

Hi Leslie and Marlene:

Hope all is well. Will you please post these minutes for me?

Thanks,

Laura

Executive Officers' Meeting
RECREATION & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
Wednesday, February 16, 2011
Conference Room of Town Hall

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 7:35, Chair, Troy Lake

Present: Chair Troy Lake, Vice Chair Mark Davis, Secretary Laura Petix arriving late,
Treasurer Kaye Johnson

Audience for Citizens: Sue Hochstetter, Ed Burchfield, Brian Murphy, Gay Wagner

Purpose of Meeting: To Organize the REC Commission as a whole and disbursement of funds for Youth Sports Committee

This was a brainstorming session of the officers of the REC Commission. Several options and suggestions to be brought forth to the next REC Commission meeting were discussed.

No action or motions were made during this session.

Adjourned: 8:45

Please make note of the letter below:

February 16th, 2011

Dear Members of the Recreation Commission Executive Committee:

The Hampton Youth Sports Committee would like to please submit the following letter to be read during the audience for citizens at the beginning of your Executive Committee Meeting for Wednesday, February 16th, 2011, as well as during the next Recreation Commission meeting. It is the YSC understanding that you will be discussing a possible funding recommendation to be presented to the entire Recreation Commission to be voted on.

The YSC would like to express a number of details that are essential in understanding when determining funding that will impact youth sports, and will impact the families and children who participate in these programs. When reviewing funding recommendations, please take into consideration the following:

- 1.) Youth Sports is not just a singular sport, or sports program, but a comprehensive sports program offering sports opportunities year round, to include soccer, basketball, and baseball/t-ball leagues & instructional programs, for ages pre-k through 6th, as well as a 7&8th grade travel basketball team. Participants numbers range on average from 70-80 participants per season, per sport. Hampton Youth Sports programs is the largest participated in and growing youth program offered within our community. For grades 3-6th they participate in games and practices on average 3-4 times a week for 12+ weeks for soccer, 16 weeks for basketball, and 13+ weeks for baseball.
- 2.) In addition to our instructional and league sports programs, we now offer basketball clinics, and a Summer basketball camp.
- 3.) All of these leagues and instructional programs have expenses to include uniforms, equipment (balls, goals, bats, catchers equipment, cones, pinnies, first aid kits, bases, field maintenance (sand, paint, grooming, etc.) referees/umpires, and custodial fees, and more depending on the season/sport, and depending on what needs to be purchased year to year.
- 4.) Some years/seasons can run into deficit due to equipment purchases or replacement costs.
- 5.) YSC has agreed to implement new and additional sports programs and activities such as a Summer Basketball League, a Summer Fun Run, a Family Fun and Youth Sports Day, as well as additional sports clinics. These programs will be additional opportunities for our youth and their families.
- 6.) In addition to the above, most importantly, there are many families who cannot afford to register their child to play in any youth sports due to the lack of finances and the inability to pay. Each season we have families who can't even afford to pay a \$15 registration fee to play t-ball, or pre-k basketball, or instructional soccer for grade k, 1st or 2nd, this is in addition to those who can't afford \$50 for basketball registration, etc. Having available funds to provide for children who's family can't afford to pay is a crucial part of Hampton Youth Sports.
- 7.) Youth sports provide opportunities for children to learn how to play a sport or sports, learn new skills, it provides children a chance to be part of a team and work as a team toward common goals, form new friendships which are fostered through learning, through play & coaching. It also provides opportunities for self-growth and gaining self-confidence. Participation in sports are statistically proven to benefit the overall health and well-being of children. The youth sports programs that are offered in Hampton are essential, and benefit many, many families. Please keep these benefits in mind when discussing the importance of funding, and the role it plays to our youth, and to whom it most importantly benefits - the children.

Thank you for your time and consideration with addressing this very important matter. We look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to contact the YSC with any further questions. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

The Hampton Youth Sports Committee