

**VILLAGE OF VALLEY VIEW
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

6828 Hathaway Road
Valley View, OH 44125
(216) 524-9365

RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 15, 2011
7:00 P.M. Meeting

I. Roll Call

- A. Todd Von Ville, Director of Recreation
- B. Janet Flaherty, Assistant Director of Recreation
- C. Rocco Casadonte, Recreation Board
- D. Jeff Grabel, Recreation Board
- E. Debbie Hartman, Recreation Board – ABSENT
- F. Don Paulson, Recreation Board – ABSENT
- G. Artie Stollings, Recreation Board
- H. Brad Borowy, Council Recreation Committee Chair
- I. Tom Perk, Council Representative
- J. Jerry Piasecki, Council Representative – ABSENT
- K. Dave Wingefeld, Council Representative – ABSENT
- L. Dennis Banner, Resident

II. Service Department/Groundskeeper Discussion

- Board Member Artie Stollings asked if the Village should continue to plow the entry roads and parking lots at Village parks. Stollings asked if the Village opens itself to liability concerns if the roads and parking lots are cleared during the winter and someone enters the park and sustains an injury. On Monday, December 19, Law Director David Lambros wrote in an e-mail that he does not believe the Village would be opening itself to any future claims by plowing lots or entrances.
- Stollings also asked if the Valley View Police Department performs increased patrols in the Valley View parks during the winter months. On Monday, December 19, Police Chief Matt March indicated that patrol levels will remain the same during the winter months. However, March also stated that if an increase in patrols is needed for a short period of time (i.e. a specific weekend or date) that the Police Department would certainly accommodate any special circumstances.

III. Village Buses

- Council has voted to advertise for bids for a new bus based upon the specs that were written.
- The Board asked at its November meeting if a new vehicle would have to include a lift, etc. or if the fact that the Village has a small bus with a lift means a new bus would not be required to have one. The Board believes the new bus should be fully compliant regardless, but seeks the answer in order to have all of the pertinent information prior to a decision being made. On Monday, December 19, Lambros stated in an e-mail that he believes the Village is covered by the small handicapped accessible seating bus, so the Village would be able to purchase any type of vehicle that it chooses.

IV. Equipment Sale

- The Recreation Department has football helmets, shoulder pads, and wrestling mats that are either completely unused (helmets and shoulder pads) or are used extremely rarely (maybe once per year for wrestling mats). The Recreation Department would like the Recreation Board to consider offering this equipment for sale.

V. Potential Projects

- The Recreation Board has identified three potential projects to look into in the near future. These are the replacement of the restroom at Pavilion B; the addition of a sink/small kitchen area at Pavilion B; some type of water play area at Village recreation facilities. These options will be discussed more at the January meeting.

VI. Other Discussion

- Council Recreation Committee Chair Brad Borowy indicated some ideas for potential future projects in the Valley View parks. One is a portable ice rink. Borowy said that different sizes and styles are available and perhaps the area by the tennis courts and basketball court in Valley View Woods would be a good location. Board Member Rocco Casadonte said that he does not think anything should be located in that area due to the erosion to the south of the courts. Board Member Stollings also noted that a project to repair and refinish the courts has already been approved and is slated for completion in Spring 2012.
- Borowy also said that he would like to see canopies, tarps, or some type of protective tops put over all of the dugouts or bench areas at the baseball fields and the soccer field in Valley View Woods and Lombardo Park. Board Member Casadonte stated that the Village should explore the possibility of a more permanent solution, like cinder block dugouts instead of canopies. The Board also said that perhaps new “slotted” bleachers that would possibly reduce the inconvenience of wet bleachers for spectators should be explored.
- Borowy would like to see a flag pole installed beyond the centerfield fence at Winik Field. The Recreation Department will approach the Groundskeepers about this possibility.
- Borowy said that he would like to see the Village pursue information regarding the installation of synthetic surfacing at any or all of the Village’s athletic fields. Borowy indicated that many high schools and communities have installed synthetic surfaces and that specifically there is a field at Blossom Hill in Brecksville. Borowy said that the surface should last for at least 15 years and will result in less maintenance costs and increased play since weather-related cancellations should be reduced. Board Member Casadonte asked if there should be any liability or safety concerns if people would be sliding on synthetic surfaces instead of grass, or if the playing surface would result in faster ground balls, etc. The Board will discuss this possibility in more depth at a future meeting.
- Board Member Casadonte asked if there is a plan in place to re-finish the equipment in the Fitness Room. The Recreation Department will seek to obtain estimates to have the machines cleaned, painted, and checked during 2012. Casadonte also asked the Recreation Department to ask the company that services the equipment about the possibility of moving the handles on treadmills to see if they be put in a more “comfortable” location for the users.
- Board Member Casadonte asked if the televisions in the Fitness Room should be replaced with newer models prior to the digital converter boxes becoming unusable. The Recreation Department will monitor the converter boxes and the condition of the televisions and will make replacements as necessary.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 18 at 7:00 P.M.