

# Board of Recreation Commissioners Meeting

## October 6, 2021

<b>Michael Prulello (Chairman)</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Eugene Godlewski (Vice Chair)</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Paul Shoyinka</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Don Morrell</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Jeff Devito</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Brian Joyce</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Kyle Lezette</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Joanie Diore (alt #1)</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Brian Harris (Alt # 2)</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Tony Como (Director)</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Councilman Gorman</b>	<b>Present</b>

**Chairman Prulello called the meeting to order at 7:05pm**

*Director Como announced "That all requirements of the Open Public meeting law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners of The Borough of Dumont  
Notices have been transmitted to the newspapers  
Notices prominently posted in a space provided on the bulletin board  
At the Borough Hall  
Notice has been filed with Borough Clerk"*

### **Open Public Participation**

**Commissioner Morrell made a motion to open the public portion of the meeting. 2nd by Commissioner Godlewski. Roll call taken motion carried.**

**Lisa Boyce**

#### **Resident**

Ms. Boyce read a statement the borough ordinance on residency for a commissioner. Asked that why a commissioner who moved out of town is still on the commission.

Director Como Stated that the Commission is not allowed to discuss personnel in a public forum. They will be going into close session tonight to discuss this issue. Close session minutes will not be made public until the issue has been resolved.

Ms. Boyce asked if the Gina's field project was voted on and how much is it going to cost the tax payers.

Commissioner Morrell stated that the commission voted on the concept.

Ms. Boyce asked if the Twin Boro field was voted on and how much it will be costing the tax payers.

Commissioner Morrell stated that we do know the cost of that project

Ms. Boyce stated that how come both projects are not being worked on at the sometime

Director Como Stated that the twin Boro field will be starting next week.

Ms. Boyce read a statement Attached to the Minutes

**Gerry Aponte**

**Resident (Former Commissioner)**

Mr. Aponte stated what is the cost for both projects.

Director Como stated that you would need to go to the Mayor & Counsel to ask that questions

Mr. Aponte asked did recreation as a whole have a part in this decision, with the projects

Chairman Prulello stated that there was a committee that worked with the counsel. The Commission voted on the concept plan approving it.

Commission Morrell stated that we voted on the concept plan which is a good plan. We were never shown a finale plan or told any prices.

Commission Morrell aske Director Como to have the chairman put the project on the agenda so that the commission could approve it. I still say it is a good plan but it is not right that we have not approved it.

Councilman Gorman Stated that the plan was put to the Recreation Sub Committee. The concept plan was voted on by the whole commission. The plans went to the Mayor and Counsel, Borough Administrator and CFO. There was and open public meeting to discuss the plan go over the financing the CFO spoke about the grants and the other funding Green Acres and the Bergen County open space grants.

Councilman Gorman stated that when the commission wants answer to a question send it to him he is the Council Liaison.

Mr. Aponte asked that should recreation have a say in the cost. He had heard the the cost of the project has doubled from the original costs

Councilman Gorman Stated that he would send Mr. Aponte the information requested.

**Andrew Lyons**

**Resident**

Mr. Lyons asked the chairman are you going to step down.

Chairman Prulello stated that he has no intention of resigning at this time.

**Michael Boyce**

**President Girls' Softball**

Mr. Boyce stated outside of Counsel Gorman How many people have seen the plan for new Gina's Field.

Councilman Gorman stated that there was a public meeting to discuss the Gina's Field project.

Mr. Boyce stated that the public meeting that the mayor had in April it was stated that both projects were going to start at the same time.

Mr. Boyce stated that he was told to have the shed at Gina's Field clean out and put in the shed at Twin Boro Field. If the Twin Boro project dose not star on time, we will be short one field next season. I understand it has not even been voted on as yet.

Counselman Gorman stated because Gina's Field is using Green Acres Funding a concept plan must be submitted. The Twin Boro project is not using Green Acres Monies.

