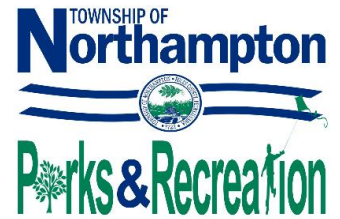




**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
January 18, 2024**



**Members present**

Marty Wade, Chairman  
Jim Hembree, Vice Chairman  
Mary Anderson, Secretary  
John Bishop  
Steve Bryer

**Others present:**

Kim Rose, Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Liaison  
Debbie Catoggio, Operations Manager  
Jennifer Fean, Director of Parks & Recreation

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Marty Wade

Roll call was taken, all board members were present.

**Approval of Minutes**

The motion was made by Steve Bryer and seconded by Mary Anderson. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**January Reorganization**

Mr. Wade stated that there were no new board members for 2024. Mr. Bryer suggested that all positions should remain the same in 2024. The board unanimously agreed.

**Citizens' Concerns**

There were no citizens' concern.

**Unfinished Business**

Tom Cashman clarified that the scheduled work for Diamond 2 from Feb – April would include infield rework and completing the conversion to a 60/70 foot field for the minor leagues from the 90 foot field they no longer need and new dugouts. Steve Bryer asked that they submit the plans for board approval. He also reminded that while the Township supplies the fields, the Youth Sports Organizations are responsible for what happens to them. He reminded them to submit all work to be done to Jen (Director of Parks and Recreation) to receive written approval.

### **New business**

Steve Bryer made the motion “All fee schedules will be minimally adjusted at the onset of each year to reflect the prior year’s CPI. (Current Social Security Consumer Price Index) These adjustments will be rounded to the next dollar amount. Any adjustment over this required change will be determined on a year-to-year basis.” It was established that this would take effect in 2025.

Mary Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Debbie Catoggio, Operations Manager reported that the field allocations were in progress – emails have been sent out to everyone who rented fields last year and all the applications were in. User groups were reminded that the priority goes to the “in-season sport.”

### **Field User Reports**

**CRBA** – James Koran reported that the season is halfway through and going well. He further reported that he had met with his board and their focus is now on Spring play. James expressed that depending on the condition of the Municipal Park Basketball Courts at the onset of the summer season, they have an alternate plan to use the courts at the Civic Center and Council Rock South, as both locations have just had their courts redone. James stated that they have recently been using high school juniors and seniors to fill coaching gaps with appropriate aged teams and it is working wonderfully. Marty Wade commended CRBA for using older high school players to coach.

**Holland Little League** - Tom Kley reported that Holland Little League is launching a new website and they are a little behind with opening registration as a result of that. He stated that the new trees looked good, wanted to make sure none would be in the way of play as they matured, and pointed out that none were placed at St. Leonards Road.

**CRNLL** – Tom Cashman reported that registration was at 128 and they are hoping for 350 by Feb. 1, early bird pricing closes March 31. He stated that 63% of the registrants were in the minor leagues, ages 4 – 8. Lastly, Tom stated that beginning in 2025, the Little League Charter proposed a change for ages 4 – 7 that there would be no school or residency requirement. Scheduled field clean-up, painting and removal of the shed are expected to begin in March. Opening Day is currently scheduled for April 6.

**CRUSA** – Lew Spiewak reported that Spring Intermural registration opened on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Registration is taking place exclusively online and credit cards only accepted for payment. Travel soccer will finish at the end of May. He asked about the status of 39 acres, and it was explained that we did not receive the grant money and were focusing on other projects.

**NGSA** – Bill Stanton represented and reported that registration is open and will remain open until March 16. He also stated that all of NGSA’s field applications were in.

**Northampton Indians Football** – Steve Szydluk reported that flag football opened for registration just this week and one age group sold out in less than 24 hours. It will start the first week of April. Evaluations will take place at CR South during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March.

**Supervisor’s Report** – Dr. Kim Rose stated she had no report, but was happy to continue to be the liaison for Parks and Recreation

### **Parks & Recreation Director Report**

Jennifer Fean began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. She stated that Parks and Recreation is still exploring funding for the Basketball court repair with Administration. The weather has delayed an onsite visit and will provide an update as soon as possible. Summer long camps opened for registration on Saturday, January 6. All full-day options are filled already but the ½ day camp has limited openings. Camp Counselors and Lifeguard positions are still available for this summer, visit northamptonrec.com to apply. Our first ever puzzle competition, Puzzle Palooza is scheduled for Feb. 2 and discount flower show tickets are now available at the administration building. Lastly, as you all know, Debbie Catoggio, Operations Manager, is retiring on April 1. The search for the next Operations Manager is underway. The job has been posted.

**Supervisor Liaison Report** – Dr. Kim Rose stated she had no report, but was happy to continue to be the liaison for Parks and Recreation

**Citizens' Concerns** – none

### **Announcements**

Lew Spiewak shared that there is now a robot that lines the fields. He would be setting up a demo on March 6 and invited the other sports groups to join to see if it might be worth purchasing and sharing.

Mr. Bryer announced that Northampton Day is scheduled for October 6, 2024, and will remain at Richboro Junior High.

The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 15

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Bryer, Mary Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Adjournment – 8:09 PM