



Athletic Committee
Monday, December 11, 2017
6:00 PM
Conference Room 11130
316 N. Academy Street, Cary Town Hall, Cary, NC
27513

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Speaks Out**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda**
- 4. Adoption of Minutes**
 - 4.1 Athletic Committee - Committee Meeting - Oct 16, 2017 6:00 PM**
- 5. Introductions**

Introduce new and existing Athletic Committee members
- 6. Athletic Committee Member Orientation**

Led by Town Clerk's office
- 7. PRCR Sports Programming Orientation**
 1. Sports Program Philosophy
 - a. Four Pillars (Fun, Sportsmanship, Skill Development, Participation)
 - b. Recreational and Competitive Priorities
 2. Sports Program Strategic Goals & Objectives for 2018
- 8. PRCR Advisory Board Update**
- 9. Athletic Committee Goals and Objectives for 2018**
 1. Provide support, feedback and suggestions to Town of Cary sports staff in the administration and enhancement of sports programming
 2. Offer input to staff on athletics programming special request applications
 3. Serve as a resource for Town of Cary sports staff; offering feedback and perspective on policies, rules, and issues related to sports programming and administration
 4. Support and assist the Town of Cary sports staff to advance a "customer centric" service orientation by (a) proactively offering suggestions for improvement and (b) providing feedback on staff initiated ideas/considerations
- 10. Potential Initiatives/Topics for 2018**
 1. Baseball affiliation
 2. Other zoning opportunities for youth and adult league sports
 3. Coach recruitment and training (all sports)
 4. Potential new sports programming to consider (examples: pickleball, lacrosse, cricket)
 5. Resource levels (if new programs are added, are there programs that may be removed)
 6. Lack of facilities in the West
 7. Customer Centricity: *Take action to improve the experience of those we are tasked to serve*
 - How can we better serve participants (youth and adult)?
 - How can we better serve coaches?

- How can we better serve parents?
- How can we better reach and engage non-participants?
- 8. Evaluation of Cary Sports Programming vs. National Association of Youth Sports and other relevant Programming Standards, sports governing bodies/associations (i.e. USA Baseball)
- 9. Other ideas or suggestions?

11. Upcoming Events

- Boards and Committees Mixer-January 8, 5:30pm; Page Walker Arts & History Center

12. Adjourn

Please contact Tracey Hedgepeth with any questions about this agenda. The e-mail address is <mailto:tracey.hedgpeth@townofcary.org> and the phone number is (919) 460-4062

The Town of Cary is committed to providing all citizens with the opportunity to participate fully in the public meeting process. Any person with a disability who needs an auxiliary aid or service in order to participate in any meeting may contact the Town Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The email address is virginia.johnson@townofcary.org; the phone number is (919) 469-4011; the TDD number is (919) 469-4012.



Athletic Committee

Cary Town Hall, Conference Room 11130

Cary, NC 27513

www.townofcary.org

Committee Meeting

~ Minutes ~

Ted Jeffcoate

Monday, October 16, 2017

6:00 PM

Conference Room 11130

1. Call to Order

Dan Evarrs: Present, John Ackiss: Present, Rick Jones: Present, James Mickle: Present, Marie Swepson: Present, John Mosser: Absent, Reid Stines: Present, Walker Reagan: Present, John Stauffer: Absent, Jody Zeugner: Present, Revanth Bobba: Present.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Walker Reagan made a motion to accept the October agenda, second by James Mickle, motion carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The following amendments to the September agenda were requested.

Skill Development

League rules are modified by age group. A pitch count rule has been put into place for the fall baseball league which limits the number of pitches a player may throw in a game/time frame. This replaces the former rule which limited the number of innings a player could pitch.

Comments: A committee member stated that he has observed that the newly implemented pitch count rules have resulted in teams pitching the same kids each week for the Fall baseball league and he felt that players should only be allowed to pitch two innings, giving more players the opportunity to pitch. that there should be consideration of alternative rules for the fall baseball league that prompts coaches to use a variety of pitchers, rather than being able to use the same pitchers (up to 85 pitches) for each game.

Fun

Leagues for ages 5-10 are considered instructional, standings and scores are not kept and there is no post season tournament. They are intended to provide a fun, low stress environment for kids to learn how to play the game. Leagues for ages 11 and up are considered recreational, standings and scores are kept and there is a post season tournament.

Comments/Points for discussion:

Participation numbers in youth baseball are down. Are we losing players to competitive leagues/travel teams? Can a recreational league be competitive? Can there be exceptions to instructional and recreational and what are the logistical challenges?

A committee member stated that several area municipalities and YSO's (youth sports organizations) introduce score keeping and tournament play prior to age 11. Tournament play could be generally regarded as fun which aligns with the Town's youth sports philosophy. Keeping score and mandating equitable participation for all participants does not need to be viewed as mutually exclusive.

Dwayne Jones pointed out that we are filling a need for recreational baseball that would not otherwise be filled, while there are existing alternatives for players looking for a higher level of competition. Could the Town partner with some the competitive leagues/programs?

