

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

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

7:00pm

MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** by Chairman Fairfield at 7:00 p.m.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act** read by Commissioner Rispoli

IV. **Roll Call:**

Robert Fairfield, Chair - Present	Charles Gallagher - Present
Carmen Messina, Vice Chair - Present	Justin Riggs - Present
Toni Rispoli - Present	Paul Weldon - Present
Kathy Fiedor - Excused	Kevin Stetser - Present
William Warrell - Present	

Laura Pfrommer (Township Committee Liaison) – Present
Peter Miller (Township Administrator) – Present
Paul Hodson (Township Committee) - Present
Al Simmerson (Public Works Director) – Present
Sam Giaconda (Public Works Supervisor) – Present
Robert Lundberg (Public Works Supervisor) - Present

V. **Reading / Acceptance of Minutes**

a. Minutes – January 13, 2016

Commissioner Warrell made the motion to approve the minutes. Vice-Chair Messina seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0-2 (Fairfield and Riggs abstained.)

VI. **Presentations / Public Comment**

a. EHT Youth Groups Presidents Presentation

Director Audet addressed the groups. He expressed his thanks for all of their help throughout the year. The spirit of cooperation in working together to serve the children is paramount.

Rick advised the groups that the EHT Youth Groups Policy & Procedure Manual has been adopted. It will be used as a guide to govern and oversee.

The No Smoking Ordinance has been passed by Township Committee. Public Works will install signs advising the public of the ordinance in all of the parks.

Director Audet reminded the groups that the BMX Regional Race will be held May 15-16, 2016 at Veteran's Park. He asked the groups to modify their schedules due to this event.

National Night Out will be held at Veteran's Park on August 2, 2016. All Youth Group functions are to be cancelled for this date.

b. **EHTYO-**

President Domenic Branca advised the stand had been cleaned and turned over to Baseball. He expressed his thanks to Public Works for painting the meeting room floor and moving the light switch.

Domenic stated that whenever it rains, flooding occurs in front of the stand. He asked if Public Works could do something to prevent this area from flooding. Public Works Director Simerson indicated that Public Works would look at the area.

President Branca asked whether the picnic tables could be replaced near the stand. Director Audet indicated that four new tables have already been purchased and will be installed and the old ones removed.

Domenic asked to have changing tables installed in the rest rooms. Township Administrator Miller advised that a changing table can be installed in the Women's bathroom. Due to the vandalism that occurs in the Men's restroom, one will not be installed, at this time.

Mr. Branca inquired about the Surveillance project. This conversation will be included under the Capital Projects Update section.

EHTYS-

President Kathleen Glick indicated that their registration will be offered on-line as well as in person. EHTYS is in the process of preparing their six month financial report. They will use Excel spread sheets or Quick Books.

Kathleen inquired how to handle hardship cases. She indicated that it had been suggested that they review the requestor's tax return. Township Administrator Miller advised that tax returns are confidential. If they were to use such documents only one person should review them and all information should be confidential.

Commissioner Warrell suggested that those requesting assistance work off their obligation through additional stand duty or fund raising efforts.

BMX-

President Stan Russ advised that their Jack Frost Classic will be held March 19, 2016.

Chairman Fairfield indicated that improvements to the BMX course will not occur prior to this race. Director Audet stated that the Recreation Commission 2016 Capital Improvement money will not be allocated until June 2016. The Commission must prioritize and fine tune the list. Public Works Director Simerson stated that the master plan for the work needed at the BMX track will be reviewed, he stated that it would be best to address the drainage work at the same time as the turns are rebuilt. Substantial work will be done to correct the flooding issues. A master design will be utilized for the turns.

Stan anticipates 200-300 riders in the March Jack Frost Classic and the May Northeast Championship races.

Stan thanked Recreation for new trash and recycle receptacles.

EHTBA-

President Brian Hawkes advised that a schedule has been worked out between EHTBA and the EHT Orioles. The Orioles will use Bargaintown Park on Sundays 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and on Wednesday nights.

April 9 is the official date for EHTBA to open their season. However, some games will be scheduled starting on April 4. They will also host a Mother's Day tournament for travel teams and a Father's Day tournament for Recreation teams.

