

Start time: 7:03pm

Meeting at City Hall Council Chambers

Attendees present were: Mr. Peretti, Mr. Scarpa, Mr. Clay, Mr. Vargas, Mr. Peale, Mr. Hameed-El and Commission Solicitor Mr. Jeff Medio.

Also present were Secretary Stephanie Tamagni, Brett Scarpa and Alex Gomez from the Recreation Dept.

Not present was Mr. Ruben Gomez and Mr. Eugene Medio.

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –January 13, 2025 - regular session**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT** - Motion to open and close the public comment session required
 - a. **Pat McGrory-EVLL** states registration went live the 2nd week of January, they have an online portal through their website. They will have 4 in person dates at the pole barn for sign-ups using their new system that takes credit card only. Tryouts will be 3/1 & 3/2 with opening day on 4/12. Sunday mornings and Friday nights they will be working with the adult leagues to use the fields as done in the previous year. Pat said there is a wet spot on the 1st base side that they will take care of, VPL uses the t-ball fields and they are having a tournament all week in July and he will provide us with the dates when it gets closer.
 - b. **Orlando Arbona Jr-** adult league will continue using the fields at EVLL and communicating with Pat to do so.
 - c. **Abraham Ramos-SVLL** states all registration is being done online and they have computers setup if anyone needs help going online.
 - d. **Adrian Rodriguez-NVLL** registrations are up and running and they are offering free t-ball for ages 4-7 to try and encourage more kids to come out and play.
 - e. **Gabe Santiago-Clutch Baseball** wants to continue usage of Cunningham Park and Romano fields for his teams this year. He has 3 teams this year 12U, 13U and a combined team of 16 and 17 year olds. He says the infield at Romano needs some work and he would like to have batting cages put up at Romano park. They are one of the only parks without batting cages there. They have the netting just need posts put up and help installing.
- 3. RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE**
 - a. Report on League Updates:
 - i. VBA update from Mr. Peale-**1/2 way through the season**
 - ii. VSA registration-237 recreation; **220 travel-1 more week to sign-up recreation team should be 300-325 by the end of week**
 - b. Facilities Maintenance Updates:
 - i. Soccer net was replaced on Field 2 at Romano Park
 - c. Financial Report:
 - i. General Recreation Commission (RC) account balance is \$23,638.36
 - ii. Recreation Fields (RFF) account balance is \$41,532.73
 - iii. January 2025 deposits: \$1,750.00
 - iv. January 2025 expenses: \$9,385.74

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. SVLL situation

- i. Abe who was the VP last year and is currently the President of SVLL says they came up \$50,000 short and are now doing everything cashless. Mr. Clay is upset because this is not the first time this has happened. Heather Barile the Treasurer says a lot of changes are happening. She says they are in compliance with the State and have 12 board members total with 7 new members and 5 returning members from last year. Mr. Clay states that he has a problem that they aren't all new members this year and that some returning members were there whether involved in the disappearance of the money or not they were involved in the oversight of it happening. Mr. Hameed-El asked Heather if they take donations and how would they track that. She responded with they have accountants and quick books. She also said they were under the impression that they were paying for accountants over the years and they were deceived. Mr. Clay says you need to make a clean sweep of previous members because they were negligent when money went missing and that sends a bad signal to all of the parents and other members. Mr. Clay is taking offense to the league and the kids that \$50,000 went missing and no one noticed. Mr. Scarpa asked how did anyone not notice the money missing. Heather asked how did Recreation not notice the money missing when the previous President Joe turned in accounts. Mr. Clay asked how did the previous VP not notice \$50,000 was missing-we have no idea how much is brought in by the League for fundraisers or concessions. Heather says the previous President was using the bank account as a personal ATM. Abe(VP) has been there 35 years working on the fields and helping kids. Mr. Clay says we have had issues with all Little Leagues before SVLL, EVLL and NVLL. Mr. Scarpa wants to know how did you not see any ATM slips or receipts, Joe the President last year was also the Treasurer so he was in control of all money. Pat McGrory said he would take on helping SVLL get setup with Gene Volpe's accounting firm that would download the PDF statements monthly. Mr. Clay tells Abe and Heather they were both in place when the money was stolen and they were blind to it. Mr. Hameed-El wants to know if we can have the financial oversight committee names. Abe said they have to find an audit board. Heather says she gave the names of the board members to Brett but he would like another updated copy.

b. League registrations-**voted on cashless at last months meeting**

5. NEW BUSINESS (Votes Required)

- a. Alex Gomez-new department head-Al stated that what happened in SVLL is devastating to me, I grew up in SVLL, I am a man of integrity and as soon as we get all of the paperwork from the League we will get it taken care of. I'm not a sit behind the desk kind of guy. I have already emailed all of the League Presidents.
- b. Al Vargas- regarding the no cash accepted for sign ups-can we do something with the concession stands. Asking members about the square app to have payments coming in. It is too easy to steal money from concessions. Pat McGrory said they had someone stealing from their concessions and they installed cameras all over in the stand. Al Vargas says if we get a system that we can all use, the public will get used to going cashless. Mr. Peale said why not have an outside company do the concessions, they use an outside company that shows up and sets up snacks so they aren't involved in any money. Mr. Williams from VMFL says he makes a lot of income from his concession stand. Adrian from NVLL says concession is a big part and pays for the umpires, they want cash and it is \$90/umpire. They have implemented the square for payments as well.

6. SOLICITORS REPORT

7. ADJOURNMENT

**** Vote Required**

1. Approval of January minutes-Mr. Peretti motion, Mr. Clay second it	All voted yes
2. Mr. Clay motion to open public comments, Mr. Scarpa second it	All in favor-yes
3. Mr. Peretti motion to close public comments, Mr. Peale second it.	All in favor-yes
4. Mr. Clay wants a motion in place for full oversight of all board members involved in the issue at SVLL last year and any members involved should be suspended indefinitely from any further activity.	Mr. Peretti 2nd it Mr. Peale abstained Mr. Scarpa abstained Mr. Clay yes Mr. Hameed-El yes
5. Mr. Peretti motion to close the meeting, Mr. Peale second it.	All in favor-yes
Meeting closed at 8:06 pm	Meeting was 1 hour 3 min long

Next meeting on March 3, 2025