

Mr. Olivieri requests that the Girls U14 travel be allowed to have non-resident players on the roster. This team is a combination of two teams from last season and is short on players. Each of the two teams had three non-resident players each last year. This season they are looking to add two non-resident players to fill out their roster.

Motion	To approve the non-resident players on EHT Soccer Club U17 boys and U14 girls teams as presented. Motion made by Paul Weldon Seconded by Amy Smith
Vote	Motion carried 7-0

VIII. Old Business

- a. Discussion of YO and update on mandates

The Youth Organization was mandated by the Recreation Commission to form a head coach selection committee consisting of three Recreation Commission members and two Youth Organization board members. Dorothy Madamba, YO President, sent an email to the attention of the Commission and Director indicating that they intend to have a coaching selection committee consisting of YO board members only. The Recreation Commission and Director responded that the coaching selection committee as originally detailed is a mandate. Toni Rispoli stated that Township Committee agrees. A subcommittee is formed and ready to proceed.

Christine Gras stated that the Commission recommended Bud Brubaker and Denise Savastano as members of the head coach selection committee. Ms. Gras stated which members of the YO board sit on the committee is up to YO. We recommend that they have a representative from cheer and football as well as from Cape and Atlantic league if possible. Toni Rispoli stated that YO can choose but we have to make sure it is fair to all interested parties.

Toni Rispoli summarized an email she received from Clark Hughes, President of Atlantic County Junior Football League. Mr. Hughes confirmed again that his board is willing to change their bylaws on weight restrictions. This would allow players over 200 pounds to play an interior lineman position, tackle to tackle. Ms. Rispoli reviewed his letter for the benefit of the Commission and those in attendance. Ms. Rispoli sent the letter to Dorothy Madamba. The next YO meeting is July 15. It will be up to youth organization to decide which league their teams play in.

Jonathan Parker asked if the other teams that play in ACJFL are in agreement with the bylaw change. He also asked if the change would remain in place indefinitely. Toni Rispoli responded that the bylaw change is for the upcoming season only. It will then be up for review. There was discussion on skill position players playing on the line. Toni Rispoli replied that it is the coach's responsibility to get the kids playing in the right position and teach them the necessary skills.

Denise Savastano, Egg Harbor Township, YO Cheer Coordinator provided an update on YO registrations at the request of the Commission. There are currently 64 football players and 50 cheerleaders registered across the four levels. The registration deadline is approaching. Jonathan Parker asked if kids can still register for YO. Ms. Savastano stated that they will keep registrations open for as long as their leagues allow. Online registration is available and final payment for the program is not due until the end of July. Toni Rispoli stated that the Covid-19 pandemic is affecting everything.

A discussion was held as to the football schedules, start dates and if they vary by league.

Denise Savastano stated that the YO board's July 15 meeting will entail a discussion on which league they will choose to play in. Clark Hughes, ACJYF President, will attend the YO meeting. There was discussion on reaching out to Elite football program players to invite them to register with YO. After the next YO board meeting, the coaching selection meetings will be scheduled.

Toni Rispoli stated that YO can field two teams in Cape and two teams in Atlantic if they choose. There will be one team at each level. YO can choose the league they play in. The Recreation Commission is not advocating for one league or another. Ms. Rispoli asked Denise Savastano if the cheerleading program can be recreation-based whereby they cheer at games during the season and do not have a competition program at the end of the year. Ms. Savastano said they could. YO feared having too many cheerleaders on a team with football contracting to one team at each level. She stated that based on the current registration numbers this would not be a problem.

Denise Savastano discussed how many girls can fit on a mat for competition cheer. She stated that most girls want to do the competition component. Per league rules, cheerleaders can move up into a higher age division. Cheerleaders cannot move down a division. The cheer registration numbers are as follows: Varsity – 18, JV – 8, Pee Wee – 15, Taxi – 10.

Toni Rispoli stated that we will hold off on approving the field use permit for now until the Director receives it and the mandates are met.

