

# Board of Recreation Commissioners

Egg Harbor Township, NJ

## REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

7:00pm

### MINUTES

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**

Director of Parks and Recreation Rick Audet read the opening statement.

IV. **Roll Call:**

Toni Rispoli, Chair - Present	Amy Smith – Excused
William Warrell, Vice Chair - Present	Paul Trinkle – Excused
Charles Gallagher - Present	Christine Gras, Secretary (Alt. 1) - Present
Paul Weldon – Present (7:25 p.m.)	Jonathan Parker (Alt. 2) – Present
Kevin Stetser - Excused	

V. **Reading / Acceptance of Minutes**

a. Regular Meeting October 9, 2019

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To approve the 10/9/19 Regular Meeting minutes as presented.</b> Motion made by Christine Gras Seconded by Bill Warrell
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Special Meeting October 24, 2019

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To approve the 10/24/19 Special Meeting minutes as presented.</b> Motion made by Charlie Gallagher Seconded by Jonathan Parker
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0

VI. **Public Comment**

Niall Bridgeman, 223 Tallowood, stated that he had sent a letter to the Recreation Commission last month requesting a review of the field use fees charged to non-EHTBA baseball groups. He requested consideration to reduce the fees. Mr. Bridgeman explained that after the 12U season the kids often scatter to outside travel teams. Also, some kids are unable to continue playing on the larger fields after 12U. Additionally, there is a trend whereby travel teams are beginning to break up at an even younger age. Mr. Bridgeman is currently the Vice-President of EHT Baseball Association.

Toni Rispoli stated that the priority of use goes to EHTBA. Teams such as Mr. Bridgeman described would be placed in Category IV of the use of parks facilities manual if they meet the minimum residency requirement.

Mr. Bridgeman stated that he wants the Commission to be aware of the new paradigm in travel baseball and to consider it moving forward in their policies and fee structure. He further stated that more kids are being poached by the area travel baseball programs. If kids play for an outside travel team, they are not allowed to play rec ball for EHTBA. Therefore, this situation is affecting rec baseball also.

Toni Rispoli stated that if he applies as an outside travel team, he will need to come back to the Commission with rosters and addresses to determine the category of use. It is the parent's prerogative where they choose for their child to play.

VII. **EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups**

Damien Correa, 109 Ohio Ave, is the president of the EHT Jr. Wrestling Club. Damien is present to introduce a coach who is a non-resident and would like to coach in the program. The coach's name is David Laielli. Toni Rispoli asked Mr. Laielli to explain why he wanted to coach in the EHT Jr. Wrestling Club. Mr. Laielli stated that he was a resident of EHT since age 12 and had just recently moved. He and his wife plan to move back to EHT. He wrestled since age 5 and wrestled in high school and has coaching and officiating experience. It was confirmed that Mr. Laielli would not preclude any EHT resident from coaching this season. Rick Audet reminded Damien that all coaches must complete concussion training. Toni Rispoli reminded Damien to submit all required materials to the Commission including coaches list and ensure all are on the Approved Volunteers list.