

Egg Harbor Township Recreation Commission Meeting  
EHT Community Center 5045 English Creek Avenue  
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

7:00 pm

Minutes

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

III. Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act

IV. Roll Call: Robert Fairfield, Chair - Present Charles Gallagher - Present  
Carmen Messina, Vice Chair - Excused Justin Riggs - Present  
Toni Rispoli - Present Paul Weldon – Present @ 8:05 p.m.  
Kathy Fiedor - Excused Kevin Stetser - Excused  
William Warrell - Present

Rick Audet – Director of Recreation- Present  
Laura Pfoemmer- Township Committee Member- Present  
Frank Finerty- Township Committee Member-Present  
Sam Gionconda- Public Works Supervisor- Present  
Robert Lundberg- Public Works Supervisor

V. Reading/Acceptance of Minutes

a. Minutes – January 11, 2017

Commissioner Rispoli acknowledged a mistake in the minutes regarding EHTBA's use of Bargaintown Park. The correct days are Wednesday and Thursday.

Commissioner Warrell made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion. By a vote of 3-0-2 (Fairfield and Riggs abstained) the minutes were passed.

b. December 21, 2016 special meeting/closed session minutes.

2016 Coach of the year candidates were discussed. Craig Dannelley was selected as the 2016 Coach of the Year.

Chairman Fairfield announced that Vice-Chair Carmen Messina and Chairman Fairfield would be tendering their resignations, from the Recreation Commission, in the near future.

VI. EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups Comment

Director Audet spoke to the youth groups concerning concussion training for all coaches and Board Members. An on-line course is offered free of charge.

Director Audet advised the groups that certificates of liability must be obtained from the towns playing on EHT fields.

The EHT Recreation Commission policy regarding non-resident coaches and travel player only participants will be discussed.

Soccer-

President Christine Gras, 19 Jefferson Ave., EHT thanked the Commission for the one year pilot program regarding non-resident participation on Travel teams only. Opening day for the travel program is March 11.

EHTBA-

President Bob Webber, 38 LaCosta Drive, EHT advised that registration is up 40% as of February 1, 2017. EHTBA posted signs throughout the Township and has utilized Facebook to disseminate information regarding sign-ups. Bob spoke about the Little League advertisement wherein EHT was included within

the Little League boundaries. EHT does not participate in Little League; they play Babe Ruth and Cal Ripkin.

Treasurer, Kim Feinstein, 447 Delaware Ave., EHT, indicated that EHTBA spent \$55021.92 upgrading fields and equipment in 2016, which was in addition to the work EHT Public Works did at Veteran's Park. Kim indicated that Baseball would like field 7 back. They need another 46-60 field. Kim asked to have field 11 groomed and the infield repaired, as they would like to use it on the weekends. Presently Lacrosse uses Football field 2 for their younger girls' teams, which is the outfield of field 11. Since they practice during the week, it is feasible.

Kim also asked for lights on fields 4 and 6.

President Webber inquired whether Public Works could cut the fields more than once a week.

Kim Feinstein asked whether a lock can be put on the closet at Bargaintown Park for EHTBA. This would preclude other organizations from having access to their equipment.

#### **BMX-**

President Stan Russ, 3 Patrician Terrace, EHT, thanked Public Works and the Recreation Commission for the fencing. The Jack Frost race is March 21 and is opening day. Stan asked about the installation of bleachers and inquired whether a cement pad would be poured for them. Robert Lundberg, Public Works Field Supervisor indicated that millings would be placed under the bleachers prior to March 21.

There is still a drainage problem and flooding occurs. Robert Lundberg and Sam Gianconda indicated that the Public Works Director is aware and working on the problem.

#### **Lacrosse-**

President Andrew Carpenter, 35 Marsh Road, EHT, stated that lacrosse has a tentative plan to seed the fields next week. Andrew asked whether the parking lot would be paved and the pot holes filled in.

He asked about the placement of the shed. Robert Lundberg advised that two inches of stone would be placed on top of the millings. The container has been lifted onto blocks and vented. A fence outside of field 3 will be installed.

#### **Street Hockey-**

Red Hubbard, 41 Stoney Creek, EHT, asked whether the lights on the East Court would be adjusted, as they do not cover the entire court. Director Audet advised that Musco has been contacted with regard to the lighting. 2017 projects include the demo of the West Court wherein an estimate for funding is needed. Search for a court like the one on the North Court is underway, but they must decide whether to use wood or synthetic materials. The cost could exceed \$100,000.00. A study was conducted on the North Court lights. The poles would support LED lights. Musco is submitting a proposal to Recreation.

