

**Egg Harbor Township Recreation Commission Meeting
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019**

- I. Call to order
Chairwoman Rispoli called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

- II. Pledge of Allegiance

- III. Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act
Recreation Program Manager Danz read the opening statement.

- IV. Roll Call: Toni-Lynn Rispoli (Chairwoman) – Present Amy Smith – Present
 William Warrell (Vice Chairman) – Present Paul Trinkle – Present
 Charles Gallagher – Present Christine Gras – Excused
 Paul Weldon – Present Jonathan Parker – Excused
 Kevin Stetser – Present 7:52pm

- V. Reading / Acceptance of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting July 10, 2019
Motion Vice Chairman Warrell / Commissioner Weldon to approve minutes as presented. Motion Carried 6-0.

 - b. Special Meeting July 23, 2019
Motion Vice Chariman Warrell / Commissioner Gallagher to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0-3 (Commissioners Smith, Trinkle and Weldon abstained)

- VI. Public Comment
No members of the public spoke during public comment.

- VII. EHT Recognized Youth Groups

EHT Travel Basketball President Matt Kraybill, Dogwood Avenue. Mr. Kraybill stated this summer Travel Basketball purchased the sports engine app and webpage in order to begin online registration. This allows parent to get notifications through the app. The app will be a great communication tool for the organization. Mr. Kraybill stated that all of their medical kits have been updated. This summer they had 122 players on 11 teams and they played in 3 different leagues (Margate, Ocean City, 3v3 Triple Threat). They had 7 teams eligible for playoffs with 6 teams moving forward and 1 team winning their division. Mr. Kraybill stated they are looking to hold tryouts at the end of September and are currently accepting Coaching applications. Registration fees will increase minimally due to the raise in facility (security) costs at the schools. The organization did a great job fundraising this year so they will still be able to provide scholarships to those who need financial assistance to play.

EHT Soccer Club President Matt Bailey, Cabot Lane. Mr. Bailey gave a special thanks to Robert Lundberg and his crew on the maintenance of the fields. He stated that travel teams began on 8/5 and Rec/Intramural begin on 9/1. All games for all levels will begin the weekend of 9/7. The rec/intramural registration is down, they are not sure why. It could have to do with them allowing U8 players to play travel. There are currently 370 kids registered with rec/intramural. Mr. Bailey stated that the club made a mistake pulling trainers from the rec/intramural teams and the club voted to bring them back. Due to some issues, Mr. Bailey stated the Intramural U8-U15 level is pulling out of the Shore County League. The reason is that the league is allowing players that play travel to play in the rec league as well. They are also putting 12 year olds on the field with 10 year olds even though it is not age appropriate. As they are pulling out of the Shore County League, EHT will go back to a Co-Ed intramural formation and play age appropriate EHT vs EHT. They will play small sided 7v7 or 9v9 so they can get as many teams as possible. The club will run this way until the league is fixed or until they can join other leagues. One option is joining with MUSA, Upper and Galloway, however this would cause an increase in registration as these three clubs all require players to be carded under USClub. Mr. Bailey stated that they will field 17 travel teams this season and they did increase the travel fees \$25 to eliminate the rec/intramural registrations supporting the travel teams. On 9/13 they will be hosting an Opening Night where all the travel teams will have tents set up and they will host a 3v3 in-house tournament. This money will go to the scholarship fund. Next year they hope to build on this and include rec/intramural teams in the tournament. Mr. Bailey stated that his term is up in January and this may be his last meeting as he no longer has children playing in the club.

EHT Youth Softball President Kathleen Glick, Ocean Heights Avenue. Mrs. Glick stated they just finished up their spring seasons with all stars. EHT went undefeated in Districts and States. They had 3 teams accepted in Regionals with the U12 team winning and being accepted into the Babe Ruth World Series. The U12 team traveled to Florida and brought home the Babe Ruth World Series Title. Mrs. Glick stated there were some issues with the commissioners from other towns deciding that they wanted to opt out of the EHT fall ball league. Mrs. Glick said that EHT could run independently with just EHT teams if needed however they had a few other town reach out to play. They will have teams at every level for fall. She asked if the codes at the field house could be changed as they had a board member resign. This board member was replaced.

Chairwoman Rispoli congratulated the softball organization and the U12 World Series Champions. She stated that Township Committee is in the process of planning a parade including a police and fire escort to Town Hall prior to the 9/4 Committee Meeting. Chairwoman Rispoli also asked all groups present that if they have any teams that need to be recognized that they should reach out to Roe in Administration and have them entered for a proclamation. We need to recognize the kids for jobs well done.

