

MASSENA JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF May 2nd, 2022, MEETING

Dave MacLennan called the regular monthly meeting of the Joint Recreation Commission to order at 3:00 pm at the Massena Arena, on Tuesday, May 2nd, 2022. In attendance were John Horan, John Meddings, Gary Gushlaw, and George Hammill. Town Liaison Adrian Taraska was present as well as Recreation Director Mike McCabe. No members of the press were present.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the previous month, motion was made by John Horan and seconded by Gary Gushlaw. This motion was approved by all board members.

MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Mike McCabe

Everyone had on hand, a copy of the financial report as well as the breakdown in revenues for the month of April:

- **Softball Fields** – Down \$600 on the month, down \$100 on the year to date.
- **Arena Ice Fees** – Down \$100 on the month, up \$7,000 on the year to date.
- **Rec Skate Fees**- Up \$600 on the month and up \$2,000 on the year to date.
- **Commissions** – Up \$570 on the month and up \$2,200 on the year to date.
- **Concession** – Up \$400 on the month and up \$51,000 on the year to date.

Guest Joe Grey entered the meeting.

Joe Grey wanted to focus on the current parking lot at the arena. He suggested we look into reoriented the entrance of the arena. t. Mr. Grey suggested that the ball fields should be turned into a parking lot and the entrance of the arena moved to the opposite end with better handicap accessibility, therefore the parking lot would be on the same level as the doors and the doors would also include handicap accessibility.

Mr. Grey also wanted to focus on a possible multipurpose trail from the Intake into downtown of Massena. This trail would be paved and run along Pontoon Bridge Road for biking and hiking, this multipurpose trail would be around 4 miles long. Grey believes the bike trail along the river would bring in tourist to walk or bike along the river. He also believes that we should seek trails along the river from Barnhardt to Waddington for possible bike tours or marathons.

OLD BUSINESS

Tennis Court Project – Okie Court Systems reached out stating they gave us an incorrect quote. We received two quotes, \$52,820 to do the tennis court and \$8,350 to do the basketball court as well. The quote for the basketball court was incorrect, Okie Court Systems did not change the number in a different quote for installing permanent pickle ball courts that would be located on the tennis court. This then changes the price to be \$13,750 for the basketball court. The total project for the tennis court and the basketball court would be \$66,570 of which we have \$56,078 left in our grant. Therefore, we would need to take \$10,492 out of the Alcoa Field Budget and/or contingency funds.

A motion was made to approve the additional five-thousand-dollar funding for the courts was made by Dave MacLennan and seconded by John Meddings. This motion was approved by all board members.

MOTION CARRIED.

Indoor Lacrosse – We currently have two rentals for Thursday and Friday, May 5th & 6th. Then we also have a small tournament Saturday and Sunday, May 7th and 8th. We will have two games each day. There will be future practices & games scheduled for the indoor lacrosse season.

April House League – We had a 10U division that was made up of 8U, 9U, and 10U, as well as a 14U division that was made up of 11U, 12U, 13U and 14U. The 10U division had two teams and the 14U division had three teams. This gave the younger players in each group an opportunity to see what next season has in store for them.

Summer Recreation Positions – We did increase the rate for bus drivers, and with increasing the rate, we did get one of our bus drivers back and we are speaking with another bus driver currently. All the other positions are close to being filled and I will be attending a job fair at the high school next Monday. We are looking for one to three additional workers for the summer.

NEW BUSINESS-

Bushnell Field – We had damage to one of our lights and the cost to replace is between \$17,00 - \$18,500 depending on the direction we go in terms of the lighting. One out of the four light pillars and/or telephone polls that was knocked down and damaged the entirety of the lights. Insurance covers \$25,000 deductible and we are not receiving anything there. Massena Electric is looking into the idea of replacing all of the lights with LED and they believe the cost would be \$50,000 and with assistance from MED, our cost would be \$28,785.

We do have money available in our general fund which deals with Bushnell Field, we have about \$7,800 that we could use towards the light. I also spoke with Kevin; the treasure and we could also look to move some money into that fund to help cover the cost. We also potentially have \$11,000 in excess in the arena, we did not have any damage this year at the arena, therefore we did not use that funding. We also have about \$36,000 that we could use towards the new lighting project with arena, general, and contingency funds in this years budget.

A motion was made to approve the additional funding to fix all of the lights at Bushnell Field with LED light, this motion was made by Gary Gushlaw, seconded by John Meddings. This motion was approved by all board members.

MOTION CARRIED.

Softball – Softball began Sunday May 1st, the men's kicked off. They have a Sunday league and Thursday league. The women have been in touch and stated that they are starting Monday May 9th. Women's Senior softball league came in this morning and paid they will be playing on Tuesday nights. There is also a Men's Senior softball league playing on Wednesday nights.

22nd Annual Ted Kot Fishing Day – We are looking to host the Fishing Derby on Saturday May 21st, this will be out at Wilson Hill from 9am – 12pm, we will also be giving out free hot dogs. we

also make goody bags with bobbers and lures. As well as raffle prizes such as fishing poles, tackle boxes, fishing nets, etc. We sent out letters requesting donations to six donors, we generally received around \$600 in donations every year. Generally, we bring in around 50 participants.

Nerf Wars – We are looking to host Nerf Wars May 14th, generally do a two-hour Nerf Wars and the cost is \$5 per child. We can have around 100 kids when we do Nerf Wars, and we will have around 8 or 9 workers to keep watch on all the participants and we allow the workers to participate as well.

Beach Opening – We plan to have the beach open Saturday May 28th as our first official day. We will be open for picnics and depending on the weather, we will have lifeguards. We will have lifeguards on the weekends until June 24th and then start to have them every day of schools summer vacation.

Pickleball Locations – We will have three pickleball locations such as inside the arena, on the annex, and Alcoa field. We would potentially have four courts at Alcoa field, two on the annex, and then four temporary ones inside the arena for the summer months. Towards the end, we may have as many as ten courts for more people to come and play. We do not believe we are going to charge this summer.

Alcoa Field Cameras – We recently had damage being done at Alcoa Field such as graffiti and a break in at the shack where we leave pickleball equipment. Previously we had fish hooks melted into the slides at the playground. The interim Mayor Tim Ahfield and Police Chief recommended that we put up cameras at Alcoa Field. I did get a quote from NCC for cameras at Alcoa Field, the quote was \$14,000 and the camera feed goes directly to the Police Department. We have \$15,389 left over from the new Zamboni fund that we never used. Therefore, we could shift that money from the arena equipment fund over to the Alcoa field equipment fund and use that money towards the cost of Alcoa field for three different cameras.

A motion was made to approve the transferring of money from the arena equipment fund over to the Alcoa field equipment fund for the addition of cameras. This motion was made by George Hammill, seconded by Gary Gushlaw. This motion was approved by all board members.

MOTION CARRIED.

Adrian Taraska mentioned a question that was asked from a town board member about a softball team coming to Massena. Adrian was going to communicate with that board member and see what the next steps would be for that league to come to Massena.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 14th, 2022 @ 3pm at the Massena Arena.

Motion to adjourn and hold Executive Session was made by John Horan seconded by John Meddings and approved by all.

MOTION CARRIED.