

Minutes of the Tri Annual Meeting held on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the New Lenox Community Park District, New Lenox, IL.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

Call to order President Schulz called the Monday, March 6, 2023, meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm.

Roll Call In Attendance: President Schulz, Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek, Park Maintenance Assistant Director Ken Stephens, Jason Sterritt NLSO 122, Matt Gilbert NLYFA, Sean Plarski NLMFA, Jim O'Dette NLRBA and Deputy Director of Executive Services Jacque Tuma.

Associations Reports NLBA

Jim O'Dette reported that the season projects include the dug outs at the fields including brand new dug out tops on Fields 5 through 15. Was able to get a great deal on the material from Apex. Purchased a new John Deere drag for the fields. Other projects included the lights, bathrooms as well as the paths between Fields 1 through 4, which Jim also thanked the park district for doing them.

B9 and B14, which are the bigger fields, spent some money and had the grass cut out so that we can avoid rain outs. Jim O'Dette noted that the enrollment is up to 1160 participants which is more than we have been in 5 years including 6 part-time teams and 18 travel teams.

Director of Park-Maintenance Travnicek asked in the last seven years whether the registration fees have gone up or will they go up. Jim O'Dette stated that he checked with past board members and noted that they have not increased their fees as well as their Out of District fees have stayed the same, so they do not intend to raise fees because they are able to run their programs along with doing their projects with the monies they are collecting.

Jim O'Dette reported that Opening Day for NLBA is April 22nd. The school district will pull the tractor out of the shed on April 1st.

Sean Plarski - Mustangs

Sean Plarski noted that they do not have any projects for the upcoming season but will try and speak with Director Of Park-Maintenance Travnicek regarding the turf. The numbers are up with both cheer and football over 200 with registration still open except for the PeeWee level. The cheer teams have increased about 25 girls since we went to the competitive levels. The in-person registration is taking place on March 18, 2023 where they will get fitted for their equipment including the varsity level getting new helmets this year.

Director of Park-Maintenance Travnicek asked the same question regarding the registration fees. Sean Plarski noted that in 2016 the fees were \$125 for cheer and \$160 for football which did not include the jersey. Now we are \$245 with the jersey due to equipment costs rising and with cheer we are now at \$145 with competitive cheer being \$400 which includes uniforms as well as competition costs for 3 competitions. Competitive cheer did expand out to the 3rd grade level. Camps will take place in May, June and maybe July. All head coaches, ADs and board members will be CPR/AED trained. We will be receiving a donated AED from Illinois Heart Rescue which will give us two. We are opening this training up to all our assistants. We are ordering equipment as well as new reversible jerseys. Director of Park-Maintenance Travnicek stated that he remembered them stating that helmets are purchased every 6 years and all helmets are recertified every 2 years and all helmets are ranked in the top 10 for youth helmets.

Matt Gilbert-NLYFA

Matt Gilbert reported that the upcoming projects include training for coaches on locations of all AEDs at the facilities that they may be practicing and/or playing at. All head coaches will be CPR/AED trained as well as opening to all assistants and will be partnering with Joint Pro. The light towers that are put out in September through November will no longer be available through SunBelt Rentals and a decision will need to be made. The fields at Francis Field are shared with the Lacrosse clubs and they are having the same issues so we are in discussion with them about

purchasing 6 to 8 light towers or we may have to continue to rent. Sean Plarski NLMFA has offered to help them out because he works for the CAT dealer and will see what he can do. These units can cost up to \$4200 a unit, which are LED, but do provide a lot more light.

Matt Gilbert reported that their numbers are very good with waitlists for both Knights and Warriors on lightweight, JV, superlight numbers are up at 53 with varsity at 62 and cheer is at 216. Director of Park-Maintenance Travnicek asked if they were hitting normal numbers and Matt responded that it may end up being a little more. They did think that they were going to have to develop more teams last year, but they did not have to do that and with the development of competitive cheer did help with growth. In terms of the registration fee, from 2016 until now has gone up \$50.00. They reported that they will be ordering about 50 more helmets, but their representative did not come to the in-person registration, so they did not order without knowing the exact sizes. Their conference is growing with the addition of 2 new teams.

NLGSA

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek reported that he and Marty Kelly did speak, and he reported that their numbers are strong again with 450 to 500+ players which is about the average over the last five to six years with practice starting April 1st and Opening Day being April 29th. They have no big projects this year and are looking to renovate the infield at Palmer Valley this fall. Just last year they raised their registration fees roughly \$25 to \$30 per player and since 2016, they have raised it just slightly each year but has held consistent.

