

## CHAPLIN RECREATION COMMISSION

### Special Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2024

Chair Dave Stone called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Attendees: Shannon Hammond (Vice-Chair), Monica Arbo (Secretary), Amie Kraemer (Treasurer), Josh Woodward and Matt Foster. Others present were Mike McKinney, Victor (Manny) Aufiero, Rich Shultz and Sarah White.

#### 2. Audience for Citizens:

- Chaplin B Coach Mike McKinney expressed concerns about a Saturday game in Columbia: volatile environment, mishandling of officiating (one-sided), unfair calls (no call for Chaplin player smacked in the face who had a black eye the next day), 3-pointer scored as 2-pointer on the board (aggressive response from the scorekeeper when questioned), unfair calls ignored when questioned - discouraging to the kids and doesn't allow teaching the fundamentals of basketball.
- Parent Manny Aufiero acknowledged Coach Mike for being very well mannered when talking to the referees and expressed concerns about the following: bad referees being unfair and crushing the spirit of the kids, calls not being made, officials ignoring showboating/taunting/swearing by the opposing team (should have been addressed immediately by the Director of the League – Brad).
- Assistant Coach Rich Shultz expressed concerns about the officiating (stinks – needs to get better), not making decent calls, little boy thrown into the bleachers (Matt should have stepped in), officials controlling and setting the standard for the game.
- Assistant Coach Sarah White expressed concerns about the following: officiating bad across the board (kids not learning), calls not being made (kids getting confused and frustrated), doesn't understand why every game is awful (many complaints), kids getting hurt.

#### 3. Sports:

##### a. Basketball:

Matt Foster who runs Chaplin Rec Basketball for Rec addressed the following: in response to Assistant Coach Rich's comment about not stepping in for bleacher incident (didn't see the incident) – difficult to see everything going on during a game (Coach Rich noted problems at every game, home and away with constant fouls for Chaplin but not against), has a good rapport with the referees who are Board Certified from Board 8 and 35 and doesn't feel they are purposely picking on Chaplin kids (Coach Sarah asked where they get their training from – they should know what's going on), can be confusing with 4 sets of different rules for different age groups with high school games done most of the time (Dave noted they are professionals being paid \$50 per hour and should be held to a higher standard).

- Monica Arbo is not understanding how it got to this point with a Rec representative at every game, kids getting hurt, coaches removed from the game, coaches and kids being let down, and one of the first times being talked about. Assistant Coach Sarah spoke about incident where she was suspended for yelling at a girl from the other team for shoving her daughter – knows she was wrong (not aware about no talking to kids from the opposing team) and feels it wouldn't have happened if the officials had the game under control (Coach Mike noted unprofessional conduct (mumbling swears) from Brad during the entire game). The suspension decision was issued from Chairman of the League (Brad).
- Josh Woodward suggested developing a policy and procedures including how to address safety (if something is seen - pull kids away from the situation, coaches have full support to stop and forfeit a game for safety concerns).
- Dave Stone wants to move out of this league (need to finish the season). Coach Mike asked why referees haven't been reprimanded. Assistant Coach Sarah asked why Chaplin is a target (referees

rotated between all the towns) and why there are no ice packs (all coaches should have ice packs - Matt has ice in home bag). Manny Aufiero asked what happens after this meeting (the Commission will discuss the issues and find a solution).

- Matt Foster suggested bringing coaches and referees together to be more stringent on fouls if the game is getting rough (tend to let things go for the younger kids – Coash Sarah feels should be same for all the kids so they can learn).

Moving forward, communicate with the coaches (Matt will do), finish the season, draft a Code of Conduct and disperse as soon as possible (Monica will work on), remind everyone to walk onto the court with the right mentality (here for the players), contact Board 35 about referees (Matt suggested Commission compile and agree to complaints in writing before sending out), sourcing other referees (Dave will work on). Manny Aufiero asked if Special Rules and Code of Conduct could go out to parents at the beginning of the season (ask the coaches - will go out to them first).

The Commission needs to support a different structure within the League. The number of tasks to manage the program is too much for one person to handle (will start splitting up the tasks and work on together). The Task List includes: Jerseys (Shannon), League Liaison (Matt), League Communicator, Referee Facilitator, Communication Specialist, Equipment Manager (Dave), Registrations (Amie), Scorekeepers, Fundraising (shoot-a-thon), Basketball Committee Representative (Dave will talk with Hampton more about forming a multi-town Subcommittee including Scotland – doesn't have to be a Rec member).

- Amie Kraemer suggested voting every year for a new town to run the League and left the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Discussed Tryouts and Evaluations - add to Task List (Dave will formalize with job descriptions).

#### **4. Adjourn:**

***Motion to adjourn (7:55 PM) made by Josh Woodward, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.***

***Respectfully submitted by  
Kathleen Scott, Recording Clerk***