

**VILLAGE OF VALLEY VIEW
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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

RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

7:00 P.M. Meeting

I. Roll Call

- A. Todd Von Ville, Director of Recreation
- B. Janet Flaherty, Assistant Director of Recreation – ABSENT
- C. Rocco Casadonte, Recreation Board – ABSENT
- D. Doug Dyer, Recreation Board – ABSENT
- E. Jeff Grabel, Recreation Board – ABSENT
- F. Debbie Hartman, Recreation Board
- G. Tina Paulson, Recreation Board
- H. Brad Borowy, Council Recreation Committee Chair – ABSENT
- I. Tom Perk, Council Representative
- J. Dave Wingenfeld, Council Representative – ABSENT
- K. Jeff Gabor, Groundskeepers Foreman
- L. Nita Justice, Resident
- M. Scott Justice, Resident
- N. Bryan Petel, Resident
- O. Brian Snyder, Resident

II. Youth Coaches

- The Board has invited youth coaches to attend meetings to offer feedback on programs.
- Flag Football coaches Scott Justice, Bryan Petel, and Brian Snyder attended and offered some opinions on the program. All indicated that the wide span of ages (3rd through 6th graders all on the same teams together) was a challenge and at times a safety concern. A suggestion was made to perhaps partner with other neighboring communities and split the groups into 3rd-4th grade and 5th-6th grade, similar to basketball. The City of Independence was mentioned as a possible partner because the rules and structure of their flag football program is nearly identical. The Recreation Department will also contact some of the other communities in the area to seek options. One clear concern in seeking alternatives will have to be game days. Some leagues play on Saturdays, which could easily be detrimental to fall soccer participation since many of the flag football players and cheerleaders also play soccer. If games for both activities would be on Saturdays, it could pose a numbers issue for one or both activities. If another viable league isn't a possibility, there could be some rules modifications to consider in an effort to alleviate safety concerns. Additionally, the coaches suggested the possibility of hiring a timekeeper for the games so the referee is not in charge of the time. Also, this would allow for a consistent halftime break so the cheerleaders can have adequate time on the field.
- Flag Football follow up - The Recreation Department has had multiple conversations with the City of Independence regarding the possibility of forming a league and Independence has not been interested. Contact with Independence was again initiated on Friday, October 18 regarding flag football. Independence stated they are happy with their program as it exists and they do not want to change. The cities of Brecksville and Seven

Hills were also contacted. Seven Hills outsources its flag football program to a company named Jump Start Sports. The children register through Jump Start Sports, pay a fee, and are placed on teams randomly. The City of Brecksville has participated in a league for the last few years that plays on Saturdays with the following cities: Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, and Olmsted Falls. The Recreation Department will continue to explore these options as well as others that may be identified.

- Snyder also brought up a soccer issue. The Suburban Recreational Soccer League (SRSL) has a rule indicating that teams are penalized points in the standings if they win a game by more than 5 goals. This rule is permitted to be waived prior to the game if both coaches agree to do so in the presence of the referee. Many coaches do not like the rule because it can lead to a game of “keep away”, or intentionally scoring an “own goal” to subvert the rule. Snyder suggested the possibility of requiring teams to play with one or two fewer players if they reach a specified lead (i.e. 5 goals) in lieu of the current rule. The Recreation Department will mention this rule at the Spring 2020 meeting of the community directors involved with SRSL to see if there is any consensus to alter the rule.
- With regards to basketball, the possibility of using a 27.5” ball for 3rd-4th grade girls specifically was mentioned. All divisions currently use a 28.5” ball. A smaller ball could help with ball control and shooting since the league does not have the option of playing on 9’ goals as a result of a majority of communities not being equipped or interested in doing so. Some small rules changes have been made in the younger age group for the upcoming season that are intended to help with quality of play issues, the main one being not permitting defensive pressure on the ball handler until he or she is a minimum of 6 feet into the frontcourt. There are other rules changes that have been discussed but not agreed upon that the Recreation Department will continue to follow up on with partner communities moving forward.
- Basketball follow up - The partner communities in the basketball league were contacted on Friday, October 18 and there is a willingness to discuss the possibility of a 27.5” ball for the 2020-21 season, but they do not want to entertain that change for the 2019-20 season.

III. Service Department/Groundskeepers

- Groundskeepers Foreman Jeff Gabor indicated the groundskeepers are performing routine fall maintenance in the parks and Village grounds. The groundskeepers have also been working on filling and seeding some of the open lots from the FEMA program, and have worked on repair and seeding on Village grounds as well. Additionally, dead tree removal is continuing, and leaf pick up has begun.

IV. Project List

- The Board would like the Engineer to look into repairing areas of the walking path in Valley View Woods that are most prone to consistent erosion, including a reasonable cost estimate depending upon the scope.
- At the January 2019 Council Meeting, Council provided funding for an architect to develop conceptual drawings for a potential kitchen at Pavilions D&E. The Board would also like to consider making the changes to the pavilion at Lombardo as a comparison to the options for D&E. The Board will put this potential project on hold.
- At the June 2019 Council Meeting, Council authorized the Engineer to prepare plans and specifications for two items: (1) to complete asphalt repair and maintenance in Valley View Woods, and (2) to complete Storm Sewer Repair and warning track installation at Winik Field. The Board would like to know from the Engineer if the entire length of pipe will need to be replaced, or if there are only specific areas that need to be replaced. The

timing of the work at Winik will hopefully avoid major conflicts with scheduled activities, and the Recreation Department will work in conjunction with the Engineer's office to minimize the impact to the schedule as much as possible.

- Additional possible projects (batting cage in Valley View Woods and camera work and the potential cleaning of the storm sewer at the soccer field in Valley View Woods) are still in the queue with the Engineer's Office.

V. Recreation Levy Renewal

- The Village has filed the necessary paperwork and the renewal will be on the ballot in November 2019. The County has assigned the renewal levy as Issue 69 on the ballot. Informational flyers have been distributed to most streets in the Village, with any remaining streets to be completed soon.

VI. Information Update

- Recreation Fund Available Balance Update (as of October 10, 2019) from Clerk/Treasurer Carol Tomasko: \$175,651.47.
- Cheerleading and Flag Football – Season ended on October 9. Our teams played in a four-team league.
- The Children's Halloween Party will take place on Saturday, October 26 from 1-3 PM.
- Registration for Youth Basketball is complete. A youth basketball clinic is set for November 3 with instruction from Cuyahoga Heights Schools Basketball Coaches.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 21 at 7:00 P.M. – Village Hall