

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Egg Harbor Township Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance 7:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Messina, Audet, Gallagher, Fiedor, Riggs (7:07 p.m.), Rispoli, Warrell and Weldon. Fairfield and McComb were excused.

3. Minutes:

August 5, 2015 minutes were approved by a 5-0-1 vote (Messina abstained).

4. Presentations/Public Comment:

Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs Program-

Leah Arreguin, of Egg Harbor Township, eight years old, caught the largest fish on July 20, 2015. It was a 14 inch Triggerfish. Leah was awarded a trophy and her name will be placed on the plaque which is displayed in the EHT Community Center's meeting room.

EHTHS Baseball Booster Club-

Jeff Maul spoke on behalf of Shawn Coyle EHTHS Baseball pitching coach. He requested use of a 60-90 Baseball field for an EHTHS Alumni baseball game on October 17, 2015 (Rain date October 24, 2015) from 12:00-5:00 p.m. Jeff explained that this game is a fund raiser for the High School team to go to Myrtle Beach. Vice Chair Messina asked whether use of facility had been requested from the High School. Jeff gave a negative response. Commissioner Riggs advised him to first reach out to the EHTBOE, specifically Kathy Bechtel for use of a school field. Jeff indicated that he would do so and advise Recreation of the BOE's response. Commissioners Warrell and Gallagher stated that conditions must be met prior to authorizing use of a Recreational Baseball field. EHTBA would have to be consulted to ascertain field use on those dates and insurance is required. Use of Bargaintown Park's 60-90 Baseball field was conditionally approved by a vote of 7-0.

EHT Youth Groups Feedback on Policy & Procedure Manual-

EHTYS-

Kim Collins, Vice President inquired whether any information regarding a land line, at Childs-Kirk Park, had been obtained. Director Audet gave a negative response but stated he would follow up with the PW Buildings Manager shortly.

Kim indicated that EHTYS had a few questions regarding the Procedures and Policy manual. Kim asked whether it was permissible to loan items that EHTYS has purchased, such as a grill. Director Audet responded that the intent, of number 4 on page 7, was to insure that independent groups are not authorizing other groups to use Township property such as fields, fieldhouse, equipment, etc. All of those requests must come through the Recreation Department. Commissioner Rispoli suggested that EHTYS take pictures of all of their equipment for identification purposes, in the case of theft or damage.

Kim advised that a new Treasurer has been appointed. Her name is Rose Ivie. Kim stated that Umpire fees are logged into a book and asked how to present this with their financial report. Commissioner Rispoli indicated that, in the past, EHTYS has put this expenditure in Miscellaneous. It was explained that that is not acceptable. Umpire fees should be defined as such in the Financial Report.

Kim asked about sponsor signs as indicated on pages 18 & 19. Director Audet stated that sponsor signs should be removed once the season ends and stored. Ergo, with softball the signs should be removed and stored at the conclusion of Fall Ball and may be rehung prior to the commencement of Spring Ball. It was agreed that the clause in the policy and procedure manual would be revised to allow sponsor signs to stay up during the calendar year. Also, it is permissible to display banners and signs of EHTYS teams and their accomplishments throughout the season.

Outdoor cooking/grilling was discussed on page 19. The Board of Health Department handles this area. If groups are utilizing grills compliance with fire codes is paramount.

The schedule should reflect 50% of the games held at EHT and 50% at other facilities, as defined on page 16. Kim asked about short seasons, such as Fall Ball or District/SNJ State and EHTYS sponsored tournaments. Director Audet explained that all of the groups need to be proactive and submit their schedules prior to the onset of their

season. Minutes need to be submitted in a timely manner. A more thorough look at extenuating circumstances such as Fall Ball programs will be addressed in the near future.

On page 20, keys and combinations were addressed. Circumstances require that Head Coaches need access to certain keys and combinations. Director Audet requested that Commissioner Rispoli revise the paragraph concerning keys and combinations for review at the September 30, 2015 meeting.

Youth Groups-

EHT BMX-

Stan Russ, President, advised that the starting gate and two turns needed to be moved and re-paved. Fill dirt is needed for the turns and the Pump Track needs to be moved. He asked whether some fencing could be installed. Director Audet will speak with Township Administrator Miller and Public Works Director Simerson concerning this project. Weather permitting, asphalt work could commence between the end of the 2015 and the beginning of the 2016 BMX season.