X. Director's Report

A. Review of summer programs and events in compliance with Department of Health Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet summarized the summer programs offered by Recreation. The programs include summer camp, summer sports camps, karate clinic, field hockey clinic, and adult boot camp. A written plan per the Department of Health Guidelines has been created for both the camp programs and general programs. A Department of Health certificate of approval for Summer Camp and Summer Sports Camps has been received. The required attestation form has been filed with the Department of Health. Karate, field hockey and boot camp operations fall under the guidance for youth sports guidelines.

Parks and Recreation is offering the following special events this summer: Summer Concert Series, Movie Nights, Monday Morning Madness. Event information was summarized and shared with the Commission.

Toni Rispoli stated the EHT Youth Softball plans to use bleachers as a second dugout for players and coaches. The teams are not able to properly social distance in only the dugouts.

Bill Warrell asked about the pickleball courts and new signs pertaining to the new hours of court use. Rick Audet stated that temporary signs are up. The new ordinance was delayed in being approved at public hearing. The signs needed quotes and the process of purchasing equipment takes time. Rick Audet stated that permanent signs are being produced now and will be installed at Delilah Oaks Park soon.

XI. New Business

A. Review of Recreation Commission Bylaws

Rick Audet stated that Recreation Commission bylaws expired in May and need to be reviewed. The May meeting was canceled due to coronavirus. Rick Audet made a set of bylaws available to each Commissioner. He stated that we can discuss it tonight or take it home for review and plan to discuss at the next meeting. Bill Warrell suggested taking them home to review. Toni Rispoli asked everyone to review the current bylaws and bring their thoughts or ideas on them to the next meeting and be prepared to discuss.

XII. Correspondence

EHT Youth Group Minutes

A. Baseball Association – 9/5/19

B. BMX – 1/13/20

C. Youth Organization – 3/4/20

D. Jr. Wrestling – 12/17/19, 1/28/20

E. Lacrosse – 6/13/2019

F. Soccer Club – 2/4/20

G. Street Hockey Association – 3/9/20

H. Travel Basketball – 2/13/20, 5/14/20

I. Youth Softball – 10/6/19

There was discussion on the dates of minutes that have been last turned in by some organizations. Minutes are well past due from some groups. Rick Audet stated that he will confirm the dates are correct and contact all groups as necessary to catch up and get the minutes submitted. Lacrosse, Baseball, and Softball minutes need to be addressed.

Christine Gras summarized the annual financials that were recently reviewed by the finance subcommittee in accordance with our policy. The groups that have been reviewed have done a good job with their requirements. Ms. Gras stated that EHT BMX in particular did an excellent job with their financials.

Toni Rispoli asked Rick Audet about EHT Baseball’s plan from earlier this year to contract out their concessions operations. Ms. Rispoli stated that this has not been done nor allowed in the past. Ms. Rispoli asked Mr. Audet if he has been able to draft guidelines yet. Mr. Audet stated that he had not. Ms. Rispoli stated that she heard Mr. and Mrs. Owens would be doing concessions this summer for baseball. Mr. Audet stated that he asked the EHT Baseball Association president and was informed they were not contracting out concessions this summer. EHT Baseball plans to have board members drive their golf cart around the field to sell basic snacks and drinks. Ms. Rispoli asked again to confirm that no one would be contracting out concessions for baseball. Mr. Audet replied that is correct.

Toni Rispoli stated that Peter Miller has not allowed this in the past. Going forward, if this is to be allowed we need guidelines and ensure that persons receive a 1099 if they are paid a stipend. She further stated that the Commission needs to decide on the requirements for contracting out concessions. Amy Smith stated that this involves insurance issues as well and that it needs to be address through Township Committee. Insurance, bid process, and safety are aspects to be covered in our requirements.

Christine Gras stated that if it is a company performing the services, they need to provide a certificate of insurance. If it is going to be an individual doing concessions, the Administrator and Township Solicitor should weigh in on the requirements needed.

