

Egg Harbor Township Board of Recreation Commissioners Meeting
Egg Harbor Township, NJ

REGULAR MEETING - MINUTES
Wednesday, May 8, 2019 **7:00pm**

I. Call to Order

Recreation Commission Chair Toni Rispoli called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act

Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet read the opening statement.

IV. Roll Call:

Toni Rispoli, Chair - Present	Amy Smith – Present (arrived 7:38)
William Warrell, Vice Chair - Present	Paul Trinkle - Present
Charles Gallagher - Present	Christine Gras, Secretary (Alt. 1) – Present
Paul Weldon - Present	Jonathan Parker (Alt. 2) – Present
Kevin Stetser – Present	

V. Reading / Acceptance of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting April 10, 2019

Motion	To approve the 4/10/19 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Motion made by Paul Trinkle Seconded by Christine Gras
Vote	Motion carried 5-0-2 (Rispoli, Stetser, Weldon abstain)

VI. Public Comment

Brigitte White and Andrea Stroud of the Delta Lambda Chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. stated to the Commission that they had applied for use of community center for their organization. Their application was for meetings to be held in the Multipurpose Room one Saturday a month. They were informed by the Parks and Recreation Director that their organization was not on the approved users list in the Community Center Rules and Regulations packet thus their organization was not allowed to apply for the center. They were also informed she could appeal to the Recreation Commission to be placed onto the approved users list. She was here tonight to let the Commission know about their organization and their request. It was explained that about 25% of the members of their organization live in EHT.

Ms. White shared background on her family and her background in Egg Harbor Township. Their organization is comprised of educators. They are an educational based sorority founded in 1981 in Egg Harbor Township. She stated she is hopeful that the Commission would grant permission for use of the community center. Ms. White and Ms. Stroud shared their desire to increase their involvement in EHT and do more community service in the Township. Bill Warrell asked Ms. White and Ms. Stroud about what activities they take part in and where. Mr. Warrell stated that it seems to be more of an Atlantic County group. Ms. White explained the school scholarship program and how that works and detailed her organization’s community service efforts in both EHT and other locations in Atlantic County.

Toni Rispoli asked if their members could meet during the week and asked the ladies to poll their members on that possibility. Ms. Rispoli stated that Saturdays are difficult to book and host ongoing standing meetings as there is a lot of use of the community center on weekends. Also, on certain weekends we lock and do not staff the building if there is no use scheduled.

Andrea Stroud further expounded on the leaders of her organization and their ties and involvement in the Township. Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet was asked his opinion of the application. He stated that their organization is not a traditional EHT organization as has been defined in previous the years, they are more of an Atlantic County based group, but they do have members that live here and they do serve the community. If they were to meet once a month in our meeting room on an open date, this would not be a burden to the department. Rick Audet also stated that since they wish to further their service in the Township, there is no better place to do so than Parks and Recreation so they should be expected to be involved and help with an event or program through Parks and Recreation. The organization would still pay all applicable fees and adhere to all rules and regulations as a user group. Use of the meeting room is \$25 per night.

Motion	To approve the Delta Lambda Chapters as an approved group under Group B in the Community Center use of facility rules and regulations. Motion made by Christine Gras Seconded by Bill Warrell
Vote	Motion carried 7-0

VII. EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups

Barb Dodd, 20 Rushwood Drive, Beth Russ, 3 Patrician Terrace, and Mary Adams, 70 Somers Ave were in attendance to speak on behalf of EHTBMX. They stated that the BMX Nationals Race is in August. They met with Township Committee last week in regards to camping at Veteran’s Park during the event. They are also working on their special event permit with the Township. Camping in the park was approved by Township Committee with restrictions and conditions. EHTBMX plans to limit the amount of campers and have everyone sign and comply with written rules and regulations. Toni Rispoli stated that Kevin Stetser, Christine Gras, and she would coordinate the camping plan with BMX. BMX leaders will be present in the park 24/7 during the entire event. There is a 10pm noise rule and no open flames allowed. The Commission discussed the plan for camping at length with the BMX representatives. There will be no camper parking at the Dog Park, library, or Castle Playground. It was noted that National Night Out is two days after the race. EHTBMX is also coordinating with area hotels for room blocks and discounts.

Dr. Mark Mensh, 2 Dockside Drive, attended to update the Commission on EHT YO. They have selected their head coaches for the upcoming season and will vote on them at the next meeting. The head coaching interviews are performed by a three-person committee. There was discussion on who sits on the committee. Atlantic Varsity head coach was the only spot that was contested with multiple applicants. Their registration numbers right now are low compared to previous years. Rick Audet reminded Dr. Mensh that he reached out to the YO president on dates that YO cannot use Veteran’s Park due to the BMX Nationals race. Arrangements for alternate site for both football and cheer can be arranged.

VIII. Old Business

a. 2019 Capital Projects

Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet summarized the 2019 capital projects plan. The proposed expansion to Canale Park athletic fields was reviewed as well as the status of the Green Acres grant application. The Commission discussed the MK Betterment Tract and the possibility of developing it in the future for basketball and pickleball facilities. Toni Rispoli stated her wish to have a new location for the Jr. Wrestling Club so that they are not restricted to Tuesday and Thursdays only in the community center. The \$100,000 line item in the capital budget towards design and engineering of the Canale Park athletic fields expansion was reviewed again. Christine Gras stated that the investment in additional fields would help our current fields by taking some of the burden off the field and allow more rest time. Amy Smith stated that this use of funds would put us closer to the goal of improved fields in the Township. Toni Rispoli shared again that the monies should be put towards our current fields for their improvements and the funds for engineering and design work should come from a different budget than Parks and Recreation Capital.

Rick Audet stated that the request we made for capital project funding was decreased and we therefore could not do the softball batting cage or Jr. Wrestling Club mats. The Commission stated it wants the mats for wrestling and asked the director to find a way to make it happen.

b. EHT Community Center – request use of facility letter Phi Delta Kappa
(Moved to public comment)

IX. Use of Parks Facility Requests

a. The Church of Pentecost Canale Park 6/29/19

Motion	To deny the Park use request as presented by the Church of Pentecost. Motion made by Bill Warrell Seconded by Christine Gras
Vote	All voted in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

X. Director’s Report

None.

XI. New Business

None.

XII. Correspondence

EHT Youth Group Minutes

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| A. Baseball Association – 4/4, 4/18/19 | F. Soccer Club – last received 3/12/2019 |
| B. BMX – last received 4/6/19 | G. Street Hockey Association – 3/11/19 |
| C. Youth Organization – last received 3/6/19 | H. Travel Basketball – last received 3/14/19 |
| D. Jr. Wrestling – last received 1/22/19 | I. Youth Softball – last received 2/10/19 |
| E. Lacrosse – last received 3/5/19 | |

- A. EHT Lacrosse 2019 Game Schedules, Board List, Coaches List, Registrations summary
- B. Public Works Grounds Summary 5/8/19

XIII. Tabled Matters

None.

XIV. Public Comment

None.

XV. Adjournment

Motion	To adjourn the May 8, 2019 meeting of the Recreation Commission meeting at 9:07 p.m. Motion made by Charlie Gallagher Seconded by Paul Weldon
Vote	All voted in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

(Minutes as heard by Rick Audet, Director of Parks and Recreation)

Toni Rispoli, Chair

Rick Audet, Director of Parks and Recreation

These minutes were approved at the June 12, 2019 Recreation Commission Meeting.
