practice times in the schools, and they are supplementing by renting Blossom and Saint Michaels Woodside. It is a much better facility than last season. Some baseball and soccer teams are looking for some indoor training facilities. It was brought up that people were not aware that there were girl's travel basketball tryouts. A conversation was had about how each organization on CVYO has different websites, and social media presence. It was suggested that there be some consistency from all teams as far as how they advertise and get information out. A question was raised by Moleski about if the non-traditional court sports like baseball and soccer will have access to the new field house for off season training. It was confirmed that there will be an order of priority, but they will have access and line and netting will be in place for multiple sports and batting cages.

Old Business:

Councilwomen Redinger informed the Commission that unfortunately the City did not receive the Nature Works Grant that was applied for to help with some of the improvements needed down at the Stadium Drive Fields and Facility. The Stadium Drive

update is another project that Rachele will be tasked with looking at, and coming up with a master plan and priority for the facility. Meg reminded Commission that the football would like to actively participate in planning as well with some financial donations.

New Business:

2022 Recreation Department rate recommendations were presented by the Recreation Department to Commission. Discussion was had by the Commission regarding the new rates added and recommended increases.

A motion was made by Moleski and seconded by Firestone to recommend the rates to Council for approval as presented.

Commission will discuss the 2 make-up meeting dates after the meeting and post them online once finalized

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Redinger and seconded by Moleski to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm.

The next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled will be announced once finalized following this meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday January 24th at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted:
Carolyn Jatsek