



HARTFORD COUNCIL FOR RECREATION
PO BOX 332, HARTFORD, MI 49057
www.hartfordrecreation.org

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

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

7:00 PM

INDIAN PRIDE PARK

THE BOARD MEETS THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

AGENDA

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Approve minutes from May 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 continued progress and status of the 2019 audit, to the extent of the current contacts that we have had with Hungerford Nichols. Janell and Jerrod both received an email last week from Ryan Marschke regarding progress on the audit, saying that he had been working on it. There was one piece of documentation regarding some depository questions he had that we addressed promptly on that day, sending him the information he needed. Hopefully, with Ryan saying he's making progress means that we are closing in on getting this audit completed.**
 - c. Once we fully complete the process of the 2019 audit, the board will need to convene on future strategies on the auditing process, or something similar, going forward to get back on track for the fiscal years of 2020 and 2021. While the Interlocal Agreement appears to have 'ended' with the township, we still should honor the agreement with them and be audited for those two calendar years, since the agreement was still in effect. In addition, we still should try to make an effort to establish a relationship with a licensed accountant or someone similar to look at our finances on a monthly basis throughout the year, to establish that our organization is remaining 'clean' and property ran.**
 - d. Just a reminder that due to the current audit situation (we are roughly \$15,000.00 short from the township from the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 per the Interlocal Agreement – these funds will not be issued until all audits are completed), we are only looking at spending on the absolute complete necessities that the ballpark needs right now. We must continue to remain vigilant with our spending. We are in the process of the conclusion of the spring sports season, but still have a baseball tournament to prepare for, which means we will have to spend on trophies and umpires, among other things that need to be paid, in addition to contracts for Park Director, Concession Manager and Head Umpire. We also have monthly bills, such as electric and water / sewer, as well.**
- 4. HCR Updates**
 - a. Baseball & Softball Updates**
 - 1. The regular season has been completed (as of the second week in June), regular season trophies were handed out (cost under \$1,000.00), and that means its tournament time. Our organization held a successful softball tournament the weekend of June 17-19, with 18 teams competing in four divisions of softball, with the opportunity to go home to their community as champions. In the end, South Haven (8U), Hartford (10U), Paw Paw (12U) and West Portage (14U) took home top honors. Thank you goes out to everybody who was involved in the functioning of the tournament, including our staff, umpires and volunteers, who did an outstanding job of putting on another solid tournament from start-to-finish.**
 - 2. Preparations are now underway for the Hartford All-Star Baseball Tournament of Champions, set to run from July 8-10. We are getting plenty of inquiries from neighboring communities regarding participation in the tournament, which seems to make our decision of moving the tournament back two weeks seem reasonable. If we do get plenty of teams, it is possible we may have to begin a day early, on Thursday, July 7th, but we will have to wait for the final list before making**

that determination. In addition, we need to make sure we are fully prepared for the tournament, including getting balls and trophies ordered (with Fourth of July holiday, they'd like to know by June 30th). It is essential we run another great tournament to keep people coming back long into the future.

3. Once the baseball tournament concludes, that will put an end to the spring sports season and will put these sports 'out-of-season' until the fall or the winter, when we will have to determine signup fees, dates, etc.
4. **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. The biggest thing that we need to tackle regarding these sports are getting kids signed up. Jerrod will work on the 'Virtual Registration' this week, attempting to get it up around July 1st. It is a tedious process that takes some time to set up, and with spring sports taking up a lot of our efforts in recent months, it has been put on the backburner. In addition, we should, once again, have signups at our gates during the baseball tournament. It seemed to work quite well and ensures that people do not have to pay a fee just to come to the concession stand to sign their kids up. It is essential to get people signed up as soon as possible, as we know there are delays right now, including with jerseys. The earlier we get everyone signed up and everything ordered, the better.
2. Lee mentioned that a football meeting was coming up with the fellow members of our league. We will have to find out what was discussed at the meeting and identify if any scheduling or rule changes have been addressed, in addition to any communities that may have left, or may be joining the league. As mentioned in previous meetings, practices usually begin in August, with games scheduled for approximately six weeks between mid-September and the end of October. We are hoping by the end of the month of July that most of the information will be given to us, so that we know how to plan the season out. We will need to get a schedule completed as soon as possible, so Jerrod can talk to Abel Robles (new Athletic Director) to reserve field time for games on Saturday's.
3. **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.**

c. Basketball Updates

1. At this time, no major discussion topics are warranted, as this sport is considered 'out-of-season'. We will revisit this sport in future meetings in the fall to address signup fees, dates, etc.

d. League of Miracles Updates

5. Old Business

- a. Despite the uncertainty in terms of a future Interlocal Agreement with the city, school and township (we will try our hardest to work together with all three entities), we will still attempt to attend regular board meetings for the municipalities in the future, and give them a formal update of what is going on within our organization, and describe our current and future goals with each respective board. We, as board members, should all make a valiant attempt to attend a meeting, and show our solid front in this effort.
- b. We need to continue our discussions regarding future fundraiser ideas. At the last meeting, the board and the assembled public all brought great ideas to the discussion that could help us bring in additional cash flow, that would help us to purchase things that we can definitely use without having to dip into our strategic general fund, including new equipment since it is beginning to age (mostly for baseball / softball and football), among other needs we must address. However, we don't want to have the same fundraisers for different seasons, as it would be nice to fundraising in unique ways per season.

6. New Business

- a. The board / organization needs to discuss ways of how we can work better together and support each other as a group. We have plenty of great people that have decided to be a part of this organization, but there are plenty of times over the course of the past several years that we haven't agreed on how to deal with things the right way, and we need to do a better job of being supportive of one another. In the end, we are all individuals, but we must focus on the word 'TEAM' to make our dreams here a reality. It's about the youth of our community, after all. We can't achieve success if we are not working together.

7. Public Wishing to Address the Board

8. Open Discussion

9. Next Meeting Reminder:

- a. Wednesday, July 20th, 7:00 PM, to be announced (date, time and 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