Veteran's Park field 3 improvements will be a coordinated effort between EHT Public Works and EHTBA. Public Works will take care of the outfield removing the berms, leveling the field and installing sod. Work on the infield will be a cooperative effort between Public Works, C-Scape and Baseball. Baseball will purchase the clay bricks for the pitcher's mound and home plate and Public Works will install them. The berms on the infield will be removed by Public Works. Baseball will supply additional sod for this area. A walk through of the field will be conducted on February 15 or 16 at 10:00 a.m., by Public Works, Baseball and C- Scape. Director Simerson indicated that the infield mix looked good. However if additional is needed Baseball agreed to pay for it.

Vice Chair Messina explained the approved minutes cannot be changed once the organization has approved them. If a correction is necessary, it must be discussed at the next meeting. The correction is placed in the minutes of that that meeting. Organizations cannot alter approved minutes. The change concerns the letter written to EHTBA requesting clarification from the Recreation Commission on 12/15/15.

Lacrosse-

President Andrew Carpenter thanked Public Works and the Recreation Commission for the work on their fields.

Andrew stated that opening day is scheduled for April 2 and practice will commence on March 1.

Andrew spoke about issues in the parking lot. Public Works Director Simerson indicated that more millings would be used in the parking lot to curtail the flooding problem.

President Carpenter asked for additional trash and recycle receptacles. Public Works will place additional units at the fields.

Soccer-

President Christine Gras expressed her thanks for the anticipated bathroom units at Canale Park in the Fall of 2016.

Christine stated that they are in the process of registration. Opening day will commence on March 5, 2016. All Travel team practices will start the week of March 7, 2016. Games are played on Saturdays and Sundays. She anticipates approximately 425 children for the Recreation / Micro program at Canale Park and approximately 200 for the Travel program at Bargaintown Park. Practices are held two times per week for each level. President Gras also indicated that field sizes will change starting the Fall of 2016.

Director Audet and PW Director Simerson spoke about turf management. The fields have been aerated, seeded and top dressed. Steve Lane, McCullough's Golf Course Superintendent, received soil samples from Canale Park. His recommendation was to stabilize the grass and to continue seeding and fertilizing. The ends of the fields are a problem. Additional grading is necessary. PW Supervisor Lundberg agreed that there is a lot of work to do. He will oversee the project and hire a contractor to plan the fields. He is committed to get the job done.

President Gras advised that various groups have been playing on the fields even though the fields are closed. The goals were not put away by Public Works. Outside groups are bringing their own nets in order to play. Director Simerson will commit to securing the cages after the 2016 season.

Vice-Chair Messina advised Christine to contact the Police Department concerning outside groups using the fields while closed. Signs should be posted, during the down time, advising that the fields are closed. Strategic placement of the signs would make it harder for teams to play.

Should someone remove those signs it would now be considered vandalism. Township Administrator Miller indicated that the Recreation Commission can authorize signs concerning groups having authorized permits to utilize the fields. Police may be called on organized teams that do not hold a permit for use.

Travel Basketball-

No representative present.

EHT Jr. Wrestling-

President Nikki Franklin addressed the commission. She is committed to making the organization better. Parent involvement has been increased. A tournament is scheduled at Fernwood Middle school for Saturday February 16, 2016. A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the facility use fees imposed by EHT School District on Parks and Recreation and our local youth sports groups.

Street Hockey-

Gary Adams spoke on behalf of Street Hockey. The regular season ended last week. Playoffs are scheduled for March 11, 12 & 13, 2016. Plexiglass panels on the East Court have been installed. The lights on the North Court need to be adjusted. He inquired about an awning over the front of the stand. Township Administrator Miller advised that a sturdy awning would be necessary, for Street Hockey and BMX, or the juveniles in the area will destroy it. The Recreation Commission has heard this request and will take it under advisement.

Commissioner Weldon advised that the refocusing of the North Court lights requires updated lamps.

c. Public Comment

Rick Henderson from Travel Basketball asked why the Travel Basketball President was not present. Chairman Fairfield advised that all of the groups were invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. Rick expressed his concern over paying \$21.00 an hour to use the EHT School gyms. He stated that Linwood and Northfield pay \$25.00 per month to use their school gyms. Commissioner Riggs asked whether they have spoken to Superintendent McCartney. Chairman Fairfield explained that EHT Recreation is in Category 3 for use of the school facilities. Meetings with the school board have occurred wherein the fees were discussed. Commission Riggs is on the EHT School Board. He will reach out to the new Business Administrator. Vice Chair Messina stated that EHT Recreation is in the wrong category. Paul Hodson, Township Committee, asked why Eagle Academy uses the EHT Community Center for their gym classes and does not pay to use it.