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Oct 16, 2017 6:00 PM (Adoption of Minutes)

The team placement and draft processes are in place in the older leagues to help distribute players evenly and try to create balanced teams which makes the league more fun.

Conversations with high schools on how recreational leagues can support high school sports?

Is there a desire for sports leagues slightly below the commitment of travel team baseball that the Town can provide?

A committee member offered that the Town of Cary current standards, do not align with the current NAYS standards

NAYS Assessment – Staff will provide more information to the committee on the NAYS standards and how our programs line up with those standards.

Need to get feedback from the community on what they want to see for the baseball program.

Marie Swepson made a motion to accept the amended minutes, second by Walker Reagan, motion carried by a unanimous vote.

1. Monday, September 18, 2017

4. Public Speaks Out

None

5. Reports

1. Agenda Item (ID # 2741)

PRCR Advisory Board Update

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Dan Evarrs reported on two presentations given at the advisory board meeting. John Buben, Advisory Board member presented on pickleball, providing statistics on participation, lack of facilities and possibility of retro fitting existing facilities or adding new facilities to meet the demand. Sam Trogdon, Senior Operations & Program Supervisor reported on Outdoor Recreation programming efforts at Fred G. Bond Metro Park.

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2742)

Teen Council Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Revanth reported on two recent Teen Council events. September 30th, there was a leadership event which offered assistance with resume preparation and entrepreneurship opportunities. October 13th there was a Halloween party. The next Teen Council meeting will be October 17th.

3. Agenda Item (ID # 2743)

Staff Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ted Jeffcoate reported that staff is currently busy with winter basketball registration, preparation for the season, planning for the November Downtown Urban Open disc golf tournament, youth disc golf clinic and preparing for the 40th annual Cary Road Race in April.

6. New Business

1. Agenda Item (ID # 2744)

Committee Focus for 2018

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

The floor was opened for suggestions on topics and opportunities for improvement in the sports program for consideration at future committee meetings.

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2745)

Staff Topics

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ted Jeffcoate offered the following points that Sports staff would like to include for consideration.

- Baseball affiliation
- Other zoning opportunities for youth and adult league sports
- Coach recruitment and training (all sports)
- Potential new sports to consider (examples: pickleball, lacrosse, cricket)
- Resources levels (if new programs are added, are there programs that may be removed)
- Lack of facilities in the West

Committee discussion on these and additional topics:

There should be more consistency in coach training as coaches' move into older age groups.

Minimum skills expectations should be set for each age group (skills that should be learned by the end of each season).

If we affiliate with a baseball organization would they be able to provide us with those coaching/skills criteria (no need to re-invent the wheel)?

Challenges to implementing consistent criteria when dealing with such a wide range of player experience levels?

Need to find out what the participants think before we try to implement changes. Do we have this data and if not, what's the best way to get and interpret it?

Leagues are surveyed every three years to get feedback, response rate is low and these individuals are already participating in our programs. Need to gather data from people who are not participating to find out why.

What is the process for determining if there is a need or interest in a new program?

Several factors including participant interest, staff resources to administer, facility and equipment availability go into consideration of a new program.

Could we seek corporate sponsorship to provide funding for new programs?

Need to do analysis on how much participants would be willing to pay to get a new sports program.

Could information on potential new programs be put on the Town's website to get feedback?

Quantification of interest/participation numbers.

3. Agenda Item (ID # 2746)

Committee Topics

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

A committee member suggested the following discussion topics.

- Public data gathering, market research

- Technology - web based tools for coaches, parents and participants
- Administrative operations and efficiency
- Communications and Marketing

A committee member suggested possibly forming small sub-committees to address discussion topics.

A committee member asked if the committee's purpose is to act in an advisory capacity for staff or PRCR advisory board. These are not mutually exclusive. A committee member felt that the purpose was to support and provide feedback to staff, citizen input.

A committee member offered that the two year citizen survey needs to be more detailed and directed to citizens in different parts of Cary as needs are diverse across the Town.

The PRCR Master Plan is due to be updated in 2019 and should include more detail on new sports programs/facilities.

4. Agenda Item (ID # 2747)

Priorities

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

The committee continued discussions on the list of topics and ways to combine some of them. Several members suggested that the discussion on competitive versus recreational philosophy may drive some of the other discussion topics.

5. Agenda Item (ID # 2748)

2018 Committee Meeting Schedule

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

The committee discussed additional 2017 meetings and 2018 meeting dates. December was suggested as the next meeting for 2017. December 4th is PRCR Advisory Board meeting and the 18th may present challenges with holiday travel. December 11th was discussed and staff will confirm and send meeting notice out to the committee.

Several committee members preferred to continue with the Monday night meetings due to other conflicts. Staff will put together a schedule based on the third Monday of the month, meeting every other month beginning in February 2018 and email out to the committee for comment prior to sending to the Town Clerk.

7. Updates and Discussions

1. Agenda Item (ID # 2749)

Spring and Summer sports recap

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Item not discussed.

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2750)

Fall sports update

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Item not discussed

8. Upcoming Events

1. Agenda Item (ID # 2751)

Winter Basketball Special Request Meeting

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Staff will send out information

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2752)

Winter Basketball Team Placements

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Staff will send out information

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.