



Athletic Committee
Monday, September 18, 2017
6:00 PM

Conference Room 11130
316 N. Academy Street, Cary Town Hall, Cary, NC
27513

- 1. Call to Order - Dan Evarrs, Chair**
- 2. Adoption of Agenda**
- 3. Adoption of Minutes - May 15, 2017**
 - 3.1 Athletic Committee - Committee Meeting - May 15, 2017 6:00 PM**
- 4. Public Speaks Out**
- 5. Reports**
 - A. PRCR Advisory Board Update
 - B. Teen Council Update / Report
 - C. Staff - Ted Jeffcoate
- 6. New Business**
 - A. Update committee members on the full range of efforts the PRCR Department takes to provide the best Sports program to Town of Cary citizens that we can.
 - Philosophical underpinnings of the youth and adult sports programs
 - Efforts to promote fun (playing rules, league balance, etc.)
 - Efforts to promote sportsmanship (coach education, sportsmanship awards, etc.)
 - Efforts to promote skill development (coach training, clinics, classes, etc.)
 - Efforts to promote participation (playing time rules, team selection process, etc.)
 - Comparison of Town of Cary sports program to national recommendations, as defined by National Association for Youth Sports
 - B. Discuss how the Athletic Committee can provide more substantive contributions and “community guidance” on issues and questions faced by PRCR Athletics.
 - Customer Centricity- How can PRCR Athletics improve service and experience of participants (youth and adult), coaches and parents?
 - Relevancy- What can PRCR Athletics do to ensure relevancy to the citizens we strive to serve? How does PRCR Athletics plan and develop new offerings to best serve the evolving needs of citizens?

Philosophical (Guiding Principles)- What can PRCR Athletics do to assess whether or not current, and long standing “philosophical practices and principles” are aligned with current expectations and desires of the citizens we strive to serve.

C. 2018 Athletic Committee schedule

7. Updates and Discussions

A. Spring and Summer Sports Recap

B. Fall Sports Update

8. Adjourn

Please contact Tracey Hedgepeth with any questions about this agenda. The e-mail address is <mailto:tracey.hedgepeth@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, May 15, 2017

6:00 PM

Conference Room 11130

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Dan Evarrs called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Members Present – Dan Evarrs, Rick Jones, Marie Swepson, John Mosser, Reid Stines, Walker Reagan, John Stauffer, Jody Zeugner, James Mickle (arrived 6:10 p.m.)

Absent – John Ackiss, Aaron Williams

Staff Present – Ted Jeffcoate, Dwayne Jones

2. Adoption of Agenda

The committee reviewed the May agenda.

Action: Dan Evarrs made a motion to move Updates and Discussion items ahead of New Business; Walker Reagan made a motion to accept the amended May agenda, second by Marie Swepson, motion carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Adoption of Minutes

The committee reviewed the January 23, 2017 minutes.

Action: Rick Jones made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, second by John Stauffer, motion carried by a unanimous vote.

1. Monday, January 23, 2017

4. Public Speaks Out

None

5. Reports

1. Agenda Item (ID # 2486)

PRCR Advisory Board Update

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Dan deferred his report to the Athletics Committee Mission and Goals discussion.

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2487)

Teen Council Report

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of May 15, 2017 6:00 PM (Adoption of Minutes - May 15, 2017)

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Teen member not present. Dwayne Jones reported that the Teen Council membership continues to grow and has 20,000 volunteer hours logged this school year. He asked that the committee email staff any volunteer opportunities for the Teen Council members.

3. Agenda Item (ID # 2488)

Sports Staff Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ted reported that staff has been very busy February through April with wrapping up the winter sports season and getting the spring sports season up and going.

6. New Business**1. Agenda Item (ID # 2489)**

Athletics Committee Mission and Goals

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Provide support to Town of Cary sports staff in the administration of sports programming.

Serve as a resource for Town of Cary sports staff; offering input and perspective on policies, rules, and issues related to sports programming and administration.

Support and assist the Town of Cary sports staff in their ongoing efforts to fulfill and achieve the town's stated mission to deliver exemplary service; helping to guide, foster and advance a "customer-centric" service orientation by proactively offering suggestions for improvement and staff consideration.

Serve as a "voice" for coaches, parents and participants; offer constructive feedback and suggestions to enhance Town of Cary sports programming and administration

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2492)

Additional Ideas for Refining the Missions and Goals of the Athletics Committee

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

How can the Athletics Committee best serve and advance the interests of "customers" (coaches, parents and participants) and the needs of Town of Cary sports staff?

