



HARTFORD COUNCIL FOR RECREATION
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www.hartfordrecreation.org

**INTERLOCAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS &
HARTFORD COUNCIL FOR RECREATION**

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

7:00 PM

HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

THE BOARD MEETS THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

AGENDA

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Approve minutes from January meeting; see attached documents**
- 3. Financial, Budget and Audit Updates**
 - a. Janell and Jerrod bring the board up to date with the Treasurer's report, with the current figures in the General Fund, Concession Fund, League of Miracles Fund and PayPal account. These are also available for review in paper form.**
 - b. Update on the progress and status of the 2019 audit, to the extent of the current contacts that we have had with Hungerford Nichols. It is beginning to move along, and we are in the final stages of submitting additional information that they have requested. However, there is still not a solid timetable that has been given to us as to when it will be completed in its entirety. We are hoping it will be done soon, so we can submit to the city, school and township. We want to get it done pronto, because the township is "officially out" of the interlocal in March, per their current inclination.**
 - c. Once the 2019 audit has been completed, the board will still need to convene on getting audits, or something similar, done to cover both the 2020 and 2021 calendar years. Under the current Interlocal Agreement, which remains in effect until further notice, these yearly audits are in-fact, required. We know that with just a few weeks of football being the only sport, along with monthly bills, the 2020 audit will not be a big task, but getting back-on-track is a must going forward.**
 - d. Jerrod is working with the city and school on getting the information required to renew the liability coverage that the city provides us, that is documented each year on our budget. The information needed (years structures were built, square footage, etc.) is information that the school would have on file and would be able to supply the city.**
 - e. Just a reminder that due to our current audit and unknown future with the township (in terms of funding) in the short term, we still do not have a "free flow" of funds to just spend, so we must remain vigilant with our spending, as we still have our normal monthly bills to pay, as well as sport-related expenses to pay in the coming days, weeks and months. Thankfully, we have officially paid off our 2021 contracted labor, and those contracts are paid-in-full.**
- 4. HCR Updates**
 - a. Baseball & Softball Updates**
 - 1. Signups (in a virtual sense) are ongoing on our website through the first Sunday in March, and so far, we have roughly 30-35 registered, which is pretty much right in line of where we were at this point last year; maybe just a little bit lower, as we had a couple in-person signups by this time last year. We still have one more boy's basketball game coming up this Saturday, and we should probably make sure we are at Parent-Teacher Conferences, over those two days, in at-least Redwood Elementary utilizing that option for in-person registrations, too. We should also make sure we get flyers handed out in the elementary and middle school to announce this information, as well, and Jerrod will print something in his Tri-City Record column, too.**
 - 2. As far as scheduling occurs, we are going to move our 10U softball and Minor baseball into the SWMBSL (where our 11/12 and 13/14 teams are), as they have committed to having machine pitch this year, in lieu of live pitch. This will greatly expand our base of teams that play at that level and leaves us having to schedule less divisions in the spring. Our youngest divisions (Instructional / 8U) will remain more local in nature, to keep them from traveling too much.**

3. The league mentioned above plans on starting on May 2nd and going through June 9th, which will bump right into the first tournaments of the postseason. If it is feasible, we could still start a week earlier, and begin our seasons the week prior (April 25 / 26), but we would have to find opponents to play, which we could always play our teams against each other, or go outside Hartford and find communities that may need a game or two to play prior.
4. We will have to revisit the rules and regulations for both regular season and tournament play in the coming months, to ensure that our directors and other community directors are on the same page when they come to Hartford what rules they are to follow. This is a tedious task that will take some time to complete.
5. We need to get two people to serve as our baseball and softball directors for the 2022 season, that will serve as the liaison for those sports, in terms of all questions regarding schedules, rules, and other administrative tasks. Kellan Nichols has expressed interest in handling the baseball director position, while Megan Mireles has expressed interest in returning as the softball director.
6. **REMINDER: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, everything that we set with dates, locations, or times is subject to change, and should in no way be considered final in nature.**

b. Football & Cheerleading Updates

1. At this time, no major discussion topics are warranted, as these sports are considered “out of season”. However, with basketball finishing, we still need to setup a time and place to have our awards ceremony for all sports from 2021, as we discussed at our last meeting. This would be a casual ceremony, to hand out certificates, have some small food items, etc. We could do this in the auditorium, but would like someone to take this task on, and execute it properly.

c. Basketball Updates

1. The 2021-22 basketball season is nearing the conclusion, and it has been a pretty good season to say the least. Outside of a few issues that we discussed in detail at the January meeting, things have been going smooth, and players are doing a good job of learning and our coaches are doing a good job of being educators of the sport. Our first home games were cancelled due to inclement weather, and a bit of a miscommunication, but we have done our absolute best to make sure that this season has been of good quality for everyone. As we mentioned above, we have home games coming up this Saturday, Feb. 19th, and that will conclude all home events until we get to spring sports.
2. Once again, we appreciate the job that Lee, Megan, Marilyn, our coaches and our volunteers have done this season, and going beyond the “call of duty” to ensure that this season went to our standards. Both seasons have been a learning experience and done on the fly at times, but with our first year now under our belt, we now know what we are doing right, and what we need to work on in future years to make it that much better.
3. As mentioned above, we will need to communicate about an awards ceremony for our basketball players, that will include spring and fall sports from 2021. Once that is complete, basketball will be officially declared “out of season”.

d. League of Miracles Updates

5. Old Business

- a. We are still going to attempt to schedule a meeting with the city, school and township, and make a formal presentation to all three, once the audit is complete. As board members, we should give it our best effort to make an appearance at a regular board meeting of each of these entities in the next couple of months to outline our current and future goals.
- b. We will need to gauge the interest of our labor from 2021 (Park Director, Concession Director and Head Umpire) to determine if they would like to be a part of our ballpark family in 2022. Marilyn has expressed interest in taking a breather from Concession Director, but Jeff Christner has expressed that he would be interested in returning in the capacity of Park Director, as well as Kellan Nichols as the Head Umpire.
- c. In terms of financial implications, we are going to be sending out and delivering sponsorship letters in the coming days to our local businesses and are encouraging everyone to work on the quarter auction that will be happening in March. In addition, we are still planning on having a spirit wear fundraiser for the spring sports season. All of these options have the ability to garner us much needed financial relief so we can provide another great set of sports seasons this year, without having to burden our families with the ever-rising costs to provide such sports programs.

6. New Business

- a. Jerrod received some good news that the Hartford Council for Recreation will be receiving a donated AED from the Wes Leonard Heart Team. The board discussed safety heavily in 2021, and an AED is essential to ensuring that everyone remains safe while at our facilities. While we hope that we will never have to use

it, we never know what tomorrow will bring, and it will be there in case we ever need it in a medical emergency. The organization is holding a ceremony to honor those receiving these devices this Friday in Fennville, and we would like someone to go as a representative of our organization. The AED's are delayed, like most everything else, so we will not receive in for another month or so.

- b. We should probably sit down and schedule out the spring / summer sports scene in Hartford for everyone and post it on our website and social media channels, so that parents / guardians have an idea of what things will look like in the months ahead. Board members have made note of this from other communities, and it may well be a good idea to have that calendar of events taken care of in advance.**

7. Public Wishing to Address the Board

8. Open Discussion

9. Next Meeting Reminder:

- a. Wednesday, March 16th, 7:00 PM, To Be Announced (location is pending approval by the board). A meeting reminder will also be placed on our website, social media channels, at Hartford City Hall, at Central Office at Hartford Public Schools and at Hartford Township Hall.**

10. Motion to adjourn