**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION**
**SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD**
**MINUTES OF MEETING: NOVEMBER 6, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Dana Tucci, President, at 7:00 p.m.

SAB members in attendance:

Dana Tucci
Jimmy Gaskin
Kerri DiPietro
Brian DiLuigi
Mike Makofka
Dan Woodington

Sports representatives in attendance:

Baseball - Sam Scimeca
Cheer - Heather Finn
Field Hockey - Cassie Tomczak and Laura Schneider
Football - Theresa McCormick, Kelly DeMyer, Joanne Costantino and Mark Colligan
Lacrosse - Jeff DiBiaso and Brian Laudenslager
Rugby - Kevin Collins
Soccer - Roger McLarnon
Softball - Chris Bourquin
Track & Field - Ron Paglia
Wrestling - Frank Albright

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

*Brian DiLuigi moved to approve the Minutes of the September 4, 2024 Meeting. Jimmy Gaskin seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

## REPORTS OF SPORTS BOARDS:

### BASEBALL:

- For Information Only:
  Fundraiser Request – Sliding Mitt was approved, via email, on September 15, 2024.
- This fundraiser is doing very well.
- Fall Ball has ended.

- Travel tryouts are complete, teams have been picked.
- Winter Workouts will be going on in December and January.
- Closed Session moved to the December meeting.

**BASKETBALL:** No one present. Maria sent Denise an email with an update.

- Registration closed on October 31st.
- Late registration ends on November 15th, very strict deadline.
- 1,296 kids have been registered. Last year we had 1,210, so we are up by 86.
- Boys Travel have the following teams:
  4A
  5A
  6A
  6B
  7A
  7B
  8A
- Girls Travel have the following teams:
  4A
  5A
  6A
  6B
  7&8A
  7&8B
- Travel teams begin practices this week.
- As for the Rec league, Board Members are working on finalizing their volunteer lists and then we will schedule a few nights at the Senior Center to hold drafts.
- Boys Travel Coaches List submitted for approval – all Megan's Law certified.
- Girls Travel Coaches List submitted for approval.
- Approval of new Board Member:
  Amy Thies – Member at Large
  Resume attached, Megan's Law certified

*Brian DiLuigi moved to approve Basketball's Boys Travel Coaches List. Mike Makofka seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

*Kerri DiPietro moved to approve Basketball's Girls Travel Coaches List, with the exception of Jim Giedemann and Melissa Rainey, who are pending Megan's Law certification. Dan Woodington seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

*Brian DiLuigi moved to approve Basketball's new Board Member. Mike Makofka seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

**CHEERLEADING:**

- For Information Only:
  Two Fundraiser Requests - 50/50 Raffle with Football and Pink Merchandise Store, were approved, via email, on October 4, 2024.
- Sideline cheer continues through November.
- We asked our coaches to choose at least one JV game to cheer at so that those football players get cheerleaders at least once this season.
- There are 5 competition teams currently practicing in various schools.
- Cheer mats are stored at Bunker Hill.
- We lost the 9/10 gym on November 4th.
- Bells and TJ are letting us use their gym mats. However, Hurffville would not let us use their mats, so we are no longer practicing there. Even though the Superintendent approved us using their mats, the Principal and Gym Teacher did not agree.
- Cheerleading still really needs a permanent home as school blackout dates and having to unroll and roll mats every night continues to hurt our progress.
- We are competing in three local competitions:
  Royal Revolution on November 3rd
  Wildwood ARSC on November 17th
  Spirit Extreme Mistletoe Madness on December 15th
- We are still fundraising for new uniforms and pom poms for the 2025 season and hopefully another set of cheer mats to store at a second school.
- The PINK PEP RALLY was held on October 23rd, which was a lot of fun for the cheerleaders and football players. We honored our loved ones who we've lost, who are battling and who survived cancer. The 125s won the cheer off.

**FIELD HOCKEY:**

- For Information Only:
  1. Fundraiser Request – Mr. Softee at games on September 29th, was approved, via email, on September 18, 2024.
  2. Fundraiser Request – Clothing Collection, was approved, via email, on October 3, 2024.
- The season has ended.
- K-2 clinic girls ended the season with a tournament at Total Turf.
- 3rd – 4th grade girls participated in the Spooktacular at Total Turf.
- 5th – 6th grade girls made it to the second round of play-offs.
- 7th – 8th grade girls made it to the second round of play-offs.
- The Banquet planning is underway. We are looking to have it in January at the Senior Center.

**FOOTBALL:**

- All teams doing well in league play with several of our teams undefeated at this point on the season.
- Every team should make the playoffs.
- PINK PEP RALLY with Cheer last month was successful.
- Football Social was held November 1st which was a lot of fun.
- Football has home games throughout the entire month of November.
- WTYFB will be hosting the SJI Championship weekend again this year at the high school complex. All paperwork and requests have been submitted to the BOE.
- Based on a complaint from a parent, the Football Board is conducting an investigation into possible By-Law infractions for another non-coach/parent on the 125lb team.

