

February Youth Commission Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2021

Attendance: Chris Streno - Youth Director, David Birtch Steve Hughes, Nicole Kariam, Fred Lawrence, Josh Spisak and Kyle Wilson

Call to order 6:00pm

I. Old Business

- School sports have begun playing - winter season finishing, fall season forthcoming
- Still not likely that the Town's Youth programs will be access to inside facilities
- Fred Lawrence researched other cities and towns Youth Commission bi-laws which was sent out to the Commission for review and possible implantation to update the Town of Binghamton's Youth Commission rules and processes
- A Facebook page has been created for the Town's Youth Sports programs as whole, there will no longer be pages for individual sports
- All Youth Commission members have completed the required annual Harassment Training

II. New Business

A. Baseball/Softball

- Chris Streno met with both Conklin and Kirkwood recently and both towns have agreed to create a 3-team league with the TOB at all levels
- Moving forward, the towns will have to agree upon age requirements, game rules and a common COVID waiver form - a future meeting will be needed in the near future to complete
- Signup sheets will be sent to schools on March 1st and the deadline for signups will be March 31st
- Both the digital registration from and paper registration form will have a COVID waiver form on it that must be completed in order for a child to be registered
- Chris Streno will confirm with the Town's attorney to ensure the waiver from last year can still be used this year
- Goal is to have Opening Day ceremonies at Jackson Park on Saturday, May 1st
- In order to limit the size of the crowd at the ceremonies, each age level will be given a designated time to attend, to play and to get pictures taken
- Certain COVID protocols will remain in place from last year such as two spectators per player, access to sanitation materials in the dugouts and signage of rules placed throughout the park. Subject to change per NYS.
- A meeting with commissioners and coaches of each league will be scheduled once teams are formed so they can fully communicate expectations and rules to their team's parents
- There is still a possibility of a Teener League league option for modified and JV players, meeting is expected to take the end of February with more info to come
- Both baseball and softball will have paid umpires this year
- Park Terrace field and Brookside fields should be available for use this year

B. Booster Club

- Some concern over the lack of volunteers for the Booster Club

- The Town will try and remind via Facebook that programs are dependent upon volunteers and we are at risk of losing some of the funding they provide
- The Town will research what the protocols are for having a concession stand at Jackson Park during games

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 - Next meeting scheduled for March 18th @ 6:00