Stan advised that November 7 is the last race and November 14 is Ryder Appreciation Day. He indicated that BMX has a proposal in to host the Gold Cup Race on May 13, 14 & 15, 2016 (rain dates May 20, 21 & 22). All organizations will be notified of this race including the EHT Police Explorers. The Regional Race host has not yet been determined. Should EHT host this event, areas for campers will be requested.

EHTYS-

Kathleen Glick, President and Mariealena Dagostino, Fall Ball Coordinator, spoke about the non-existence of EHTYS Travel teams. They asked once again about allowing non-residents to participate on EHT Travel teams. Vice Chair Messina reiterated that the teams must be 100% EHT residents. He suggested that more experienced coaches be sought, such as from the area colleges to help with fundamentals through clinics.

Mariealena inquired whether additional lighting could be installed at Chils-Kirk Park. The parking lot off of Biscayne does not have any lighting. Also there is insufficient lighting from the fieldhouse. Most of the lights around the building do not give off enough light or have been broken. Spot lights from the roof might help.

Commissioner Weldon stated that he would have the EHTPD conduct and document a Lighting and Security survey.

5. Old Business:

Surveillance cameras-

Bill McFeeley and Bryan McGair from Breaker Group, Inc. presented their ideas for surveillance coverage of the parks on 9/3/15. They felt that a smaller network with individual DVRs housed within the individual fieldhouses would meet our needs. Their product can be expanded. Steve Newsome, EHT IT, will be involved with the surveillance project covering the technical aspects of installation and networking. Steve indicated that wifi could be pulled from the Community Center for Canale Park.

Current and Ongoing Capital Projects-

2015 projects include fencing at Childs-Kirk and Veteran's Parks, a cover/roof over the amphitheater stage, resurfacing the tennis courts at Canale Park and surveillance cameras.

Director Audet advised that the playgrounds at Childs-Kirk Park are 98% completed. Rick reminded all that we are to work on the 6 year capital budget at the September 30, 2015 meeting. He asked that everyone review the last Capital Project and have ideas ready for discussion.

EHT Parks & Recreation Dance Program-

The sub-committee of Chairman Fairfield, Commissioners Fiedor and Gallagher reviewed the proposal to move the Recreation Dance Program to Cygnus. It is the subcommittee's decision that the program should not move out of Parks and Recreation. The parents of the Recreation dancers are adamant about keeping the program within the parameters of Recreation. The Commissioners voted and determined, by a vote of 7-0, that the Dance program would remain with Recreation.

EHT Nature Reserve-

The Nature Reserve Trustees have the first right of refusal when outside groups file a Use of Facility with Recreation. The caveat is that the Township can use the park for their needs which includes the EHT Recreation Department. The Nature Reserve Trustees need to submit their minutes and financials. To date, they have not submitted any documents to the Recreation Department. A vacancy still exists on the Board which is to be filled by a member of the Recreation Commission. No one is interested in serving on this Board. The Nature Reserve Trustees may need to change their by-laws. Director Audet will advise Nature Reserve Chairman Marc Friedman and request their documents.

6. Use of Parks Facility Requests:

Canale Park Amphitheater-

A request from the Gonzalez family to use the area for a family birthday party on October 10, 2015 was reviewed. It was determined that this area is open space and may be utilized.

7. Director's Report:

Recreation Commission Attendance report-

Peter Miller, Township Administrator sent a memo to all Commission Chairs advising them of Township Code 6-167. The Chairperson is to document any member who has accumulated three unexcused absences within a six (6) month period or five (5) unexcused absences within a twelve (12) month period of time. The chair is to bring the matter to the attention of Township Committee so that the individual missing the meetings may be replaced. Director Audet will maintain an annual attendance spreadsheet for the Recreation Commission.

Recreation Commissioner Background Checks-

Each Recreation Commissioner is required to have a background check completed by December 1, 2015. The form is located on the EHTGOV.ORG website under Departments click on Recreation. Drop down to Volunteer Coach Background Check Application. Print the 3rd page. Complete the form and make an appointment. Submit a copy of your receipt to Director Audet for reimbursement.

8. New Business:

Six Year Capital Budget-

The September 30, 2015 meeting will be a work session on the Capital Budget. Review the Parks and note areas of concern for this meeting. An email will be sent to the Presidents of Youth Organizations for their input on Capital Projects for 2016-2021.

EHTYO-

Monica Brunetti has been appointed the new Treasurer. Monica is an Accountant.

EHT Wrestling By-Laws-

By-laws will be reviewed once a clean copy is received.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.