



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Sports Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 26, 2012

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: AC Conference Room

In Attendance

Committee Members: Janet Allison, Chair; Greg Cody, Committee Member; Carrie Fisher, Committee Member; Jerry Jones, Committee Member
Staff: Scott Brucker
Absent: Julie Rocha, Staff

I. Call to Order

Janet called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

II. Minutes for April Meeting

Janet submitted the minutes from the May 24th meeting.

Motion: Greg made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Jerry seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

Community Sports Delivery Task Force Implementation

Scott presented the packet emailed to various groups, including the Board of Directors, and put up on the website. The packet includes background information previously discussed. Scott called our attention to Attachment D, an executive summary of the work and recommendations from the task force.

A major policy change would be to expand out of district boundaries from existing tax boundaries to include BSD boundaries for roster purposes only. This means recreational clubs must have 100% of their rostered players in district. Competitive clubs will be allowed to have 20% of their rostered players out of district (outside of district boundaries and outside of BSD boundaries.). The out of district assessment remains the same. Players who live inside BSD boundaries but beyond park district boundaries will continue to pay out of district assessments. Currently all of the clubs are based around elementary and high school boundaries with no clubs based around middle schools. We are now setting very clear parameters for the clubs.

More clarification is needed for a couple of the Little League groups, e.g., Murrayhill; however that will be cleared up in the next year.

Jerry asked if you add the BSD boundaries to the park district boundaries, what percentage is added. Scott answered there is no way to tell since the park district only counts "out of the park district", not out-out vs. BSD. Scott added when we ran rosters on the competitive soccer clubs, it showed about 45% were in district, 20% out of district, and the rest out-out. Rosters were compared by school and by zip code.

Greg asked about kids who are home-schooled. Scott said that's easy since it's residence-based.

Each section of Attachment D was discussed and clarified.

Greg expressed his concern for the quality and consistency of background checks done by local groups that use standards set by their national organizations with standards not as high as those used by the park

district. Scott called to our attention one bullet point, "Organizations' standards must meet or exceed THPRD standards." Scott added most all national organizations have standards higher than ours.

Greg expressed additional concerns and would like to see one set of consistent standard for all organizations affiliated with the park district and have all background checks completed by the park district. Scott said there are legal lines we cannot cross. We "run" background checks and provide the sealed information to our organizations. That's the extent of our responsibility. Janet asked about the park district's liability if we "run" the background check and then do nothing regarding a questionable person. Scott said the key is stating "THPRD would not use that person."

Our process is in place as to what we will accept and what we won't. When handing over the background checks if we make the statement, "that person cannot be involved," then we assume all liability. Jerry asked about psychological testing in addition to the data included on a background check. Scott answered that would be cost prohibitive. Scott added in dealing with hundreds of coaches and volunteers over many years, he has known of only four people who should have been excluded. Scott said the only group that does not have a stricter standard than the park district is JBO because JBO has no national group -- they are a state organization. US Soccer is extremely strict for anyone who coaches, volunteers or is even near kids. Jerry asked if we have a "two adult" policy. Scott answered we do not have that policy in place with our affiliates.

The members expressed concern regarding the required timetable. Since the information must be disseminated to several groups, it would be nearly impossible to hold the meetings, assemble the input and return to the Board of Directors by their August meeting. For example, the BSSC's next planned meeting is in November. After the two-year process since the task force was formed, the members felt this most important part should not be rushed.

Greg suggested all groups should have enough time to study the report and understand the repercussions and implementations to meet the district's standards. He added the members for the CSD Task Force were chosen by the SAC and the SAC should approve the release of their recommendations to the Board of Directors for their approval. All members agreed. Greg added Scott has done an excellent job of keeping us informed of the CSDTF's meetings and discussions, but this is the first written report we have been able to review.

Scott reminded the members the document we have been reviewing concerns district operational policies. All the Board of Directors will approve are the District Compiled Policies. Scott reviewed the District Compiled Policies printed as Attachment E. Jerry asked what the affected committees will be reviewing. Scott answered all of the information presented, not just the District Compiled Policies.

After further discussion and explanation of all the information in all the attachments, Scott said he would bring our concerns to management and report back to this committee.

Cedar Mill Park Planning

Scott presented three options for the park make-over. This committee previously reviewed two of the options that were presented by Park Planner Dave Walters at our May 24th meeting. Bruce Barbarasch developed the new Option 3 that emphasizes fewer trees being removed. When presented at the public meeting, the people who attended the meeting liked Option 3, but their one concern was where the concerts were going to be held. Since then, the suggestion was made to hold concerts on the baseball field for various reasons including ADA accessibility.

14A ASA Western National Tournament Update

Preparations for the tournament are going well. 25 teams are confirmed so far and Scott feels we are ahead of schedule for team registration. Commitments are coming in from Southern California and Washington. Our target number of teams is 100, but we can accommodate up to 150.

Scott mentioned we had secured a \$50,000 grant from Washington County Visitors' Association and they are handling hospitality and marketing pieces as well. City of Hillsboro is also stepping up. All entities are handling sponsorships.