Mrs. Glick said they had done this in July with the U10 and U12 teams for winning districts and states and the U14 team was recognized last night. Mrs Glick also mentioned that if anyone was interested in attending the Phillies game on 8/30, Mariealana D'Augustino has tickets for sale for \$7. The Phillies will be recognizing the U12 World Series Champions during this game.

Mrs. Glick advised that fall ball will begin on 9/8. They will also be hosting 3 fall tournaments. They will be hosting USSSA tournaments this year because they can be used as qualifiers. EHTYS will be able to keep the money and this will help with keeping registration fees low. For USSSA tournaments they are looking at 2 in fall and 2 in the spring. The only feedback they received was from the umpires as those who currently ump may not be able to do the tournament unless they are USSSA certified. They currently have 6 travel teams and they will be bringing the list of players/coaches that need Rec Commission approval to the next meeting.

EHT Jr. Wrestling President Damien Correa. Mr. Correa stated they are in the middle of their off season and are in the process of getting a new mat. He wished to thank the commission for their support of this purchase. He stated that wrestling is getting on board with online registration. Mr. Correa asked if there were any suggestions on how to reach the middle school kids. This age group is really low in registration and they hope to get a few more kids to make the team a little stronger. He asked if the other groups would share with their participants and help spread the word. Mr. Correa was advised by Chairwoman Rispoli to get his dates in for his matches and his tournaments.

EHT Lacrosse President Andrew Carpenter, Marsh Road. Mr. Carpenter stated that Lacrosse season has ended. They are still looking to build the wall. They were currently looking at a 40'wx15'h however that price (poured concrete) came in at around \$20,000. He said the organization is working with supporters to get some of the material donated and possibly get the cost down to \$10,000. They may also consider making the wall smaller, and the hopes are that the kids use the wall outside of their normal practice times. Mr. Carpenter said they are looking into purchasing 2 scoreboards. He has been in contact with the High School supplier. They currently have a \$5000 sponsorship and are looking for a second to cover the cost. Mr. Carpenter asked if there was any word on when the drainage issue will be addressed. Public Works Director Simerson advised that they may need to get the Township Engineer involved as they cannot use the existing grate. Director Simerson said that he along with Recreation Director Audet and Robert Lundberg met with school officials and they have determined there is no easy solution. Pipes will need to be run to the retention basin but not sure that Township Committee will support the cost. Director Simerson stated the Director Audet will be reaching out to Mott Associates. Mr. Carpernter asked that they continue to look for a solution. He also stated that the back stop netting was left up and will hopefully be in good shape when the season comes back around. The decision to leave the netting up was they didn't want to leave the cables up without it because they felt it was too dangerous. Lacrosse has moved all their signs and the fields are ready for football. The only sign they left up was the sign in the corner that says Home of the Eagles.

Chairwoman Rispoli asked Director Simerson if permits would be needed for the Lacrosse Wall. Director Simerson said yes as anytime we add a structure it should be inspected.

EHT Baseball Association President Jamie Gillespie, Glenn Avenue. Mr. Gillespie wanted to thank the commission, committee, and the public works crew. The assistance given to renovate the fields add the irrigation to fields 5 and 6 have received rave reviews. The baseball volunteers did a great job getting everything done and the fields look great. Mr Gillespie stated that spring numbers were just under 400 kids.

The Fathers Day Tournament hosted 35 teams in the 8U-12U divisions. Most brackets sold out and the organization got great feedback on how beautiful our fields are. Mr. Gillespie stated that we had 3 teams go to the State tournament and the 12U team won the District 3 tournament. The 12U team also traveled to Cooperstown and the parents and kids said it was an experience of a lifetime. Mr. Gillespie said he is most proud of the fact they went with 12 kids and out of those 12 kids, 11 of them have been playing together on this team since 9U. This fall baseball will be adding an 8U travel team. The reason for this, is other clubs offer this and baseball felt instead of those who want to travel seek outside teams, they would give them a place to play in hopes of keeping the kids in EHT. He said once the kids leave its hard to get them back. Fall registration will close Friday. 8U teams will play inhouse, 10U and 12U will play with Galloway and Mays Landing as they are the only other CAL Ripkin teams in the area. Games will be rotated between the three facilities on Saturdays.