Bill Gianetti spoke about Pickle ball at the Community Center. Presently there is one court in the Auxiliary gym. Pickle ball hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. through 3:00p.m. and on Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. through 5:00p.m. It is evident by the number of people waiting to play on the one court that it is not enough. Bill holds clinics on Mondays and Wednesdays. He teaches 12 people or more how to play the game. He asked for more courts in the main gym. Chairman Fairfield indicated that multiple discussions on the subject are underway and a solution will be examined.

VII. Old Business

a. Capital Projects Update

Surveillance Camera Project-

Director Audet explained the Surveillance Camera project. The Recreation Commission voted at the January 13, 2016 meeting to complete the project at one park at a time. Camera installation will commence at Veteran's Park in the spring. Locations and numbers of cameras have been identified. A contract with a State Electrician has been established. The purchase and installation will occur within the next few months. Commissioner Weldon advised that a viewing monitor and locked DVR's will be located in the field houses.

Amphitheater Cover-

The design and request for bids have gone out.

Canale Park Tennis Courts-

The resurfacing of the courts will take place in May or June depending on the weather.

Fencing at the Parks-

Ongoing project at Veteran's and Child-Kirk Parks, a number of fields received new fencing in the fall, the Capital Project was completed based on level of funding allotted.

Canale Park Bathroom project-

The bids for the bathrooms are due on February 24, 2016.

VIII. Use of Parks Facility Requests

a. EHT Baseball Assoc. Veteran's Park/Bargaintown Park

Motion made by Vice Chair Messina to approve and seconded by Commissioner Warrell. Motion was approved by a vote of 8-0. Veteran's Park baseball field 3 is under construction and cannot be used until work is concluded and signed off.

b. Amphitheater area

Use of the Amphitheater, soccer fields, playground and bathrooms for an Easter Egg Hunt on March 19, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m. Commissioner Warrell made a motion to approve and seconded by Commissioner Riggs. By a vote of 8-0 the request was approved.

IX. Director's Report

Director Audet informed the Recreation Commission that EHTBA wishes to purchase a 12X20 foot, wooden shed to house their golf carts, for \$5200.00. The shed has no windows. It has a roll up door on one end and a side door. The shed will be located near the blue bin next to field 11. It will be approximately 12-18 feet away from the fieldhouse. A 4 inch stone pad will be needed and the shed must be anchored. Electricity will need to be run to the shed at an additional cost. Township Administrator Miller indicated that the shed must meet fire code and have at least a 2 hour fire rating. The building must comply with building and fire codes. EHTBA did not wish to use the blue box to house the golf carts as the cost of the electrician was \$6790.00. Commissioner Warrell made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. A vote was taken and approved 7-1. Vice Chair Messina was the dissenting vote.

X. New Business

Nature Reserve-

Commissioner Stetser advised that a helicopter will be used to remove a conduit from the water. The Nature Reserve Board requested that the enclosure to the porta-potty be dressed up. Kevin asked Public Works to ensure that the parking lot gets plowed when it snows. During the last storm, cars were parked along Zion and School House Roads.

XI. Correspondence

XII. EHT Youth Group Minutes

- A. Baseball Association– last received 12/3/15
- B. BMX- 12/20/15,1/5/16 Bond renewal
- C. Diamond Cheer
- D. Jr Wrestling – 12/17/15
 Commissioner Rispoli questioned minutes from 12/15/15. She asked why the High School was using Recreation’s mats.
 Rispoli also advised President Franklin of all the additional costs Jr. Wrestling may incur by using School facilities.
 Commissioner Rispoli advised President Franklin that EHT does not have a concern if a resident wishes to participant in another towns’ program
- E. Lacrosse – 11/3/15, 12/1/15. 1/5/16, 1/27/16
- F. Soccer Club- 11/10/15. 1/12/16
- G. Street Hockey Association- 12/14/15
- H. Travel Basketball- last received 5/14/15
- I. Youth Softball- 1/18/16
- J. Youth Organization- 10/7/15, 10/21/15, 11/4/15, 11/18/15, 12/2/15

XIII. Handouts

- a. EHT Baseball Association Financials 2/14/16
- b. BMX Board of Directors, Financials, Starting Gate Proposal
- c. YO Board of Directors

XIV. Tabled Matters

XV. Upcoming Events

XVI. Adjournment

Motion	Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Riggs and seconded by Commissioner Weldon.
Vote	8-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Robert Fairfield, Chairman

Toni Rispoli, Secretary

**These minutes were approved at the March 9, 2016
Recreation Commission Meeting**