

Recreation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

November 19th, 2014

Members Present:

Loren Anthony, Chairman
Russ McCaig
Kevin Jacobs
Reg Wiebe
Doug Bell

Absent:

Bill Young (excused)
Miles Harvey
Kenny Eaton
Anthony Heilman

Staff Present:

Don Argo
Kevin Wishart
Molly Denton

Others:

Lauren Lowrey
Justin Jones

Chairman Loren Anthony called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The minutes of the October 15th, 2014 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved. It was noted that this meeting was rescheduled to start at 6:00 p.m.

Don Argo updated the group on winter sports and activities. Youth basketball sign-ups have concluded and the first games (scrimmage) will be held on Saturday, December 13th. In the beginning we needed 6 or 7 coaches at all age groups, but now it is better and only need 1 coach. There are three staff members coaching teams. There are also 2 assistant BCC coaches coaching this year. Kevin reported that we need referees for the games. Here is the breakdown of teams for each league:

1st-2nd grade Boys = 9 teams

3rd-4th grade Boys = 6 teams

5th-6th grade Boys = 5 teams

(All boy league numbers are up from last year)

1st-2nd grade Girls = 4 teams (includes 16 from Eureka)

3rd-4th grade Girls = 7 teams

5th-6th grade Girls = 3 teams (includes 11 from Eureka)

A few changes to this year's youth basketball games:

- Both boy & girl 1st-2nd grade league will play a 3v3 modified full court. This was not decided at a Rec Advisory Meeting, but the feedback from last year's coaches and other research proved that it was the right move. So far it has received positive feedback from parents and coaches this year.
- Added a "Free Throw Rule". This rule entails every player to shoot a free throw at half time. If a player makes the shot, it counts towards the score.

- All teams will be against the wall away from the parents.

The adult basketball and women's volleyball flyers will be going out soon. There have been questions on if we should offer an over 35 age basketball league? A few responses pointed out that the space may be limited and we may not have many sign up. Possibly offer it in the spring after the courts open up.

The recreation holiday craft event will be held on Friday, December 19th at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Offering it to grades K-5 and it will be a free event. This year the craft will be to decorate a holiday tree using an upside down ice-cream cone with frosting and candy. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required.

There will be a Basketball Clinic on December 6th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The first Youth Rec basketball games will be on December 13th and will be scrimmages. The Elks Hoop Shoot will also be on December 13th from 9:00 to Noon in Gym #1.

Kevin met with the YMCA branch director and VP of Operations (Jennifer Keen) recently. They discussed many of the same topics as in previous meetings. There is nothing new to report.

The master plan is underway with stage 1 and the citizen's survey is still available to take. There will be a meeting tomorrow (November 20th, 2014) at the Train Depot. A public meeting will be held on January 8th at the depot for the any citizen who would like to attend. Invites will go out after the holidays.

Loren asked if there was or would be a soccer coach's meeting. Don replied that there was not a meeting because it was too difficult to schedule with so many conflicts.

Update on RIO park, the BMX track has been torn down and there will be practice baseball fields built and may be ready to use by spring 2015.

Kevin brought up the possible need for sponsorships for the older grade (5th-6th) league to provide them with nicer jerseys for basketball. Kevin and Don met with GCI to talk prices and the estimate came back to be \$14 per jersey. Kevin reported that he is not ready to present the sponsorship plan to the Board or Commission. For now, the options are to pay for it out of the budget (however it is not budgeted for 2015) or to raise the fees for the older grades. This was opened for discussion to the Board. This is to keep the programs progressing and find new ways to keep the kids interested in playing sports. At this time the board did not feel that it was worth the money until a better plan was in place.

There were no new business items to be discussed by the board.

Staff had no additional items for discussion.

It was not determined if there will be a December meeting. If Kevin decides to have one, Molly will send an email invite to everyone and asked that everyone please RSVP.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.