EHT Street Hockey President Gary Adams, Ruby Drive. Mr. Adams advised that Hockey had 100 kids this summer and they currently have 55 kids at the chipmunk level that began last week. After Labor Day winter registration will begin. He thanked the Township and Public Works for getting the big blue box out of there. He did ask if the asphalt around that area could be repaired. He said there are a lot of depressions and with winter coming he can see ice forming and causing a slipping hazard. He spoke with Director Audet on it and was advised that would be another project. Robert from public works said he would take a look at it. Mr. Adams advised they will be working on repairs on the East and North courts and that they hosted a tournament in July that brought in a \$5,000 profit for the organization.

EHT BMX Vice President Steve Adams, Somers Avenue. Mr. Adams stated the Garden State National went wonderful. They booked of 1800 hotel rooms, had 660 riders from 31 different states and some international riders. The event drew over 2000 people to the facility each day. Mr. Adams advised that USA BMX was extremely happy with the event and that they will look to host it again in 2 years with possible pro riders attending the next event.

Director Simerson advised that BMX did a fantastic job cleaning up the park and thanked them for all they did. Chairwoman Rispoli said it was an awesome event, and thanked them for cleaning up. Mr. Adams thanked everyone again for helping pull the event off, including the camping spots. There were no issues with camping and they had 51 campers at the event.

Andrew Carpenter from Lacrosse wished to thank EHT Baseball for opening their stand and giving up one of their fields during the 3/4 Lacrosse tournament that was held during the spring. He said that it was great the organizations could work with each other and look forward to doing it again.

Chairwoman Rispoli responded that it is what the organizations need to do, work together as it is in the best interest of the Township and the Kids.

Robert Lundberg, Grounds Foreman, EHT Public Works provided a detailed packet to all groups that were present. He went over in detail where the ground man hours are spent and went over each application that was done to each field at each park. The packet also included the large scale projects that Public Works has completed and what is still pending. Upon reviewing the packet he explained that mowing takes the majority of the time.

He stated that with the applications and the grass getting thicker, they had to mow field 6 four times in order for it to have no clippings left behind. He stated this was a good thing, just time consuming. He did remind everyone that his crew does get pulled for trash and leaf collection so sometimes they need to rearrange projects and priorities. Director Simerson wanted to make sure everyone knew how much time Robert put into the irrigation system at Canale and Vets Park. He stated that Robert handled the design, specs, development and oversight of the entire project and that it took over 2 months for him to put this together and carry out. Everyone agreed Robert and his crew did a fantastic job.

Robert continued going through the packet explaining the applications that were done to date and that in the next few weeks additional applications will be done. Temperatures do need to drop for some to be applied and we will need to be patient. Robert also advised that sometimes the applications don't always do what we want them to do, and the flower beds at the community center are a prime example of that. He said his crew will continue with the applications until we get it to where they need to be and that he will continue to use a drone to take pictures to see the actual improvement in all the fields. He said they will continue to seed the football field all season long.

Commissioner Smith said the pictures from 2016 thru now say it all. Chairwoman Rispoli thanked public works for all their efforts. Director Simerson wished to thank committee for providing the funding and now that they have the funding they have to continue with it. Deputy Mayor Pfrommer advised Director Simerson that is not an issue and that Township Committee is all on board with fixing the fields. Director Simerson said that public works is also in the process of ordering a laser guided field groomer and is hoping this will help with drainage. He is confident that the pictures in 2020 will be even better.

Sam Giacconda, Public Works Buildings foreman did not have much other than he advised the buildings are all receiving their regular maintenance and that if there are issues please let him know.

VIII. Old Business
None Provided

IX. Use of Park Facility Requests

a. EHT Soccer Club Opening Night 3v3 Tournament. 9/13/19 5:30-8:30pm (All Soccer Fields) at Canale Park.

Motion Commissioner Weldon/ Commissioner Trinkle to approve EHTSC Field Use on 9/13/19. Motion Carried 7-0.

b. EHT Women's Ball Hockey League. 9/11 – 12/4/19. EHT Street Hockey Courts. M/W times to be determined (based on number of registered teams).

Motion Commissioner Weldon/ Vice Chairman Warrell to approve EHT Women's Ball Hockey use from 9/11-12/4/19. Motion Carried 7-0.

c. Liberty Coca-Cola, 9/14/19 EHT Softball Field (CKP) 12-6pm.

