

Recreation Commission Minutes
Monday February 26, 2024

Members Present: Briggs, Boulware, Hanna, Ganim, Gawlik

Members Absent: Brubaker, Lazaridis

Also Present: Mayor Kingston, Rachele Engle, Rhonda Miko, Luis Pena, Meg English, Councilman Bender, Carolyn Jatsek

Minutes: Approval of January 22, 2024 Minutes, Motioned by Hanna, seconded by Ganim

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kingston is happy to announce that the City of Brecksville has been awarded the \$50,000 grant for the pickleball court that they applied for last year to help fund the outdoor pickleball project.

Council Report:

Councilman Ganim wanted to thank everyone who attended or sponsored the ball. All proceeds from the ball will go to the Kids Quarters Project. There is not a final dollar amount to announce yet.

Director's Report: The Father Daughter Dance was held earlier this month, and went very well. It was attended by over 235 people. Thank you to all the staff who help with the event. We received many compliments and all who attended had a good time. ESPN is now back up in the Cardio Area at the Community Center. The City is hosting a Mixed Doubles Pickleball Tournament this Friday night at the Field House. The Service Department has been painting areas of the Community Center during the night shifts, and we thank them for the great job they are doing! Registration for spring and summer programs will begin on March 1st at 5am online and 5:30am in person for Brecksville Residents. We are continuing to offer many great art classes, March and April classes are now registering for kids and adults.

Kids Quarters Phase 1 has been approved by Council and will consist of the ADA access in the front. We are currently hiring for concessions, Building Supervisors at the Field House and lifeguards. Director Engle then read an email update from Athletic Coordinator Mewhinney with an update on his health.

Athletic Area Report:

Carolyn Jatsek gave the Athletic report in Athletic Coordinator Mewhinney's absence. Youth Basketball concluded this past weekend for grade 1-12th. The winter session of Peewee Basketball will begin next weekend for grade K-2, and Little Dribblers for ages 3-5 child/parent class will begin next Tuesday. The Bees Travel Basketball Season wrapped up this weekend when they hosted the Bees tournament at the Field House. Men's Basketball is about half way through their season. BTBA and Lacrosse began outdoor practices tonight on the turf, and soccer will begin mid-March. March 1st will begin registration for Summer Camp, Baseball, Softball, Tennis and Adult Coed Softball. The Brecksville soccer academy is currently open for registration.

Aquatic Area Report:

The high school swim team wrapped up last week, and winter Learn to swim is also wrapped up. The spring session of LTs registration will be held in April. Summer Aquatic registration will begin May 1st for Brecksville Residents. There are several upcoming Lifeguard training classes going on in March and April. If there are people interested in lifeguarding this summer, they need to get certified prior to summer so they are ready to go by June. More summer information will be coming soon. We are still looking for a few morning and daytime guards.

Fitness Area Report:

Rhonda reported that classes are going strong. Christy is teaching 2 classes a week, and Gina is teaching 3 classes a week. The parttime staff is continuing to do a great job, and she has the schedule done through April. We continue to offer the intro to exercise classes for any 13-14 year olds who would like to work out upstairs. Many people are happy about that ESPN is back up and running. We are currently looking for a evening spin instructor.

CVYO Report:

Preparation is done from Spring Sports. Field allocations are done, and the lacrosse and soccer groups are finishing their schedules. Baseball and softball field allocations are a little behind, but underway. The second annual Bees Tournament was this past weekend at the Field House. Thank you to the City for their support for the tournament. On behalf of all the CVYO Teams, Meg presented a check the City of Brecksville for \$1000 toward the Kids Quarter Project. The CVYO likes to support City projects, and is willing to help with other projects as well. Recreation Chair, Councilman Ganim, thanked Meg, the CVYO Board and programs on behalf of the Recreation Commission and the City of Brecksville for the generous donation.

Old Business:

Vice Chair Hanna thanked the Commission for their feedback from all seven members on their thoughts of the priorities for the Recreation Commission and Department. There was a list compiled in the past, and these suggestions will be combined with the old list to come up with a comprehensive listing. Copies of the reports were handed out the Commission Members.

Recreation Chair Ganim gave an update on the sponsorship committee. Thank you to those who expressed interest in being part of the committee. In addition to chairman Ganim, the committee will be comprised of Denise Gawlik, Jonathan Briggs, and Mayor Kingston's Assistance Cassandra El-Khoury, who has sponsorship experience. The Committee will be working on a comprehensive sponsorship program and will have it wrapped up by summer to be ready to put out there in the 4th quarter so the monies can come in beginning the 1st quarter of 2025. The committee will be looking at a tiered approach including community approach, small business and large corporate partnerships. Chairman Ganim will be reaching out to schedule committee meetings.

New Business:

Meg English presented the 5 year plan plan that the CVYO Board put together. A good 5 year plan assesses what we already have available to us including land, resources and funds and see how they can be used in the best ways. For example we need more field house time during the winter months, instead of necessarily building more courts, we can make partnerships with other facilities to get more time. The City just received a \$50,000 grant towards a new outdoor court, and some are wondering how Pickleball got on the 5 year plan before other project that the funding could have been used for. We also need to look at the master plans for properties. An entire plan must be in place before big projects are addressed. Smaller projects that won't deter from future projects are ok to move forward. Meg handed out a copy of her 5year plan plan. She feels a committee needs to be put together to create a five year plan. There are old copies of 5 year plans and master plans but things change. The last master plan for blossom showed a

waterpark up there. Now the waterpark is at the Community Center and there is a school at Blossom. A few questions were asked about the City properties and Chippewa. The City will work on getting together maps of City Properties so the Commissions can see what properties we have to work with. It was also mentioned that the City and the school District will work together when looking at their 5 year plans for athletic facilities.

Public Comments: None

Adjournment: Motioned by Ganim, seconded by Gawlik at 8:05pm