

Egg Harbor Township Recreation Commission Meeting  
EHT Community Center 5045 English Creek Avenue  
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

7:00 pm

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

III. Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act

IV. Roll Call: Robert Fairfield, Chair - Present Charles Gallagher - Present  
Carmen Messina, Vice Chair - Present Justin Riggs - Present  
Toni Rispoli - Present Paul Weldon - Present  
Kathy Fiedor - Excused Kevin Stetser - Present  
William Warrell - Present

Rick Audet – Director of Recreation

V. Reading/Acceptance of Minutes

- a. Minutes – November 9, 2016 Regular Meeting.  
Chairman Fairfield made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Warrell seconded the motion. By a vote of 8-0 the minutes were passed.
- b. Minutes – November 21, 2016 Special Meeting.  
Chairman Fairfield made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Warrell seconded the motion. By a vote of 7-0-1 (Vice-Chair Messina abstained) the minutes were approved.

VI. EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups Comment

Street Hockey-

Gary Adams indicated that Street Hockey was up and running. All is well. Gary thanked us for the lumber and assistance with the work on the West Court. He inquired about the revamping of the lights on the East Court. Director Audet advised that the lights will be re-vamped. Musco has been contacted.

EHT Soccer-

President Christine Gras inquired whether any progress had been made regarding non-residents participating on EHT Youth Sports.

Chairman Fairfield advised that this subject is further down on the agenda at this time.. However, we will discuss it at this time. Township Committee had gave the Recreation Commission an edict through Chairman Fairfield to allow non-residents to participate on EHT Travel teams. In so doing, each case will

be handled separately. The Governing Body will determine whether the non-resident is eligible to participate.

Christine Gras stated that all EHT Youth Organizations have travel Programs.

Director Audet stated that groups travel but they are still EHT Recreation programs. Travel Basketball, Jr. Wrestling, Lacrosse and Football cannot accept non-resident players due to their leagues. Groups such as Soccer, Softball, Baseball and Street Hockey may be the only Youth Groups that may accept non-residents. Commissioner Rispoli advised that each organization governed by Babe Ruth must charter each year. They must include their boundaries. EHTYS has a boundary of Egg Harbor Township. Should they choose to expand their boundaries, they can not include any town that has been chartered under Babe Ruth. The exception is the Extreme Softball Program. This is strictly a Travel Program. When forming an Extreme Team, EHTYS would have to request permission from the town, with whom a travel player resides. Once permission is granted the non-resident is able to participate on the Extreme Travel Team. This rule would probably include Babe Ruth and Cal Ripken Baseball.

Director Audet explained that the philosophy as coaches must be understood that no EHT resident will be bumped in order to allow a non-resident to participate. Rick reiterated that non-residents will only be afforded the opportunity to participate on Travel Programs. Criteria will be established and strictly adhered to.

Commissioner Riggs stated that non-residents will only be considered to “round out” a team. AT no time will two teams be formed to allow non-residents to play.

Christine Gras indicated that the 2017 U12 Boys team has 12 players for an 11V11 team. A roster of 15 players is needed to be a viable team. Therefore, 3 non-residents would be needed if additional EHT residents don't sign up to play. Christine further stated that the U13 team may not have enough players to even begin. Her goal is to get the players back to EHT Travel Soccer from the other towns they went to play.

Commissioner Riggs asked what Township Committee has to say about non-residents.

Director Audet explained that he has be asked to draft a clause concerning non-resident play.

Chairman Fairfield indicated that Committeewoman Pfrommer stated that by-laws and the Recreation Commission's Policy and Procedure Manual would not be amended. The issue of non-residents participating in EHT Travel Programs would be subjected to a one year trial period. An assessment would be made, at the end of the particular season, to determine whether the practice would continue or be ended.

Vice-Chair Messina stated that Travel is a pay to play organization. All Travel teams should be independent and come under Green Acres. These teams hold tryouts and cut players. Recreation teams do not cut players, everyone plays.

Christine Gras indicated that all levels are under the Recreation umbrella.

Vice-Chair Messina spoke about by-laws. Each organization is independent. There is a distinct competitive edge for travel teams that come under the Recreation umbrella; they get first choice of field use. Pay to Play teams should be governed by Green Acres, not Recreation.

Commissioner Warrell stated that Township Committee must define their views on non-resident participation. Commissioner Gallagher agreed that Township Committee must give a definitive answer on this matter. Vice-Chair Messina stated that the Governing Body has indicated that non-residents can play.

### **BMX-**

Stan Russ, President, indicated that their season has ended. He thanked everyone for their help throughout the season. Stan said the banking on the ramps was good. The jersey barriers near turn 2 and the parking lot were helpful. Next adventure is work on the starting gate.

Commissioner Rispoli asked whether BMX has officially turned over the stand to Street Hockey. Russ explained that the two seasons overlap and he will get the stand commercially cleaned. Commissioner Rispoli indicated that the Health Department may inspect the building at any time. It would behoove BMX and Street Hockey to get the stand cleaned asap, as they have received low grades on the inspections in the past. Commissioner Rispoli added that a form should be prepared by the Recreation Commission for sign offs when two or more groups share the buildings.

