

Minutes of the Tri Annual Meeting held on Monday, August 6, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the New Lenox Community Park District, New Lenox, IL.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

Call to order Commissioner Dale Larson called the August 6, 2018 meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm.

Roll Call In Attendance Commissioner Kraemer, Commissioner Larson, Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek, NLSA 122 Representative Jason Sterritt, Brian Watta NLBA, Lynn Plarski NL Mustangs, Kristin Hynek NLYFA, Mike Plesek NLSA, Mike Kelley NLGSA, Office Coordinator Jenni Piotrowski, Office Coordinator Becky Heckler, and Recording Secretary Lisa Trout.

Associations Reports Brian Watta NL Rebels Baseball

Vandalism is still continuing: a burnt-down porta-potty, dumping trash, turning over all the bleachers as well as game boxes. They are looking into installing security cameras throughout the complex, but they are limited to where they can hook up electricity.

Mr. Watta reported they are working on the fields and thinking about converting from the ball mix to Mustang Red to eliminate some rainouts and are currently obtaining quotes. Some of the dugouts are in bad shape. Some of the fields have brick dugouts like #4; they'd like to continue that theme. Mr. Watta said they want to put more netting in the Quad for safety to eliminate any injuries. Mr. Watta said they were thinking about new bathrooms. He has to talk to Tim to see the cost of cutting into the sewer lines. Another project was trimming the trees. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said the trees by field #15 are being transplanted to Prairie Ridge. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said they were in the process of taking 3 – 5 trees out to Prairie Ridge from the first base side of field #15.

Mr. Watta said approximate number for Spring season had 216 players signed up for travel ball and 894 for their in-house league with a total of 1,110. Mr. Watta said they are at 218 for travel ball, bringing their numbers up to 1,328 for the year. Mr. Watta said they were on track with last year. (Compared to last year they were at 1,375, which is a difference of 47. Last year the Spring total was 1,123 and fall ball was 252.)Mr. Watta reported fall ball registration is on-going. Mr. Watta reported the draft is next week. Mr. Watta said the season goes from September 4 through October 31.

Mike Kelley NLGSA Girls Softball Association

Mr. Kelley said the NLGSA also had trouble with vandalism including damage to the concession stand, tipping over porta-potties, and vandalism. They would like to mount cameras on their concession stand but are having trouble with the height. They have completed the Palmer Valley fence repair \$3,950. They have another contractor coming to look at fence at the Walona fields which will be done this fall, also. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked concerning the fencing at Palmer Valley, if it matched the existing fencing, was it galvanized material or the black vinyl. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked if the project was finished. Mr. Kelley said yes.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked Mr. Kelley what his numbers were for Summer and Fall. Mr. Kelley said he would get numbers to the board later. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek returned to Brian Watta for numbers. Mr. Watta specified Spring season had 216 players signed up for travel ball and 894 for their in-house league with a total of 1,110. Mr. Watta said they are at 218 for travel ball, bringing their numbers up to 1,328 for the year. Mr. Watta said they were on track with last year. (Compared to last year they were at 1,375, which is a difference of 47. Last year the Spring total was 1,123 and fall ball was 252.)Mr. Watta reported fall ball registration is on-going. Mr. Watta reported the draft is next week. Mr. Watta said the season goes from September 4 through October 31.

Lynn Plarski NL Mustangs

Ms. Plarski indicated the turf project is currently being worked on. Ms. Plarski said the turf has been rolled over. Ms. Plarski said everything up to the turf was done and should be secure. Ms. Plarski reported they will be filling it tomorrow night (Wednesday, August 9). Ms. Plarski said the project should be done by Wednesday except for any backfill near the boards they outlined. Ms. Plarski said there is very little fill there. She also stated they will be raking the rubber into the turf.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek met with NLS 122 Representative Jason Sterritt, they discussed how important it was to protect the track. Ms. Plarski discussed methods of protecting the track as had been expressed at the last meeting. She explained they are parking the truck on the side of the field and then dumping the fill manually over the track and onto the field. Ms. Plarski said they are putting down more for the rubber than was specified by Park District.

