

**WELLINGTON  
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 - 7:00 PM  
WELLINGTON CITY HALL**

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***MINUTES***

**Members Present:** Anthony Forgione, Richard Christmas, Jason Weiss, Maryjo Shockley, Brian Buckstein, William Flack  
**Members Absent:** Sam Falzone  
**Village Staff:** Bruce DeLaney, Daryl Boyd,

**I. Call to Order/Opening Comments**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Flack made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and Mr. Weiss gave the second. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

**A. June 6, 2016**

Ms. Shockley made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Flack gave the second. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**V. Presentation**

**A. Sports Provider Presentation**

Jason Crawford from Wellington Soccer Club gave a brief presentation from the club. He specifically highlighted their inclusion in the US Soccer Development Academy. The club was chosen to participate in the program at the U12 level and has 2 teams participating. The concept of the Development Academy program is to have more training and fewer games but more meaningful games. The program is intended to improve how we develop players feeding into US Soccer.

Mr. Crawford also discussed ways the club is using technology to improve operations and service to participant families. Their website has functions for the club leadership, coaches, and families to communicate in a quick and efficient manner. This helps create clear communication and ensures the entire club is moving in the same direction. Technology is also use to collect data on teams as well as individual players.

He also explained the club has a scholarship program in place and has ways for parents to earn money toward registration through volunteering, specifically in the concession stand.

Mr. Crawford also covered the challenges to the club. Specifically, age changes and increased licensing requirements for coaches have created challenges. They are also trying to start a college recruitment program but the challenges are finding ways to cover increased costs.

Mr. Flack asked for clarification that this was a travel organization. Mr. Crawford clarified that it was a travel program and the Village provided a recreation program.

Mr. Forgione asked to clarify that coaches were paid. Mr. Crawford confirmed that coaches receive a stipend and have for a number of years. Mr. Forgione asked about future tournaments dates. Mr. Crawford and Mr. DeLaney explained that the tournament scheduled for January is a major fundraiser for the club. Mr. DeLaney further explained that Village Park hosts two tournaments back-to-back with the AYSO State Games traditionally occurring on the Martin Luther King holiday weekend but that discussions were in place to swap the weekends so the WSC tournament could happen on the holiday weekend since there were over 250 teams involved.

Pete Bruno from the Wellington Colts Baseball program gave a presentation as well. He explained the Colts are a 100% volunteer organization and well as being primarily Wellington based. All board members and approximately 95% of the players in the program are Wellington residents.

He explained that although they are a small, community based program they have experienced good success and compete well with the regionally based clubs. He also explained that unique from many clubs, all players are also required to play in the Wellington Little League program to ensure that program stays strong as well. Many of the players have been involved in the Little League all star teams and have achieved National Championship. Mr. Bruno contributed much of the success of the program to the great relationship with the Village staff and the best facilities in the state.

Mr. Bruno said the organization is fiscally sound. They are also able to run the program at a relatively low cost to the families with registrations in the \$400 range. He also indicated they have been able to use technology to help with operations.

Mr. Weiss reminded Mr. Bruno of the State Championship from this year.

Mr. DeLaney added that the relationship between the department and all sports providers is fantastic. The organizations do a great job of working with the Village and have all stepped up to assist with recreation level programs with coach training and assistance with evaluations.

Mr. Flack asked if we have football and ice hockey. Mr. DeLaney explained we have the WCFL that provides football but have a roller hockey league.

Mr. Forgione added that it was impressive that our programs have great success with primarily Wellington residents when they compete against programs who recruit from all over the state.

Mr. Christmas asked if we had sufficient facilities to accommodate all of our programs. Mr. DeLaney explained that as he has stated in the past, we are able to meet current demand with our facilities at this time. He cautioned that the two things that could affect that ability to provide the current level of service would be growth and/or loss of any current facilities.

Mr. Flack asked if the department is adequately funded. Mr. DeLaney confirmed that the department is adequately funded at this time. Revenue numbers are healthy while keeping registration costs reasonable and facilities are maintained at a high level.

Ms. Shockley asked about need with respect to K-Park. She indicated that in the past it was indicated there was a need for fields and why was there no longer a need. Mr. DeLaney

explained that since that time Olympia Park was brought on line as well as the fields at Wellington Green Park which have help to accommodate current programming.

Mr. Flack asked if use at Olympia Park were restricted. Mr. DeLaney explained that there is an agreement with the schools that provides for use by both organizations. The schools primarily use the facilities during the school day and Wellington programs typically use them at night and on weekends. He also indicated the relationship between the department and schools works very well.

Ms. Shockley asked if the Village was taking over operation of the tennis center and Mr. DeLaney explained that the department would be taking the operation as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Shockley also indicated she attended an event at the community center and was very impressed with the facility. Mr. DeLaney gave some statistics of bookings at the center indicating that the facility is very popular and is providing great service to the community.

Mr. Christmas added that the Jeff Annas 5K run was much improved with the additional parking provided at the community center as well as the addition of day care provided.

Ms. Shockley asked if there were plans to enhance basketball courts. Mr. DeLaney explained that we recently added lighting to the courts at Olympia Park and that the high school provides lighted courts for our programming.

#### **VI. Old Business**

#### **VII. New Business**

Ms. Shockley asked if there will be future discussion on K-Park and if the board would be involved. Mr. DeLaney indicated that he was not aware of specific direction for discussion at this time but that if discussion were to occur, the board would be an important part of the process.

Mr. Flack added that many of the HOA presidents are discussing projects at the park and believes it will be back before the Council soon. He believes that a recommendation from the PRAB as a whole will be very important.

#### **VIII. Public Comment**

#### **IX. Board Comments**

Mr. Flack was complimentary of the groups that presented and of the staff.

Mr. Forgione indicated he is proud to be a part of the community and feels staff does a fantastic job.

#### **X. Adjournment**

Mr. Weiss made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Flack gave the second. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

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**Chairperson**