

**VILLAGE OF VALLEY VIEW
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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

RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
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. Mike Foote, Recreation Board – ABSENT
 - E. Jeff Grabel, Recreation Board
 - F. Debbie Hartman, Recreation Board
 - G. Don Paulson, Recreation Board
 - H. Dan Westfall, Council Recreation Committee Chair
 - I. Barb Drockton, Council Representative – ABSENT
 - J. Julie Jakubczak, Council Representative – ABSENT
 - K. Jeff Gabor, Groundskeepers Foreman
 - L. Tom Perk, Councilperson
- II. Service Department/Groundskeepers
- Council Recreation Committee Chair Dan Westfall asked Groundskeepers Foreman Jeff Gabor about the planters at the end of Stone Road. Gabor stated that the Groundskeepers did not maintain the planters or have any responsibility for them so he could not answer any questions about their upkeep or status. Westfall indicated that he would contact the Service Department with questions.
 - Board member Rocco Casadonte asked if the grass on the infield at Lombardo Park would be removed before the start of the season. Gabor indicated that the grass would be sprayed and perhaps a rototiller could be used to improve the area as well.
- III. Project List – Dugouts
- The dugouts at Winik Field have been constructed and the concrete work will begin soon. The benches have also been ordered and will be installed when the concrete is complete. The Groundskeepers will also paint the dugouts. The goal is to have the work completed as soon as possible to accommodate upcoming games scheduled at the field.
 - The Board supports the same concept for dugouts at Lombardo Park and Woods Field. However, the Board would like Todd Sciano of Donald G. Bohning and Associates to prepare an alternate plan for the dugouts at those fields. The Board would like Sciano to formulate a plan utilizing the existing concrete pads at those fields instead of removing the existing concrete as part of the overall construction. The Board believes this could make for a less expensive solution. The Board indicated that it would like to ask Sciano to prepare this alternate plan in writing to submit to Council in time for its April meeting. Council could then decide if it would approve the initial plan, the alternate plan, or neither. The Board recommends to Council to approve either plan at

its April meeting so construction could be started as soon as possible in an effort to be completed prior to the start of the recreational baseball and softball season.

IV. Three-year old Smurfs Soccer and T-Ball participation

- The Board reviewed a request for 3-year olds to be included in the Smurfs soccer and Tee Ball programs for 2015. The suggestion was also made to alter the eligibility dates for these two programs to match the birthdate cutoff for the CHSD preschool program, which would allow preschoolers to start these programs with their classmates. The Board acknowledged the desire for parents to involve their child in activities attended by their classmates. However, the Board expressed its concern for the safety of 3-year old participants, as well as a general concern for the additional challenges that could be posed to volunteer coaches by the addition of younger participants. The Board, in agreement with past votes and in line with previous recommendations by the Village Law Director, voted 4-0 against permitting 3-year olds to participate in these activities. The Board may look into the alteration of the birthdate deadlines at a future meeting.

V. Cuyahoga Heights Pool Passes

- The Board voted 4-0 to recommend to Council that the Village continue the policy of paying for half of the cost of resident pool passes, and reimbursing costs to the Blue Wave Swim Team members in the same manner as has been done the last few summers.
- The Board also suggested that at the end of the summer, perhaps a survey of residents who obtained passes could be administered in order to gather feedback on their use of the pool.

VI. Water Play Area in Valley View

- Councilperson Tom Perk presented information to the Board regarding options for a water play area in Valley View. Perk stated that the focus has shifted to attempt to have an area identified, planned, and constructed in time for use by the summer of 2016. Perk said that if an area is solidified, some of the site work could be accomplished in 2015 and work completed in 2016. Perk provided information that indicated a system which would recycle the water would cost approximately \$71,000 more than a system that would discharge the used water through drains. Perk said that the topics of any guest policies, supervision on site, etc. could be discussed as plans progress. Perk did say that many of these play areas in other local communities are unsupervised areas, and are well-liked by the communities. Board member Don Paulson said that the Board would like to have information detailing total construction costs and total expected annual operating costs prior to being able to make a recommendation to Council on this possibility. In addition, the Board would like to know if a water play area would have any impact on the Village's insurance costs. The Board indicated that it would also like to have the Village's Engineer review the proposed costs quoted from contractors, and issue a written report indicating whether or not the proposed costs for all aspects are reasonable. This would also include the expected costs for water, site work, construction, etc. The Board would also like to know if there is any requirement for the Village to provide any supervision of the area, similar to that required of pools. Perk indicated that he would work to obtain this information for the Board to review at an upcoming meeting.

VII. Information Update

- Baseball/Softball registrations and Coaching Applications are in the lobby of the Community Center (deadline April 1).
- Youth Baseball and Softball Clinics (April 19) as well as Pitching Clinics (April 26) are scheduled for this spring.
- A summer Soccer Camp will be held in Valley View Woods from June 15-19.

VIII. Other Discussion

- Casadonte said that he would like to have a discussion at an upcoming meeting regarding possible increases to deposits for reserving Village facilities like meeting rooms and pavilions. Casadonte said the fees don't necessarily need to be raised, but perhaps the forfeitable deposits should be raised as a deterrent to breaking rules.
- Paulson asked about the progress on new televisions for the Fitness Room. The Recreation Department has obtained one proposal and is seeking additional proposals so they can be presented to Council's Finance Committee for consideration.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 P.M. - Village Hall