Ms. Plarski reported they would like to extend the building in the back parking lot. Ms. Plarski stated a new project proposal includes a pavilion and a building/storage with washroom combination. Ms. Plarski indicated the location is still under consideration. She also stated this project is still in its infancy stage with more planning to do and said they are still figuring out if they should have indoor bathroom or not, even if we did get the bathrooms, then there was the question of who would be responsible for cleaning them. She continued to say the bathrooms were still up for conversation. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek agreed it was a big project that would have to go through the school district. Ms. Plarski said there would be less resistance putting a bathroom by the field instead of by the home owners. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek mentioned that one of the problems was flooding from the creek. Ms. Plarski said they were talking about building up the area to eliminate flooding.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek asked to go back to Mr. Watta and ask if the Rebels were still interested in flush toilets. Mr. Watta responded they were hoping to get flush toilets and they needed to start talking to the Village about tap in fees. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek mentioned that NLGSA actually pulled water and sanitary from the homes west of them by Field #4. Ms. Plarski noted the current numbers are a little under 300 for total boys and girls for cheerleading and football. This is down about 10 from last year, but registration is ongoing. Ms. Plarski reported staying connected to USA Football and their 4-tiered system they piloted last year with great success. The progression is Flag, Rookie (which are games played 6 on 6, 7 on 7, or 8 on 8), Modified, and Tackle. Ms. Plarski said they have been modified since they had Widgets, modifying the rules. Ms. Plarski stated they are piloting the program starting with the Mighty Mights (6 and 7 year-olds). Ms. Plarski explained they will play 8 v 8 with less linemen, it eliminates the pileup, shortens the width of the field so that the game is a 40-yard game playing hash to hash, plus the field is much narrower and shorter.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek mentioned a program where they said kids should play flag until 14 and then move on to tackle. Ms. Plarski said that although football is under scrutiny, FOX News broadcasted football was not the leading sports for concussions, they are staying on top of injuries, and the many benefits of football including team sports and the diversity of players. Education and implementation are key.

Kristin Hynek NLYFA

Ms. Hynek reported no new projects. Ms. Hynek shared they purchased tackling rings to limit the full contact. Ms. Hynek estimated their numbers at 400; 250 football, 150 Cheerleading. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said he would be meeting with Jim about layouts for the 4-H fields and to move boxes to the East side.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek confirmed LaCrosse teams use the field in Spring. Ms. Hynek said NLFYA has been responsible for mowing the turf. Ms. Hynek shared LaCrosse uses the fields in Spring. Ms. Hynek reported trying to get LaCrosse to pay a portion of mowing costs when LaCrosse uses it. Ms. Hynek reported LaCrosse said this year it is not going to happen maybe next year. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said Youth Football pays for the mowing which starts in April and ends in October. The 4-H field is @15.5 acres to be mowed.

Mike Plesek NLSA

Mr. Plesek reported sprinklers were installed the front 2 fields (#4 and #5) of Spencer. Mr. Plesek said there was a wiring issue causing the Nelson sprinkler system to turn on by itself which Carefree fixed and that it was a surprise to him and his association. Mr. Plesek said he was told the problem was due to a short. Mr. Plesek stated the NLSA's his recreation numbers are at 385, and his travel side drawing in 175-180. He is not firm on those numbers because the travel side has some players signing up for a whole year at a time while some players only sign up one season at a time. Mr. Plesek is still taking players on the competitive side but has cut off any registration on the recreation side due to practice has already begun. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked if they wanted to use the Cherry Hill fields. Mr. Plesek stated he spoke with Rich Weber to use the micro fields. Mr. Plesek asked if the Park District could make the dimensions of the field the same as the micro field at Nelson Mr. Plesek asked Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek if unchaining and hanging the nets were something we could get done this week. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek replied in the affirmative. The games will be starting the weekend after Labor Day. Mr. Plesek said they are not using Stonebridge in the Fall.

