**NORTHVALE RECREATION MEETING MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

**Present:** Brandon Giordano, Heinz Schroeder, Enzo DiMaria, John Briguglio, Ken DeGennaro, Nicole Cowley, Sarah Kirch

**Council Liaison:** Tom Argiro

**Others Present:** Alma Giordano

**Introductions/Overview:** Sarah Kirch introduced herself and background. John Briguglio provided current meeting protocol. Sarah wants to focus on budgets/finance and thoughts on future for programs moving forward. Brandon discussed budgets; Councilman Argiro interjected with the history and will work with Sarah on this. Alma discussed Community Pass aspects.

**Basketball:** Registration for winter basketball will start soon. Brandon Giordano is working on an outdoor clinic that will cost $75 and will run for 5 weeks in conjunction with Harrington Park and Norwood. This will hopefully start in early October, and attendance can vary given on availability. Brandon will send an email regarding this clinic.

Winter basketball registration should open soon and Brandon will check with school on gym usage. Gym locations and availability discussed.

Ken suggested that indoor soccer and winter basketball sign-ups go out together.

**Summer Basketball:** Went well, although there were a lot of rainouts. 5/6 girls made it to the championships but the game was rained out and couldn’t be made up.

**Soccer:** Registration was good this season. Discussed specifics including field conditions; the field looks great, thanks to the DPW! Finding coaches was an issue at first but worked out. 1/2 is a non co-ed program this year and has 5 teams. 3/4 has 4 teams this year, 5/6 has 3 teams, and 7/8 has two teams. The 7/8 girls joined with Norwood in order to be able to field a full team. Enrollment in the Kindergarten Clinic was lower than usual; however, enrollment in the school went up quickly shortly prior to school starting so that may have been a factor. There will be playoffs for all grades from 3rd-8th. For the 1/2 teams, they will play a round robin and have pizza at the end of the season.

**Baseball:** John Briguglio discussed the flooding of a lot of the equipment from the recent storms and questioned Councilman Argiro regarding the possibility of insurance claims. Vinny Grillo cleaned up and took a list of inventory. John discussed the transition of new volunteers and offered to help with the field schedule. Specifics of the current field schedule were discussed.

Sarah Kirch asked about outside teams using the fields and different aspects. Outside teams are charged $50 per use and $500 max for use. Where does field usage/banner money go within the budget? Discussed the banner fundraiser program and how to improve this moving forward.

**Softball:** Nothing to report.

**Jr. Marksmanship:** This program is for 11-18 year olds and runs on Monday nights for about an hour. It has not been operational since March of 2020 due to shared equipment and questions about how to sanitize the equipment without ruining the rifles. Thinking that to keep cross-contamination at a minimum, it will be limited to 7 kids per week. The participants would alternate weeks and 14 kids total would share 7 rifles. Heinz explained the logistics and specifics of the program. Sign-ups are usually in late August and this year, Heinz Schroeder said they are aiming for sometime in October. Heinz will speak with the Mayor and Chief of Police re: protocols. Registration typically costs around $65. Heinz also discussed insurance options/specifics.

**Adult Softball:** Enzo DiMario presented that adult softball has a Commission of 6 people and this year had about 96 players. Next year, they are hoping for a total of 8 teams as they have a lot of positive feedback this year. The season consists of 16 games and the registration fee has been $65 but the price will need to be raised moving forward. Discussed specifics and sponsorships. Used Fields 1 & 3 and Chestnut Field in Old Tappan this year ($250).

New this year: an All Star Charity game was held. All proceeds were donated to St. Anthony’s Food Pantry and a total of $1,100 was raised. Want to continue this and make it a tradition. Players paid $20 each, and 4 people played from each team. A lot of people donated during the event as well.

Sarah Kirch asked about the fundraiser and accepting food items during the event.

**Other Business:** Sarah Kirch brought up Spirit Wear, as we often receive requests. Discussed and agreed to combine the Northvale PTO and Rec Spirit Wear shop. Will look into specifics of this such as logos etc. We have worked with SquadLocker in the past.

Next Meeting: October 20, 2021