Opening ceremonies are Sunday, July 29, and the closing is scheduled for 6:00 Sunday, August 5.

IV. New Business

Field Allocation Review Committees

A meeting was held May 24th that included all groups we allocate grass fields and synthetic turf fields to use. Scott presented to the members all the information provided at this meeting. The point of discussion was how the park district is doing with allocations of these two types of fields. Getting information online, the flow of paperwork and other procedural matters need improvement, but the actual allocation of fields is working well.

Options were presented at the meeting for future funding of the replacement of synthetic turf. Because synthetic turf is so expensive to replace, it was presented \$7.00/hour was not enough to charge for a field fee. \$8.00/hour covers only 50% of replacement cost. Trying to find a happy medium, Scott felt possibly a \$12.00/hour figure would be a good starting point. On a replacement basis, grass fields are significantly cheaper although more expensive to maintain.

Though they are two separate issues, this presentation combined with the new affiliated policy information may make negotiations difficult in the future.

V. Committee Time

Jerry - Had a question about scheduling of classes for toddler-aged children including sports-related and aquatics classes. Noon to 2:00 is the time slot presented for most classes and that generally is nap time for toddlers. There is a group that would like to be involved but cannot because of the inconvenient time slots. Scott suggested bringing this to the Recreation Advisory Committee and believes it had been discussed previously.

Action Item for Scott: He will ask Eric Owens to review Jerry's request for information on class times.

Jerry - Jerry had a comment regarding objection to a high level and competitive player at an adult coed softball game in the G League, a lower recreational league. Jerry discussed this with the Program Coordinator, Emily Kent, and found there is no process for handling this type of problem. Jerry's concern is for safety of the other players and felt there should be guidelines for evaluating more competitive players.

Janet provided information from an All Sports Steering Committee meeting where Loree Leonard, the local Commissioner of NSA, stated umpires are supposed to take note of higher league, more competitive players playing in the lower recreational leagues and bring this information back to NSA. These umpires are encouraged to speak to the player(s) and report back to Loree. Janet asked if Jerry knew this player was playing under the ghost card or was on their legal roster. Jerry answered he understood this player was on their roster.

Because of the safety concerns, Jerry suggested this committee review policy when a red flag is raised. Jerry continued that the umpire at the game in question made the infielders come in off the grass as they were backing up so far to try to field the ball when this batter came up to bat. Janet asked if Jerry filled out an umpire comment card. Jerry did not.

Carrie - Has a few tennis trophies at home she would like to recycle. Scott said the park district does not recycle trophies.

Action Item for Scott: He will ask Kyle Kotchik if he knows where to recycle the trophies.

Carrie - Asked Scott if he had any interaction with the tennis center as pertains to city league teams and rosters. Scott suggested Carrie discuss this with Lisa Novak.

Carrie - Asked if there had been any further discussion on the VA discount for classes and programs. Scott answered right now the discussion is with Bob.

Janet - Reminded Scott we would like the contact information for Steve Johnson from the Intel basketball group who donated \$601 for our 5 v 5 tournament. She will email Kyle Kotchik and ask.

Janet - Once again, Janet is suggesting a change in the ghost card procedure for adult sports. She has brought this to Scott and this committee several times. The key is the district still receives \$72. The only difference is payment in two installments instead of one. Scott answered we cannot since we do not have a process to track the payments specifically because out of district assessments go directly into the admin account while ghost card fees go into the athletic center account. There are many procedural questions that need to be answered.

In addition, a sports specific out of district fee was discussed; however additional discussion is needed. Also, pushback may be felt from other areas. Janet asked if there were other areas that use ghost card positions besides rosters submitted by adult softball, volleyball and basketball. Scott said there were not. So Janet confirmed no other areas would be affected since no other areas submit rosters where ghost card positions can be purchased.

Janet feels as a compassionate service organization, we should do everything we can to help users who cannot afford the assessment that has gone from \$25/year to \$72/quarter in just a few short years. Also, as previously discussed, we want to stop the bleed of team numbers in all three areas of men's, women's and coed teams. As predicted years ago, the cost of the assessment fee has decimated the adult softball leagues and numbers in all three leagues are down again this summer.

Janet - Asked Scott to ask Julie Rocha if she met with Maintenance to schedule the dugout covers for the Baseball 2 field.

Janet - Mentioned she received a call from Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America. They want to bring a 1970 Pontiac Tempest to raffle off at The Classic. A total of 5,000 tickets will be sold at \$10/each. They are taking the car to several local car shows to get the most exposure. Janet told them about the Champions Too field project and gave THPF website information.

Janet - Explained the Park Foundation's Bucket Brigade and asked members if they would volunteer to attend the District's concerts to help collect \$1.00 from each of the concert goers to benefit the THPF's programs. Greg, Jerry and Carrie all volunteered to help.

VI. Next Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 19, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. in the Athletic Center conference room.

We adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Allison