

Ridgewood Fields Committee Minutes

January 7, 2025 – 8:00 am 2nd Fl. Conference Room Ed. Center/ ZOOM

Attendees: IN PERSON – N. Bigos, C. Holt, G. D’Andrea, D. Wilde, R. Matthews, D. Smith, M. Schwarz, E. Sudol, A. Pollick, L. Mulcahy, M. Handy, L. Deighan, P. Holmes, P. Coopersmith, D. Smith, J. Cosgrove, B. McCrone, M. Hefferan
ZOOM - K. Cook, R. Lasky, R. Brooks, K. Kazmark, G. D’Andrea, S. Winograd, S. Muller, M. Micale, N. Friedman, D. Manmering, P. Thomas, P. Karg

Public Attendees: A. McCambridge, C. O’Keefe, A. Loving, B. Loving,

I. **Roll Call**

RECOGNIZED GROUPS IN ATTENDANCE-Ridgewood Baseball and Softball Assoc., Ridgewood Soccer, Ridgewood Jr. Football, Hoops Club Basketball, Rebels Basketball, Biddy Basketball, RHS Athletic Department, Ridgewood Parks and Recreation Department, Member at Large, Ridgewood Community School, Village Council Liaison, Board Of Ed Liaison

ABSENT- Ridgewood Jr. Wrestling, Ridgewood Roller Hockey, Ridgewood Lacrosse Assoc., Maroons Club Soccer

II. **Approval of Minutes-November 12, 2024**

1st – B. Lasky, 2nd - P. Thomas, Minutes approved by all.

III. **Public Comment**

A. McCambridge- Added her comment at the end of the meeting. Stated health concerns about turf fields.

IV. **Revision/Athletic Fields and Recreational Facilities Use Policy**

K. Cook-Shared that updates are being made to the policy regarding facilities, availability and appropriate use of facilities. In addition, the proper procedure to reserve fields and facilities. Rental fees are also being reviewed.

V. **RHS Spring Schedules**

K. Cook-The draft of the field allocation schedule was sent to recognized groups for review. Groups are required to make reservations on Master Library on both Village of Ridgewood and Board of Ed platforms. HS varsity sports begin on turf fields March 10th for spring sports. BOE grass fields will open the week of March 24th, Village fields will open March 28th.

VI. **Master Library**

BOE Spring Requests

K. Cook- Sports groups should submit schedule requests early. Special events at BOE fields will be added by the end of the month. Recognized groups will then be able to start inputting field requests for March, April and early May.

VOR Spring Requests

D. Wilde- The spreadsheets were sent out to the spring recognized groups for field time, and returned no later than January 17th.

VII. **Field Project Updates**

Veterans Field Lighting

N. Bigos-All equipment has been delivered and the project is moving forward. Permits have been submitted. Signal Division has started running conduit. No completion date has been set.

BF Field Renovation

D. Smith- Has been working with the engineers and architects to finalize the details of the plans for the field.

South Pleasant Park/Hawes

N. Bigos- Stated that the field has been leveled, the sod has been installed and irrigation has been tested. Perimeter soil work still needs to be completed and the fencing will remain up until the sod can take hold.

S. Muller- Stated 50 tons of clay was added to the infield, it is soft and will need time to settle and firm up. He requested that fields be closed until spring.

Orchard Field

L. Deighan-Said the other 1/3 of the field has been aerated and seeded and soccer goals have been brought to the field.

VIII. **Winter Maintenance**

Portable Restrooms

K. Cook- Portable restrooms will be returned to all fields in early March.

Fencing Veterans Field

K. Cook-The HS will be using the same fencing as in the past. He is still looking to replace it with a new type of fencing in the future.

Portable Light Towers

N. Bigos-The Parks Division is storing at least a dozen light towers, many are inoperable. She is asking that the heads of Maroons, Ridgewood Soccer and Ridgewood Jr. Football meet with herself and the Parks Supervisor to decide condition and status of these lights.

Equipment Removal Secured

K. Cook- Asked that the equipment on the fields be inspected and repaired or removed. New sandbags and sand are being delivered for 2025 use.

IX. New Spring Program Requests

K. Cook- Stated to members that a new program includes any grade level expansion from the previous year. He reminded sports groups to submit the required information as listed on the current field policy.

X. RASA – Application for Recognized Group – Status Report

P. Holmes-Reported that the IRS has required additional information for their application to become a 501 c3 organization. That information will be submitted by the end of this week. Has asked that the wording in the updated Field Policy includes adult groups. He will be making a formal request for field use this week.

XI. New Business

B. Lasky- Reminded the sports groups that soccer field use is a priority in the fall and that soccer's priority drops off in the other seasons.

K. Kazmark-Said that the Habernickel Park small five by five foot area of contaminated soil was removed on December 30, 2024 and disposed of properly. The paperwork is being finalized with the DEP once that is satisfied the sign will be removed.

R. Matthews-Has received from EI Associates the flood mitigation plan proposal for the HS fields and will share it with the committee in late January.

XII. Next Meeting Date-February 6, 2025; 8:00 am, In person, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Ed Center/ZOOM Motion for Adjournment

1st – R. Matthews, 2nd – B. Lasky, **8:55 am adjourned**