Motion Commissioner Weldon/ Vice Chairman Warrell to approve Liberty Coca-Cola use on 9/14/19. Motion Carried 7-0.

d. EHTYO Kick Off Party, Vets Park Main Field 8/30/19 6-8pm.

Motion Commissioner Weldon/ Vice Chairman Warrell to approve EHTYO Kick Off Party Use of Field on 8/30/19 with the following conditions. Inflatables will have certificate of insurance/hold harmless as required by JIF/Twp. Insurance, Board Members are Present, No Alcohol on Premises and updated information on actual number in attendance along with number of chaperones. Motion Carried 7-0.

X. Directors Report
None provided

XI. New Business

Chairwoman Rispoli asked Deputy Mayor Pfrommer if the MK Betterment Center was still under lease with EHTPAL. Deputy Mayor Pfrommer advised it was thru 2021.

Commissioner Weldon did advise that property would need some improvements including building and septic. It is an option for Pickleball, Wrestling, Basketball and others. Deputy Mayor Pfrommer advised this is something that could be looked at when bonding for canale park expansion takes place.

Chairwoman Rispoli asked if Program Manager Danz when the new playground was going in at Vets Park and when would pickleball be completed at Delilah Oaks. Program Manager Danz advised that everything has been ordered for the playground and once we notify the contractor that installation is ready, they will have 30 days to complete the project. As for pickleball, public works took down the old fence and the new fence was installed. There was an issue with no water in the area to power wash the surface prior to the resurfacing and that Director Audet was looking into getting this done so the project could continue. Once the court is resurfaced, the hardscaping around the perimeter will go in.

Commissioner Trinkle asked that we let the Muckdogs and the Outlaws know that the fees will not be changed until the fee ordinance is handled with Township Committee. Deputy Mayor Pfrommer advised the fee ordinance should be on for 9/4 and then a public hearing thereafter. She stated the Committee had no issues with the changes however the fees need to be established by ordinance.

Chairwoman Rispoli asked Program Manager Danz to reach out to both parties and let them know. Phone numbers were provided by Commissioner Trinkle. Commissioner Smith advised that the fees may not be done until October so they should be made aware. In follow up discussion with the Commission, it was determined that the fees for the groups listed in the Parks and Facilities Use Packet be the same as the groups listed in the Community Center use of Facilities Packet. Deputy Mayor Pfrommer suggested sending one document over for approval listing the fees for the rooms in the community center in the same document with the approval groups being what the commission voted on. Program Manager Danz advised they would try to get this over as soon as possible but the documents were in pdf form so the Recreation Office will need to look for them while Director Audet is away.

Program Manager Danz advised the commission that Director Audet had asked that they approve or deny the Baseball Bylaws that were sent to them in June. All members present, did not recall the bylaws nor the changes and asked that they be resent for their review and approval/denial at their next meeting.

Motion Commissioner Weldon/ Vice Chairman Warrell to table baseball bylaw vote until next meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Chairwoman Rispoli advised that there is an issue with some Cheer Coaches and Parents. This is supposed to be talked about at their meeting tonight. If they cannot come to a resolution, it may be brought to the Commission for review. Chairwoman Rispoli advised, if this is the case she would like to meet next Tuesday 8/27. Program Manager Danz advised that as soon as she knows if a meeting is needed, to please let the office know so the sunshine notice can be sent for the special meeting.

XII. Correspondence

The commission reviewed the following documents sent in by the various youth groups

- a. EHT Lacrosse Minutes 4/2/19
- b. EHT Soccer Club Minutes 6/11/19, 7/16/19
- c. EHT Street Hockey Minutes 6/3/19
- d. EHTYO Minutes 7/10/19
- e. EHTYO Agenda 8/7/19
- f. Travel Basketball Minutes 8/8/19
- g. EHTYOU Atlantic Cheer Coaches for 2019
Commission would like Cape cheer coaches information submitted as well.
- h. EHT BMX Minutes 8/14/19
- i. EHT Soccer Club Financials 7/31/19
- j. Field Subcommittee memo
- k. 2019 Capital Project Summary

XIII. Tabled Items

None Provided

XIV. Public Comment

None

Motion Commissioner Weldon/ Commissioner Trinkle to adjourn at 9:25pm. Motion Carried 7-0.

(Minutes as heard by Recreation Program Manager Dena Danz)

Toni-Lynn Rispoli, Chairwoman

Dena Danz, Recreation Program Manager