#### **Jr. Wrestling-**

Vice-President Kara Driscoll, 7 Shadow Drive, EHT, reiterated Wrestling's need for their own facility. They compete with Karate for gym space and it is unfair to the wrestlers. Other towns practice three or more times a week. EHT gets two nights in the auxiliary gym for 2.5 hours and one night in the multipurpose room. By the time the mats are rolled in the room and cleaned they only get an hour of practice when using the multipurpose room. EH All the other Youth Groups have a home but Wrestling. T Wrestlers are at a distinct disadvantage. The auxiliary gym was built for wrestling's use from November through March, but now they have to share it with Karate. Kara asked for a building that is 46' by 150' with storage, heat, air conditioning and restroom facilities. She said the Township owns property why not build a facility specifically for wrestling? Kara advised that they need another new mat with covers. The last mat Recreation purchased was several years ago for \$12,000.00.

Chairman Fairfield stated that the Board of Education has a subcommittee and Recreation is working with them for school use. It would be the perfect solution to negotiate time at the schools for wrestling. Kara stated that it would depend on which school, as they would need storage for the mats and equipment.

#### **EHTYS-**

President Kathleen Glick, 1024 Ocean Heights Ave, EHT, asked about repositioning the cameras on the building. Kathleen asked about the car whose windshield was broken by a foul ball near field 5. Director Audet indicated that Risk Management is aware of the problem, but a net is not the solution. Signs will be posted advising the public that they are parking at their own risk.

EHTYS January 16, 2017 minutes contained a request for a new fryer. Commissioner Rispoli reminded Softball that they cannot use a fryer in the building as there is no ansell system. Kathleen indicated that she was not present at the January meeting and would advise the board that use of a fryer is not permitted.

### Travel Basketball-

President Tammy Mahana, 253 Pine Ave., EHT, stepped up as the President when Cameron Bell resigned. Tammy indicated that new people are on the board and it is going well. Travel Basketball needs more gym time. Travel Basketball paid \$3500.00 to EHTBOE for gym use in November and December. They have nine teams playing at Alder and Slaybaugh schools but need more time. Tammy asked whether a liaison for Travel Basketball can be assigned. Tammy is stepping down as President effective February 9, 2017. Chairman Fairfield said that EHTBOE needs to know the total amount that EHT Recreation pays for school use.

Director Audet indicated that there has been no movement by the EHTBOE on this.

Commissioner Riggs spoke concerning the re-organization of the BOE. He suspects that the talks will resume as they stalled at the end of the year. There is a new BOE President. Justin suggested that the groups attend a BOE meeting and discuss the costs.

Chairman Fairfield indicated that Interim Superintendent Nickles is open to reducing the cost for EHT Recreation and their Youth Groups.

Commissioner Warrell volunteered to be on the committee that goes before the BOE to negotiate a better plan for our groups.

### EHTYO-

President Domenick Branca, 23 Evergreen Ave., EHT, thanked Public Works for fixing the drainage problem near the stand and parking lot. He would like to see new ropes around the end zones. Domenick advised that the stand was turned over to EHTBA. There is a rotted wall in the stand that needs to be replaced. He would like one set of bleachers installed in the end zone for the Home team spectators near the stand. Domenick asked for changing tables in the restrooms. There are water leaks and bug problems in the ladies restroom. Domenick volunteered to be part of a group going to speak before the BOE concerning fees charged to the EHT Youth Groups. EHTYO paid \$3500.00 to the BOE for gym use for their cheerleaders.

### Orioles Baseball-

Robert Dube, 3 Henlock Ave., EHT, spoke on behalf of President Chris Tullio. He asked whether the fee structure for field use had been finalized. Chairman Fairfield indicated that the draft must go to Township Committee for their approval.

## **VII. Public Comment opened at 7:46 p.m.**

### *EHTYO Coaching decision*

Bob Wright, 121 Ruby Drive, EHT, spoke before the Commission. He requested that the Recreation Commission review EHTYO by-laws to determine whether any were broken when the decision was made to remove him as a coach. He feels that he was not given due process when summoned to a meeting in two days. Bob feels strongly that the vote would have had a different outcome if all voting members were present. Also Brian Fox and Nikki Fox voted even though Brian was trying to take Bob's coaching position. Bob feels that there are violations of Roberts Rules concerning the meeting and voting process.

Director Audet indicated that it is a very large step for Recreation to overturn a coaching decision made by EHTYO voting members.

Chairman Fairfield stated that the Commission does not have a nuclear option in this matter. We must abide by by-laws.

Bob Wright emphatically stated that there were too many votes and conflicts of interest. Wherein, Brian and Nikki Fox and Domenick Branca should not have voted.

Chairman Fairfield stated that the overriding point would be whether EHTYO by-laws were broken. He alluded to the decision by EHTBA to remove a coach when the Recreation Commission asked them to change their decision. EHTBA refused even though the Commission disagreed with their decision. EHTBA declined to listen to our recommendation.

Chairman Fairfield tabled this matter until the March 8 meeting as EHTYO by-laws must be reviewed. Tammy Mahana indicated that Bob Wright broke several by-laws when he cursed her children and husband on the field in front of the players. Teachers and coaches play a big part in the lives of children and must be role models.

