



## **MINUTES**

### **Newaygo Community Recreation Authority Meeting**

### **July 10, 2025**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am by Chair Jennifer Badgero. The meeting was held at Newaygo City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Present: Jon Schneider (City of Newaygo), Erik Larsen (Garfield Twp), John Clark (Croton Twp), Morgan Heinzman (Croton Twp), Jennifer Badgero (Brooks Twp), Kim Goodin (Brooks Twp), Asa Vermeulen (County Rep)

Absent: Jane Parsley (City of Newaygo)

#### **MINUTES**

Motion by Heinzman, second by Goodin to approve meeting minutes from 05/08/2025. AIF/MC

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments.

#### **FINANCIALS**

Motion by Heinzman, second by Badgero to approve the current month financials and accounts payable. AIF/MC  
Schneider stated that revenues were on target for the fiscal year end (June 30<sup>th</sup>) and said that expenses were slightly under budget.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS**

Motion by Schneider, second by Clark to approve Resolution N2025-02 dedicating the Henning Park Baseball Fields located at 500 Croton Drive in memory of Duane duChemin. AIF/MC Heinzman stated that the County plans to pass a similar resolution and suggested that all municipalities which are part of NCRA pass the same or similar resolution. Heinzman said that he is currently obtaining quotes for a memorial stone and bronze plaque, in memory of duChemin, to be placed at the Henning Park Baseball Fields.

Schneider discussed challenges that occurred during this past spring with the water at the soccer fields related to issues with the VFD at the well. He stated that the City DPW implemented a workaround to restore irrigation, and they are working with Raymer Water Wells on a permanent solution. Erica Herwig, AYSO Treasurer, was present and confirmed that the irrigation is now working well and the fields are improving. Herwig discussed a recent email from AYSO to NCRA regarding off-season use of soccer fields and AYSO equipment. She explained that AYSO moves all equipment, including goals, off the fields at the end of the season, but individuals are moving the goals back onto the fields. Herwig stated that AYSO National has strict liability policies preventing them from leaving equipment accessible for non-AYSO use due to potential damage and harm to uninsured individuals. She said that they have ordered locks for the goals to prevent individuals from moving the goals on the field. Herwig said that AYSO might have old goals without nets that could be set up during the off-season. Board and Herwig discussed the cost of nets and options for securing goals on one field during the off-season. Consensus of Board was that AYSO lock the goals, display signage stating that the goals are not for public use, and that NCRA could assist with the cost of new nets for one set of goals and assist with necessary field accommodations to leave a set of goals up during the AYSO off-season. Herwig will discuss this with the AYSO Board and get back to NCRA.

Clark stated that the dugouts at the Centerline Fields are complete. He said that the retaining wall at the Centerline fields will require attention in the future and that Little League is exploring options of adding additional stone dust to Centerline fields this fall. The Board discussed vacant land, owned by a City resident, adjacent to Centerline Fields and the potential for acquiring a portion for a future additional field.

Goodin said that she had been contacted by someone interested in utilizing one of the Centerline fields in the fall for a U-14 softball team. Clark stated that he spoke with the individual, who resides in Fremont and has four girls from Fremont for the team, hoping to recruit additional girls from Newaygo. The Board discussed a previous agreement with a non-Newaygo Little League team and the challenges encountered at that time.

Board discussed: the need for liability insurance, field maintenance, agreement length, lease amount and the necessity for consistency should others be interested in leasing fields in the future.

Motion by Heinzman, second by Badgero to authorize Schneider and Newaygo Little League to negotiate and create a lease agreement for the non-Little League team interested in utilizing a Centerline field this fall, and to call a special NCRA meeting if any hurdles are encountered. AIF/MC

Schneider provided an update on the Skate Park, stating that Luke Francis, a teacher from NPS, and his students have been repairing sections of the Skate Park during the past two school years and they hope to continue working on additional repairs in the coming school year. Schneider said that they have completed significant understructure work, and areas of the surface may require replacement in the coming years.

Vermeulen gave an update on the Disc Golf Course stating that Tee Pad installation would start tomorrow, Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> and is expected to be completed by July 15<sup>th</sup>. He said that they are finalizing the signage and mapping for the Kiosk. The board discussed maintenance of Disc Golf Course trails, reviews on UDisc and potential road signage. Schneider stated that there are remaining funds that could be used for road signage. Vermeulen will look into road signage.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

No Board member comments.

Motion by Badgero, second by Heinzman to adjourn meeting at 9:07 am. AIF/MC

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Kim Goodin, Secretary