Toni Rispoli directed Rick Audet to contact the Township Administrator and Township Solicitor to confirm the requirements and guidelines necessary for concessions to be contracted. Chasity Branca asked if we are referring to concessions from the snack stand specifically.

Handouts

None.

Paul Trinkle stated that the topic of field use fees presented by the EHT Baseball Association president has not been settled. He feels that it requires further consideration and discussion by the Commission. Mr. Trinkle reminded the Commission of the idea presented to consider changing the fee structure for field use. The EHT Baseball Association president suggested a change in fees for non-EHTBA travel teams. He presented the process used in Galloway Township whereby only the non-resident players of a team were charged a season fee. The baseball president stated that EHTBA has not fielded a Babe Ruth team 13 and over in a year or two. He alleges this causes our two 60/90 fields to sit unused and leads them to be in a state of poor maintenance.

A discussion on field use fees ensued. Paul Trinkle stated that he had two issues with the concept. He is not in favor of allowing EHTBA to control the field use schedule and permit process for outside groups that the baseball president offered doing. Secondly, Mr. Trinkle is concerned there would be a trickle-down effect to our smaller baseball fields used by EHTBA. Mr. Trinkle asked if this change would be worth the park use fees it may bring in.

Paul Trinkle commented that a team, such as the Hammerhead team that applied for field use recently, could play under the EHT Baseball Association umbrella. The Commission discussed if these older travel teams could play under EHTBA. The trends and culture of travel baseball was discussed. Paul Trinkle also stated that this would change the requests we receive for use of soccer and lacrosse fields. Amy Smith asked about the fees charged by other towns and if our fees were competitive with other towns. Bill Warrell stated that we should be careful in making a change. He stated that we could find out the field fees charged by Atlantic Christian. The insurance requirements for outside teams using our fields was discussed. Dena Danz discussed how our insurance coverage works with the school district.

Bill Warrell stated that he believes the Parks and Recreation Director should not be taking minutes at the Recreation Commission meetings. He stated that he feels it is too much for the Director to take minutes during the meetings and also be engaged in the issues and topics being discussed. It is easy to become too distracted taking minutes and this would impede the director from doing his job to discuss topics and provide information during meetings. Bill Warrell asked Dena Danz, Program Manager, who is in attendance at the meetings, if she would be willing to take the minutes. Ms. Danz responded that she would if that is what the Commission wishes.

Bill Warrell stated that he wants Rick Audet's mind into the meeting and discussions. Mr. Warrell stated that the Program Manager or Recreation Clerk could fill this role. He stated that he does not feel an outsider or person not closely tied to the department or commission would be a good fit. A discussion of taking meeting minutes ensued.

Paul Weldon stated that he agrees with Bill Warrell. Mr. Weldon stated that the Commission should have the undivided attention of everyone here at the table.

Rick Audet stated that he recently purchased a simple recording system for Commission meetings and brought it to tonight's meeting and had it set up. Mr. Audet stated that he already created a solution to Mr. Warrell's concern and was ready to implement it tonight. Meetings can be recorded like they are for many other Township boards. It would be very easy to take an outline of notes during the meeting and then write minutes by listening to the recording after the meeting during work hours. Mr. Audet stated that the Parks and Recreation Department is thinly staffed and all employees have a very full plate. To take one of his responsibilities and pass it off to the Program Manager or Clerk could be to the detriment of department operations.

Toni Rispoli discussed Recreation Commission bylaws and the position of secretary in the bylaws. There is no secretary on the Commission currently. No commissioner wants to take the minutes. Former Parks and Recreation Director Bob Lincoln took minutes in the past. Ms. Rispoli did not feel minutes that were taken were adequate.

XIII. Tabled Matters

None.

XIV. Public Comment

None. Chairperson Rispoli closed Public Comment closed at 8:47 p.m.

XV. Adjournment

Motion	To adjourn the meeting of the Recreation Commission at 8:48 p.m. Motion made by Paul Weldon Seconded by Christine Gras
Vote	Motion carried 7-0