Park District

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said they are still looking at accessible paths. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said they are looking at the practice field at Martino and how to put in a ramp. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said soccer is in good shape because of all the work we did at Spencer Campus. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said Nelson field #1 they may have to add a pathway which is very minor.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek informed the association that Jenni Piotrowski will be collecting documents and sending out emails once a month concerning what we need. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked the associations to keep handing in needs. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek would like to have all information in by the time the season starts. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked the associations to make sure they have all paperwork in, especially the Income Tax statements.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek handed out the field allocations sheet, he also reported some associations request to practice at other associations' fields and times. If no team is practicing there or scheduled to practice there it not a problem. These problems are solved quickly by a phone call from one president to another. Mr. Kelley mentioned the NLGSA would also like to use the VFW field for the Fall season, mostly Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Mr. Kelley asked if the fields could be prepared like the ones in Walona. Mr. Kelley said the field is mostly for practice. Mr. Kelley said their season is scheduled to end November 1. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek asked if there were any other questions or concerns. Mr. Plesek said they are not using Stonebridge unless there are black out days, and they can just use the grass. Ms. Plarski said they are looking good for practice fields and black out days. She said it was just easier to modify their schedule for those days switching to Monday, Tuesday, and

Thursday. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said as soon as we get finished with Proud American Days, we will get the fields and infields striped and lined. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said Mr. Watta does a lot of work on the fields with dragging. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said NLGSA softball helps out dragging the fields, too.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek opened the discussion about garbage pick-up. The staff at Walona was able to access the dumpsters which is a big help. He believes the number of times the dumpsters are being serviced is working out and we don't have to increase the service and during the Fall months garbage service will also be less.

Mr. Kelley reported his numbers at approximately 550 for Summer and 200 for Fall.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said payment was improving overall within 60 days, but would prefer the associations pay within 30 days.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek asked for pros and cons of using Drop Zone portable services. The associations reported overall service was better than last year.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek noted project forms from the Association need more information; the more information the better because it keeps our staff informed as to what to expect. All projects (big or small) on Park District land must go through the Board. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek encouraged all associations to keep the reports coming. He also told the associations that we need more information about their schedules. The Park District will line the fields it knows are scheduled to be played on, but don't know to line fields that area not scheduled for use. Assistant Director NLCPD Ken Stephens. Parks-Maintenance Assistant Director Ken Stephens mentioned he was not getting schedules from NLGSA. Mr. Kelley informed the group that NLGSA President Ed Young will be stepping down with Mr. Kelley taking his place. Mr. Kelley said he would be more attentive.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek moved on to Special Events. The associations were doing a good job cleaning up but there were a few times Drop Zone phoned the Park District for information.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said the associations do a great job picking garbage up Friday and Saturday, but Sunday is a lax so come Monday morning it can be a problem. NLSD 122 Representative Jason Sterritt said the Memorial Day tournament is a problem because the students are going out to the park for recess and finding smashed beer bottles as well as full wine bottles on the playgrounds. NLSD 122 Representative Jason Sterritt said the associations need to be more diligent in picking up after their events, especially if the students are in school on the next day.

Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said we will be doing the weed and feed, and crab grass prevention at Tyler-Bentley. They will feed the fields in Fall. With the Spring rain, the turf looks good. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said this is the first year Mustang Football doesn't need to seed turf. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicsek said the mowing will be done by a combination of Park District Staff and Carefree.

NLSD 122 Representative Jason Sterritt said the school district will be sharing their schedules with projects that may affect games or the flow of traffic. NLSD 122 Representative Jason Sterritt said over the summer, Liberty's floor has been redone, the HVAC at Haines. NLSD 122 Representative Jason Sterritt said he will hand in a schedule for upcoming events. Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek said he will pass along schedules to associations affected.

Adjournment

Commissioner Larson thanked all for attending the meeting. Commissioner Larson reminded all associations that representation was mandatory. He thanked NLSD 122 Representative Jason Sterritt for attending. Commissioner Larson adjourned the Tri-Annual Meeting of August 6, 2018 at approximately 7:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Trout
Recording Secretary