### **EHTBA-**

Bob Webber, President, spoke concerning the Hammonton resident participating on the 12U travel team. Bob explained that due to a death in the family, they temporarily moved to Hammonton to assist an elderly family member. The child in question does attend a Hammonton school at this time. However the family anticipates moving back to their EHT residence, wherein the pay taxes, around April 1, 2017. Commissioner Warrell inquired about the tryout list. The next child in line should be on the team. EHT children get first dibs. President Webber stated that roster sheets will be forwarded and he will address the issues.

## **VII. Public Comment opened at 7:40 p.m.**

Fencing will be installed at the BMX facility. It will run from the building to the rule sign, behind the turns and separate BMX from Street Hockey.

- **Public Portion was closed at 7:42 p.m.**

## **VIII. Old Business**

### **a. Recreation Commission by-laws**

The by-laws will remain unchanged until April. At that time the recommended changes will be instituted.

### **b. 2017 Recreation Commission Calendar**

Commissioner Warrell made the motion to accept the meeting dates on the 2017 calendar.

Commissioner Riggs seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 8-0.

### **c. Green Acre Parks**

Bob Webber, EHTBA President, inquired whether EHTBA would get use of the fields first, prior to any Green Acres request. He added that Veteran's Park is not a Green Acres Park. The Nature Reserve, Bargaintown Park and Tony Canale Parks fall under Green Acres.

Ed Keil indicated that Canale Park Soccer fields and parking lot and Bargaintown 60-90 Baseball field fall under Green Acres.

Commissioner Rispoli reminded all of the 2017 Spring and Summer Youth Organizations to get their schedules in prior to the start of their season, as close to January 1 as possible. Green Acre Groups are filing Use of Facility requests.

**IX. Use of Facility Requests**

- a. Atlantic County Outlaws Baseball requested use of Bargaintown and Veteran's Parks 4/1/17-11/15/17. The request comes under Green Acres and will be addressed at a later date.

**X. Director's Report**

**a. Lacrosse**

A location for the shed between fields 3 & 4 has been preliminarily determined. The original location was not feasible as water washes out the area.

Commissioner Rispoli attended the December Lacrosse meeting. A request was made for Public Works to water the fields during the summer months. The grass died due to lack of irrigation last summer. When Football began their practice, PW began watering the fields. There was no grass to hold and absorb the water, therefore mud was produced and the fields were ruined.

Commissioner Rispoli addressed an issue with 40 boys playing on one 12U Lacrosse team. Toni explained that the team should be split into two teams. This would allow for the program to grow and more participation time for each player. Lacrosse was agreeable and will form two teams at this level.

**XI. New Business**

- a. 2016 Coach/Volunteer of the Year.

To be discussed at the end of the meeting.

- b. Park Use & Fee Schedule Policy

Handouts were provided. Commissioners will review the policy. The policy will be discussed at the January 11, 2017 meeting.

**XII. Correspondance**

**EHT Youth Group Minutes**

A. Baseball Association -11/3/16

B. BMX –last received 10/25/16

C. Diamond Cheer

D. Jr. Wrestling –10/25/16

E. Lacrosse – 9/14/16, 10/12/16

F. Soccer Club – 10/5/16, 11/14/16

G. Street Hockey Association – last received 10/11/16

H. Travel Basketball – last received 9/8/16

I. Youth Softball – last received 3/28/16

J. Youth Organization – 9/21, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2/16

**Handouts**

- a. EHT Baseball Financials 11/3/16 and 12/1/16.

• **EHTBA**

11/3/16 minutes indicated that Winter workouts would not exceed \$2500.00. Commissioner Rispoli asked President Webber where the workouts would be held. Bob replied All Sports in Hammonton.

• **Jr Wrestling**

10/25/16 minutes reflected that Director Audet did not give a definitive date for Jr. Wrestling to hand in their 2015-2016 Financial report. This is incorrect. They were given time after the re-organization to submit the Financials by December 31, 2016. Jr. Wrestling will be contacted .

Commissioner Warrell would like to see a change to announcements for fund raising events. Bill asked that the word “Beer” be removed. Also, if alcohol is served children should not be present.

Recreation Director Audet gave Wrestling 2 used clocks and purchased 2 new clocks out of the O&E budget.

A question was raised concerning who was paying for fleece jackets for coaches and Board Members. Jr. Wrestling will be contacted.

**XIII. Tabled Matters**

**XIV. Public Comment re-opened at 8:37 p.m.**

- **Public Portion was closed at 8:40 p.m.**
- 2016 Coach of the Year .  
Commissioner Riggs motioned to approve Craig Dannelly as the 2016 Coach of the Year.  
Commissioner Warrell seconded the motion. Craig Dannelly was selected as the Coach of the Year for 2016 by a vote of 8-0..

**XV. Adjournment 9:00 p.m.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Riggs	Seconded by Commissioner Warrell
Vote	8-0

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Robert Fairfield, Chairman

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Toni-Lynn Rispoli, Secretary

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These minutes were approved at the  
January 11, 2017 Recreation Commission Meeting

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