Commissioner Morrell stated the commission did not give a final vote to approve either project

Mr. Boyce stated that since there is no cost information and the Commission did not approve the project, could he hire an attorney and have the project stopped.

Councilman Gorman Stated that he is not an attorney and could not answer that question.

Mr. Boyce asked Chairman Prulello where did you move to.

Chairman Prulello stated that he moved to Cresskill

Mr. Boyce asked Chairman Prulello for the street address

Chairman Prulello refused to give that information.

Commissioner Harris asked the Chairman other than Director Como that has been given the counsel information have you given any input to the project.

Chairman Prulello stated that he has not the Mayor & Counsel has the funding and they are doing what they promised to Girls' Softball.

Councilman Morrell Sated that we could solve all the issues by having a special meeting possibly next week. Counselman Gorman can get all the information and we can settle it.

**Commissioner Morrell made a motion that all work be stopped until the commission holds a special meeting to go over the information on all projects.**

**The Motion was never voted on.**

Commission Devito asked for a clarification of the motion is it all projects or just the Twin Boro Project.

Commissioner Joyce stated that he is disappointed because none of these questions came up Monday night when we were at the field with the engineer.

Commissioner Joyce stated that if we need another meeting with the engineer lets schedule it

Commissioner Joyce stated that all the Members of this Commission want to see this project through and give the girls what was promised.

Commissioner Devito asked Commissioner Joyce who was at the meeting Director Como, Commissioner Morrell liaisons to Girls' Softball Commission Harris, Mike Boyce & Scott Meyers Members of Girls' Softball & the engineer

**Commissioner Morrell Made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Joyce roll call taken motion carried.**

**Director Como ask for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting.**

**Commissioner Morrell Made a motion to approve the Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Godlewski. Roll call Taken Motion Carried**

## **Program Reports**

### **Commissioner Shoyinka**

#### **Girls' basketball**

Saturday was their first clinic there will be 8 sessions about an hour each

Spoke with coach Mike he hopes to have around 6 travel teams this season. There is a need for coaches for this coming season.

### **Commissioner Devito**

#### **Travel basketball**

**See Attached**

#### **Men's softball**

**See Attached**

### **Commissioner Morrell**

#### **Girls' Softball**

Extended thanks to the Mayor & Counsel for the proclamations for the 2 Girls' softball teams that won the summer League Championships.

### **Commissioner Harris**

#### **Hockey**

Just open registration for grades 1 thru 12 at the present time they are not charging they would like to see what the number are going to be. There is a chance they could merge with Paramus.

Grades 4 thru 12 the cost will be \$150.00, 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> \$75.00

#### **Wrestling**

The high school purchased the new mats our share will be \$6,500.00.

#### **Flag Football**

Flag Football has 161 kids registered. Their program runs from K thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade

. switch to Twin Boro Field this year. They are very happy there

Dumont Day was a great success thanks to all who volunteered to help.

## **Joanie Diore**

### **Competition Cheer**

They have practice time at the Honiss gym

This year they did a new offering of a dance team due to the lack of not having Football Cheering.

This year they would like to have a special needs squad at no cost to the children.

Commissioner Harris stated they if needed he could arrange for them to practice at the Elks Club.

## **Commissioner Joyce**

### **Soccer**

The season is going well so far.

We did have a couple of covid cases where we had to shut down couple of teams

Commissioner Joyce spoke about the true definition of quarantine. If you have to quarantine for school that does not mean you can come to practice or games.

The protocols have been sent out and they need to be followed

### **Chemical Program**

Once soccer is completed the fields will be aerated and over seeded. Twin Boro, Columbia, and the senior ball field.

**Coaches Certification the next class will be Wednesday October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Borough Hall 7pm.**

Commissioner Morrell asked if it is legal for the school to tell us who has been quarantine.

Commissioner Joyce stated that the school's dose not share the information with anyone.

Commissioner Diore if we will be doing badges anytime soon

Director Como stated that everything is ready as soon as they open the building to more people he will do them.