**LACROSSE:**

- Registration opened up earlier this year. It will run from October 15th through December 15th, with late registration December 16th through January 15th.
- So far 50 kids have signed up.
- Would like to have 2 teams for all ages.
- There have been no complaints about the increase in the registration fee.
- Approval of new Board Member:
  Dan Chindemi – Girls League Rep
  Resume attached, Megan's Law certified
- Would like to add a new Board position, Social Media and Website Coordinator, as a non-voting member.
- Closed session.

*Brian DiLuigi moved to approve Lacrosse's new Board Member. Mike Makofka seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

**RUGBY:**

- Registration opened up very early this year. Late registration will be taken after March 31st.
- Applied for permit for registration signs to be put around town.
- We will be implementing a monthly newsletter with Board meeting dates and events coming up. Trying to get more people involved.
- Fundraiser Request – Tournament at Morey's Pier in Wildwood
  This will be a Rugby Tournament on the beach
  2 hand touch/rough tackle
  10 players on each team
- Second Fundraiser Request – Mulch Madness
  A yard of mulch for $21.00

*Mike Makofka moved to approve Rugby's Fundraiser Request – Tournament at Morey's Pier. Dan Woodington seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

*Brian DiLuigi moved to approve Rugby's second Fundraiser Request – Mulch Madness. Mike Makofka seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

**SOCCER:**

- Fall season ends on or about December 5th. Was able to get in all the games because of no rain.
- Still would like to pursue providing parking lot lighting, via Atlantic City Electric, proposal is about $13,000 that the program is interested in a cost share possibly with the Township.
- We still have to order the two new sets of 7v7 goals and two new sets of 9v9 goals.
- Winter sessions start in December, some teams are doing late fall tournaments.
- Many thanks to the SAB for providing leadership and understanding of many difficult issues they are dealing with.
- Intramural playoffs have started.
- Mite Nite was last Saturday and it went very well in spring like weather. 4, 5, 6 and 7 year olds all participated, it was a packed event. A big THANK YOU to Parks & Rec, WTPD, WTFD, WTDPW, The Mayor and Council for their continued support, as well as the parents.
- On a sad note, the Soccer Board wishes to express their condolences to Lisa Collins and her family in regard to her father's passing.

**SOFTBALL:**

- GSA season ended last week.
- Some travel teams still have tournaments.
- Still discussing a fundraiser to have a spring tournament.
- Registration will open up the middle of December for the spring season.
- Closed Session moved to the December meeting.
- Approval of Fall Ball Coach Chris Fischer, who is now Megan's Law certified.

*Brian DiLuigi moved to approve Softball's Fall Ball Coach Chris Fischer, who is now Megan's Law certified. Mike Makofka seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

**TENNIS:** No one present.

**TRACK AND FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY:**

- Cross Country's last meet is this Saturday, November 9th.
- Registration will open up in December for spring Track & Field.

**WRESTLING:**

- Registration opened up on October 1st.
- There are 92 kids registered so far.
- Uniform ordering will be ending soon.
- Lawn registration signs are up around town.
- November 12th practices will start.
- Getting Coaches List finalized.
- Will not be able to use O'Brien Hall until football is over.

**CHALLENGER DIVISION:** No one present.

- New Directors, Randy and Tina VanOsten.
- They will be taking over our Challenger sports. They will also take over Special Olympics Soccer.
- Darren Hart will be taking over Special Olympics Basketball.

**CODE OF CONDUCT COMMITTEE:** Hearing held on October 23, 2024, regarding the incident with cheerleading parents Mr. and Mrs. Tasca.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Dana Tucci resigned from her position as President of the Sports Advisory Board. Mayor Burns asked her to reconsider, so she did. The Sports Advisory Board agreed for her to finish out her term as President to the end of the year.

2. Asking our Sports Commissioners to pass the following information to all Board Members and Coaches: That certain parent who was charged with a Megan's Law offense last year is allowed to attend sporting events in the Township. Apparently, he was not convicted.

3. Theresa McCormick spoke about an incident that happened on October 24th at football practice, where her son was thrown to the ground by a Coach who was red lighted for a Megan's Law offense. She is asking why would a Coach, who did not pass his Megan's Law, be allowed to coach. She had several conversations with the Football Commissioner, the 125lb Head Coach and the Parks and Rec office about this situation. She also filed charges with the Police.

   This past weekend, November 2nd/3rd, this Coach, who got suspended because of the October 24th incident, was on the sidelines slapping players' hands, high-fiving them, running up and down the field. He was making such a ruckus, that the umpire made him leave the field. Again Theresa is asking why this Coach is even allowed at any games.

Dana Tucci, the SAB President, advised her that we will reach out to the Township Solicitor about this incident, and what we are allowed to do, because it is now a police investigation.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**
*Kerri DiPietro moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Mike Makofka seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.*

**CLOSED SESSION:** Lacrosse

**NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 4, 2024**