Park District

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek reported that the ADA Accessibility site and viewing areas over the course of the next two years we are looking to install hard surfaces at the screening paths at the Nelson Campus.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek noted that last year was one of the best years as far as the requirement of documents for all Associations being turned in with a few stragglers coming in. You can turn in any documents that you have now and as the season progresses continue to get those documents turned in to us. If you have any questions regarding the documents, please reach out to either Director of Park-Maintenance Travnicek or Deputy Director of Administrative Services Jacque Tuma.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek stated that the more we share and talk with each other the better we all are, so please keep that up. A draft copy of the field allocations was handed out to all members and asked Mustangs to please get their camp dates to us as soon as they can. Field maintenance will start up in April including all normal tasks, garbage and debris, etc. will make sure that the special events of baseball and soccer have the proper number of dumpsters on site for those.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek discussed the In District vs. Out of District Fees as far as trying to recoup some of the costs with Portable Services increasing 46% and a 34% increase in mowing. There is conversation that the Out of District Fee that started in 2016 and hasn't gone up since then would increase by \$25.00. Jim O'Dette NLRBA asked when that would go into effect and Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek stated that it would go into effect within the next couple of months. Jim O'Dette NLRBA stated that if they had known about this, they would have accounted for this and if this does go into effect sooner than later, they will be down \$5.00 per Out of District player.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek noted that a letter is needed from the Rebels organization stating light usage-special tournament for our Park Board. No issues have been raised from the school district that this will change.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek reported that the payment of invoices have been paid within the 30 days of receiving their statement. There are three associations that pay right away, and a couple of the others take a little longer.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek stated that for the Portable services Service Sanitation was the lowest/qualified bidder keeping their costs the same as last year from the bid opening. We had questioned them about their services from last year, but they assured us that they have more staff for 2023 and will be using union drivers and stated that it should not be an issue this year. If there are any issues, please contact either George or Ken.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek noted that as far as the projects are concerned, please fill out your forms with the more information the better. Some of the projects can be approved at staff level but others do have to go to the board level.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek reported that the safety barrier at Martino and Spencer Campuses near the shelters. There is nothing at the Spencer campus and as of right now there is a straight shot to the field/shelter without a barrier. At Martino, there is a plastic jersey barrier that you fill with water. It does the job but is an eye sore. We are working with the school district on what we can do for the safety aspect of these areas.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek told all Associations to get their schedules in to Jacque and Ken of their practices and games.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek noted that all Special Events need to be given to us, the sooner the better so that the information between the school and park district can go as smoothly as possible.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek reported that Seasons Lawn Maintenance, formerly known as Carefree Lawn Maintenance, has done at least 10 years of our mowing. The budget for the mowing has gone up from \$75,000 to \$103,000 around the athletic sites and from \$28,000 to \$37,000 around the schools. For years we were able to get the mowing done cheaply, but the price of mowing has increased. We will try and offset that by having staff mow about 20 more acres than they did last year. As always, we are targeting end of April/first two weeks of May for the weed -n-feed applications which the park district shares the cost with the Associations.

School District

Jason Sterritt – NLSD #122 reported that black out dates will come out at some point in May but what was handed out is the most up to date list. As far as projects, roof tops will be worked on at the Nelson Campus (Ridge and Prairie) as well as the Cherry Hill schools. Seal coating will be done at the Tyler/Bentley campus and the Spencer Campus. These will be done in phases and cannot give an exact date and depends on weather. Jason Sterritt will keep all associations that this will affect posted as soon as he knows. Spring Baseball and Softball seasons will need schedules including practices and games. Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek handed out schedules. The track meet schedules will need to be given to NLCPD and Girls Softball as soon as possible.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek asked Jim O'Dette NLRBA about their registration times as to whether there is a spring and fall registration. Jim O'Dette answered that the spring registration is complete and the fall registration will take place some time the end of June.

Director of Park – Maintenance Travnicek reported to the group about some of the upcoming projects that are happening within the NLCPD. We will be going out to bid for the Hibernia Phase 2 project at Hibernia Park and should be breaking ground for that in May. We just received word last week that we received a \$600,000 OSLAD Grant for the development of Water Chase Park with many amenities and won't start breaking ground until 2024. We may go out for another OSLAD Grant for the Sharon Bay's Park, which is 23 years old. We will be working on accessibilities to the fields and will also be working on parking lot overlays at Cherry Hill, Bentley/Tyler Campus and Martino.

Adjournment

President Schulz adjourned the Tri-Annual Meeting of March 6, 2023, at approximately 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacque Tuma
Recording Secretary