Domenick Branca stated that Roberts Rules were followed. He as President had the right to vote. EHTYO interviews potential coaches in April for the upcoming season. As far as Brian Fox voting, Domenick asked him to recuse himself from the vote, which he did.

Bob Wright contends that the vote could have been 6-6. This was a ploy to get him out as a coach. He has been a coach for 24 years and that should count for something.

Chairman Fairfield indicated that both Director Audet and he were aware of what happens at YO meetings.

Director Audet stated that due process would be followed with a final determination at the March 8, 2017 meeting.

EHT Board of Education

Frank Finerty, Township Committee, 318 Dogwood Ave., EHT, said that EHT is a great community with great volunteers. He wanted to personally thank all of the volunteers. He heard the complaints and knows that there is no magic wand to solve all of the issues. He is interested in recreation. The BOE needs to help by opening their facilities to Recreation for all of our organized groups. Frank offered to go to the meeting with the BOE to see what changes can be made to help our recreation programs.

Commissioner Rispoli advised Mr. Finerty of the cost for Recreation to hold their Dance Recitals twice a year at the schools.

Michelle Zincroft indicated that Travel Basketball has paid \$10,000.00 to the BOE for gym use through January. They are fighting EHTBOE to no avail.

Laura Pfrommer, Township Committee, Dogwood Ave., EHT, stated that the Administration and BOE need to work together. The BOE's Ad Hoc committee must meet with Recreation to work out a plan.

Chairman Fairfield asked Director Audet to draft a letter to the BOE concerning the fees paid by Recreation and our organized groups.

Commissioner Riggs spoke about the ad hoc committee. In November President Galvin stepped down. He was part of the ad hoc committee with Della Barca, Castelano and Umphlet. He suggested that Recreation pick a date to go and talk with the BOE. He feels that the BOE is avoiding the situation.

**Public Comment closed at 8:19 p.m.**

**VIII. Old Business**

**a. Athletic Field Use & Fee Schedule Policy**

Page 5. Category III Permit/Use

Remove last line. (Programs, events, and/or activities officially conducted by EHT scout organizations and church groups.)

Page 6. Category VI Permit/Use

Change title. These are groups that are not a 501C3.

Committee Woman Pfrommer stated that there must be time allotted for open use.

Page 7. Restrictions

Tournament play would be the exception to this time rule.

Following the last line in this category the following will be added. The Recreation Director will determine an alternate date.

I. Permit Fees

Category IV-VI

Field Use \$30 per hour/3 hour block min. (Remove \$50)

Field Use w/Lights \$60 per hour/ 3 hour min. (Remove \$75)

Page 8.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offence Suspension of field use by the offender. Add fine of \$500.

**IX. Use of Facility Requests**

**a. South Jersey Mens Senior Baseball League-** Tabled until March 8, 2017 meeting

**b. New Jersey Baseball-** Tabled until March 8, 2017 meeting.

**c. Atlantic County Outlaws Baseball-** Tabled until March 8, 2017 meeting

**d. EHT Orioles-** Tabled until March 8, 2017 meeting

**e. Broken But Not Shattered Ministries-**

Commissioner Rispoli made the motion to deny the request. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion. By a vote of 6-0 the request was denied.

**f. EHT P.D./Municipal Alliance**

Commissioner Warrell made the motion to approve the request. Commissioner Riggs seconded the motion. By a vote of 6-0 the request was approved.

**X. Director's Report**

a. None

**XI. New Business**

**a. Six Year Capital Budget – 2017 Revision**

After discussing the revisions, Chairman Fairfield made the motion to approve. Commissioner Warrell seconded the motion. By a vote of 6-0 the 2017 Capital Budget was approved.

**XII. Correspondence**

**EHT Youth Group Minutes**

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| A. Baseball Association -12/1/16, 1/5/17 | F. Soccer Club – last received 11/14/16            |
| B. BMX –last received 10/25/16           | G. Street Hockey Association –11/7/ 11/21, 12/5/16 |
| C. Diamond Cheer                         | H. Travel Basketball –12/13/16, 1/12/17            |
| D. Jr. Wrestling –11/29/16               | I. Youth Softball – 1/16/17                        |
| E. Lacrosse – 12/14/16, 1/3/17           | J. Youth Organization – 11/16/16, 12/14/16         |

**Handouts**

- a. EHT Lax- 2016 Profit & Loss Report
- b. 2016 EHT Youth Softball Meeting minutes- 4/17, 5/22, 6/26, 8/14, 9/11, 10/7, 11/14
- c. EHT Baseball Association 1/5/17 financial report
- d. Buildings and Grounds Summary 2/8/17

**XIII. Tabled Matters**

**XIV. Public Comment**

**XV. Adjournment 9:45 p.m.**

Motion was made by Chairman Fairfield	Seconded by Commissioner Warrell
Vote	6-0

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**These minutes were approved at the  
March 8, 2017 Recreation Commission Meeting**

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Robert Fairfield, Chairman

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Toni-Lynn Rispoli, Secretary