



# VILLAGE OF RIDGEWOOD

## Ridgewood Fields Committee Minutes

May 7, 2024 – 7:00 am 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. Conference Room Ed. Center/ ZOOM

**Attendees:** N. Bigos, M. Andreula, S. Winograd, K. Kazmark, M. Schwarz, C. Holt, H. Kwak, C. Fisher, G. D'Andrea, E. Seavers, R. Brooks, A. Finston, S. Muller, P. Thomas, P. Holmes, B. Lynch, R. Lasky, M. Hefferan.

**Public Attendees:** D. Loren, P. Coopersmith, C. Herndon, A. Loving, B. Loving

### I. Roll Call

RECOGNIZED GROUPS IN ATTENDANCE-Ridgewood Baseball and Softball Assoc., Ridgewood Soccer, Ridgewood Lacrosse Assoc., Ridgewood Jr. Football, Maroons Soccer, Hoops Basketball, RHS Athletic Department, Ridgewood Parks and Recreation Department, Member at Large

ABSENT- Ridgewood Jr. Wrestling, Ridgewood Roller Hockey, Rebels Basketball, Ridgewood Community School

### II. Approval of Minutes-April 9, 2024

Minutes approved by all.

### III. Public Comment

C. Fisher-Shared that during a game on Hawes lower field a player was injured and the locked gate was unable to be opened to allow the ambulance access to the field. He has requested assistance from Police, Fire and Parks and Recreation Departments.

B. Loving-The zoom link is not correct.

### IV. Member at Large

S. Winograd- Jeff Gluck has resigned after 18 years from the Fields Committee. We thank him for serving on the committee. Carolyn Holt is the new member of the Fields Committee appointed by the Village Council serving a five-year term as the Member at Large.

### V. Projects

**Permanent Lighting Veterans Field** N. Bigos-Shared the power point presentation that was shared previously at a Village Council meeting by Bob Zoeller of Musco Lighting. The original lighting project of 1980's was designed for practice use only. Current lighting does not meet the standards for the industry, has no glare control and is energy inefficient. The updated lighting will increase the safety; benefit all residents that use the park for dusk, dawn and evening walks and visitors that come to attend the Kasschau Shell concerts and special events like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. This new LED lighting is energy efficient, covers a larger area and the controls are wireless and can be controlled using a smart phone. Musco



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Lighting has subcontracted Bill Hodges, an electrical engineer at Lan Associates in Midland Park who will be creating the electrical design.

K. Kazmark- The Village sent out 30 letters inviting the surrounding neighbors to learn about and discuss the updated lighting planned for Veterans Field. Eight or nine neighbors came to the meeting and they were satisfied with the lighting. The neighbors were not in favor of increasing the hours of play on the field. A \$235,000.00 grant was applied for through the Open Space Trust Fund. Additionally, a lighting incentive rebate program through PSE&G will be submitted.

N. Bigos- Added lighting installation will include two additional poles and safety padding will be added if deemed necessary.

K. Kazmark-The two additional poles are located outside the safety zone for players. Lighting expansion is possible in the future to include the SE, SW and NE fields.

A. Finston- Requested that the Varsity Softball Field be included in the lighting project.

K. Kazmark- Asked that a quote be investigated and the addition of the softball field be considered for the project in the future.

E. Seavers- Stated that you can apply to the county for the per year maximum \$200 thousand dollar grant each year for a project. The money can be applied for in stages.

**Field Remediation Orchard Field** M. Schwarz- Orchard Field remediation has an 18 to 24 inch cap; Aramark is responsible for maintenance of the field. Properly maintaining the grass field will assist with the success of the remediation of the field. Aeration and seeding will not be enough to rectify the bare patches on the field. Accelerated grass seed treatment would take 45 to 60 days, placing sod will take 30 to 45 days. Realistically a 45 to 90 day window before the field is playable.

E. Seavers-Years ago the sports groups payed for installation of irrigation systems on BOE fields. Was the irrigation system removed during the remediation and not replaced?

B. Lynch- Recommends resting the field adding soil, seeding and investing in irrigation system.

## VI. Fall Schedule Requests

N. Bigos- Fall RHS Varsity sports are being uploaded into Master Library. Parks and Recreation Department requests that recognized sport groups submit their requests. Other programs that are held at the schools and on Village fields will be added annually to Master Library.

P. Coopersmith- Asked if the fields in Master Library requests be broken down into half fields for reservations instead of the whole field to allow a larger amount of players to use each field.

## VII. RASA-Application for Recognized Group Status

Handouts were shared and flash drive information was shared over Zoom P. Holmes- Ridgewood Adult Soccer Association has been working for the last year to become a "Recognized Group." They have applied to be registered with the state as a nonprofit; the formal 501C3 can take three months to a year for approval. They submitted paperwork to the PRC Board and made a formal request to be a



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recognized group. They submitted a mission statement, nonprofit status, by laws, grievance policy, list of trustees and officers and meeting dates. They have applied for a Certificate of Liability Insurance for the 19 and over participants.

P. Coopersmith-Ridgewood currently has two organized groups that play in the USLNJ league; they also have pickup games that pull from a group of Ridgewood residents. There is no cost to become a member. No coaching requirement for teams, coed programs for both recreation and competitive play. There is a need for adult soccer in this community. Looking for Maple or Stevens field time Tuesday and /or Thursday nights, 7:30 to 9:00pm in July and August. Also, Sunday mornings at 10:00am for half a field.

B. Lynch- You will need a website for registration.

A. Finston -Logistically we do not have enough field space for the organized groups that we already have.

N. Bigos-We are looking for open space in the Village, as we understand the needs of the public now and in the future. Master Library will help us in fine-tuning scheduling of our fields.

S. Winograd-We want to close the gap for older residents who want to participate in sports in the Village. The current policy does not include them and others that wish to age in place.

C. Holt- Do you have a season or are you year round?

P. Holmes- The league play is spring and fall, but recreation is year round.

N. Bigos- June PRC Board meeting for full approval of RASA.

### **VIII. Master Library**

N. Bigos-Public requests for field use are still being submitted using paper for building use and park facilities with in the Village system.

### **IX. Field Policy**

N. Bigos- Subcommittee met a few months ago and performed audits to the document. The policy still needs updating. We will table this discussion until fall when all attend.

### **X. Schedler Property**

K. Kazmark- The Village is in the final stages of preparing the resubmission of the SHPO application. Have retained Suburban Consulting Engineering who is preparing the documents. They are also authorized by the Village Council to perform a fields analysis and needs assessment. The application will be resubmitted in the near future. Simultaneously to that we have just completed a phase 1B archeological study, we should have a report on that in the next week or two. Based on the results Grubb Associates will need to go back to SHPO to determine the scope of work for a phase two study. Matrix, the soil testing company that has been retained to test the soil on the berm has some additional work efforts on the property that will be discussed an upcoming Village Council meeting.



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### **XI. New Business**

C. Holt- Has concerns about the condition of the field at Hawes.

M. Andreula-He will look at the field issues and report to Keith Kazmark.

**XII. Next Meeting Date-June 4, 2024; 7:00 am, In person, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Ed Center/ZOOM**

**XIII. Adjournment 8:32 am**