Committee Feedback

Feedback from the committee on the goals was positive.

Suggestions to improve the Sports program:

Regionalize adult league sports leagues as possible.

Comments: Adult teams may have players from all over Cary and surrounding communities so regionalization may not work best for them.

Survey current and past adult softball captains.

Gather and plot data from adult league rosters to see where participants live.

Consider adding new sports to the program (Lacrosse, Pickleball, Cricket, etc.) to meet needs of growing and changing demographics.

Comments: Seek funding for new facilities (Cricket Pitch, more Pickleball courts).

Provide more support and instruction to youth coaches.

Comments: Make administrative part of coaching (communicating and getting schedule information to parents) easier. Scheduling software that automatically populates a participant's outlook calendar. Apps like TeamSnap that make it easy for coaches to send out schedules/changes, monitor player attendance for games/practices, snack sign up.

More assistance/instruction for coaches: provide coach module/practice plan, develop a list of standard skills that each age level should be able to do by the end of the season, more coaching clinics. Meet with coaches in the off season (winter for spring baseball/softball, spring for winter basketball, etc.) to seek feedback on the season and changes they would like to see. This would give staff time to possibly implement those changes prior to the start of the next season.

Improve skill level of youth participant/teach them to play the game.

Comments: More individual and small group skills sessions for sports to better prepare players for the upcoming season.

Don't lose the fun while teaching skills, kids will lose interest if it's not fun.

More committee discussion on declining baseball/softball numbers and our program philosophy (competitive versus recreational).

Dan Evarrs reported that Fuquay Varina (population: 25,000) has 4,300 youth sports participants while Cary (population 175,000) has 4,500 youth sports participants.

Tournaments/keeping score/player pitch for younger leagues (10 & Under).

Comments: End of season tournaments could create more excitement about the league. Other municipalities/travel teams/competitive leagues are starting player pitch earlier.

Several of the committee members felt that the emphasis should be on skill development and teaching kids to play the game correctly in the younger leagues. They were also concerned that the regular season would have to be shortened to accommodate tournaments. This would mean less games/instruction time for teams that lost out early.

Instructional league players register by zone, staff assigns to teams based on school assignment. Kids going to same school would be on same team.

The committee will continue these discussions at future meetings.

7. Updates and Discussions

1. Agenda Item (ID # 2490)

Winter Basketball Re-cap

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ted distributed data on the registration/waitlist numbers for the season. This is the second year of zone based registration and we had record breaking registration numbers. Participation numbers in the west zone have maxed out due to availability of gym space, but there is still room for growth in the central and south zones. Ted reported that approximately 172 participants were waitlisted and did not get to

play. This was due to several factors such as limited space in the west zone, choosing not to register in other zones that did have space and adding to the waitlist after the point when administratively teams could have been added. The committee was concerned with that waitlist numbers and want to explore ways to acquire more gym space in the west zone. A committee member asked if extending the season by a week or two could provide more time/space to accommodate more teams. It was pointed out that currently most of the leagues end fairly close to the start of the next sport league, but staff will consider that option. Dan Evarrs asked how information on the need for more facilities in the west gets to Town Council. Staff reported that there are several avenues including the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Advisory Board and citizen feedback at Town Council meetings and public meetings on the Town's budget. Staff is hopeful that Alston Ridge Middle School, slated to open in 2019, will provide some additional gym space in the west. Attempts have been made to secure space at high schools in the west, but that has been unsuccessful.

2. Agenda Item (ID # 2491)

Spring Baseball/Softball Update

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

This is the first year that participants in the instructional leagues (age 10 & under) were able to register by zone. Participation numbers in most of the younger age groups did increase, but overall the numbers in the older age groups (age 11 & up) have been steady or declined in recent years. Several factors such as the increase of travel baseball/softball teams, more competitive league opportunities, perception of recreational leagues versus travel teams/AAU as well as a variety of other sport opportunities (soccer, swimming, lacrosse, etc.) could be contributing to this. The committee was concerned with the decline and felt that we should come up with better ways to survey current players, past players that did not return and the community in general to get feedback on the league. Staff currently uses an on-line survey method to collect feedback from participants, but it was suggested that a short paper copy survey that participants/parents filled out and returned right away at a game/event might get more response. It was also suggested that committee members should have nametags so they would be easily identifiable when they attend events. This would give participants/parents/coaches another avenue to provide feedback. The committee also asked that staff share participant feedback (positive and negative) with them.

8. Upcoming Events

9. Adjourn

Adjourn 8:15 p.m.