## **Kyle Lezette**

### **Baseball**

Fall baseball is winding down they have 2 teams that are playing.

### **Old Business**

No old Business

**New Business**

No New Business

Director Como asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting.

**Commissioner Morrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Lezette roll call taken motion carried.**

**At this time Director Como asked all the public to leave as the Commission will be going into close session. He thanked everyone for coming.**

**Meeting Adjourn 9:15pm**

Respectfully Submitted

Tony Como

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Como', written over a horizontal line.

Director

## ***Boys Travel Basketball Report for October 2021***

### **Overview:**

I have been in contact with Ed Angeles and Rocco Giangregorio in regards to the current state of Travel Basketball. The following is their report:

- In my conversations with both Ed and Rocco, they stated they are willing to follow whatever protocol and procedures asked of them, their coaches, parents and players to have safe practices and games played.
- At this time the program is in the process of organizing their tryout schedule and times.
- They have stated they will get back to me over the next few weeks to finalize the plan.

## ***Men's Softball report for October 2021***

### **Overview:**

I have been in contact with Tom Metz, President of Men's Softball in regards to the current state of their program. The following is the report:

- Men's Softball has successfully completed their 2021 Season and is closing up their books currently.
  
- Update on the accounting issue:
  - It was brought to the attention of Tony and I that there was an accounting issue dating back to the 2019 Season.
  - The Finance Department has been made aware and has found the error in their accounting
  - The Men's Softball program has accepted the figure that the Finance Department has stated is their current and final balance as of the 2021 Season.
  - The Men's Softball program will be using that number as their starting balance for their 2022 season
  
- On Behalf of The Men's Softball Program, President Tom Mertz thanked Director Como, the Finance Department and myself for our efforts in rectifying this issue.



Over the years DBS has faced obstacles  
of certain individuals wanting to  
out source our Programs <sup>Softball</sup> and  
which cause programs and numbers  
to decline once again. DBS over  
came those obstacles and kept the  
Program strong with it Board and <sup>MEMBER</sup>  
everyone here. The Best interest  
of DBS has to continue to  
be run by Residents of Dumont  
and by People <sup>of Dumont</sup>, Volunteers, Parents,  
a Coaches and the board members  
who have built this program  
and made it as strong as it  
is today

In Closing I would like to  
say growing up in Hudson  
County we allway had strong  
Rec Programs ~~not~~ our girls fields  
were always top of the line Our  
Dumont Girls Reserve nothing  
Less than Top of the Line

As a 20 year Dumont Resident  
I have been involved with Dumont  
girls softball for 19 years as a volunteer  
and a mom. During that time DGS  
softball program <sup>HAS</sup> continued to grow  
with many obstacles before them but  
still always managed to get keep DGS  
strong and growing. Our girls deserve  
a high quality field with all the necessities  
a safe field must prevent water run  
off Good lighting a deck circle for warm  
ups Most of all sufficient space  
for 2 dugouts space for fans. Not just  
a handiwork. ~~one~~ placed on a long time  
problem.

In my 20 years involved with  
Dumont girls softball there has  
be changing of the hands in regard to  
running DGS I ask that we have a  
Dumont Resident in this role that has  
the best interest of DGS at heart

Was Cuna Voted on  
and if <sup>Field</sup> so how much is  
the cost what will it cost  
the TAXPAYERS

Was T.B. Field Voted on  
and if so how much is the  
cost what will it cost the  
tax payers

How come both projects arent  
being ~~work~~ work on at the same  
town a soft ball field is being  
taking away from the girls but yet  
A splash park is being worked N FIRST

Y

**§ 6-1 Establishment; members;  
appointment.**

[Amended by Ord. No. 730]

A Board of Recreation Commissioners for the Borough is hereby established. The membership of the Board shall consist of seven persons who are citizens and residents of the Borough. They shall be appointed by the Mayor.