

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION

MARCH 25, 2015 MINUTES

Attendees: Fairfield, Messina, Audet, Fiedor, Gallagher, McComb, Riggs, Rispoli, Warrell and Weldon.

Committeewoman Pfrommer.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Minutes:

March 11, 2015 minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-2 (Fiedor and Gallagher abstained).

3. Presentations/Public Comment:

EHTBA-

Kim Feinstein, Treasurer, praised Public Works for the work they have done on field 5.

Kim indicated that handicap ramps are needed near fields 1 and 2 and Castle Park. There are no handicap accessible cuts in the new curbing that was installed. Commissioner Rispoli advised that Al Simerson, Public Works Director, was informed of the problem. Al indicated that cutouts will be made.

On field 6, there are two sets of foul poles, he asked when the second set will be removed. Commissioner Rispoli stated that the poles are slated to be removed on Monday, March 30.

Kim expressed a concern about the football goal posts lying in the corner, of right field, on field 2. Chairman Fairfield stated that he would ask Public Works to move the posts behind the right field fence near the Press Box.

Ed Keil also expressed his pleasure with the job Public Works did on fields 5 and 10. He stated that he knows that sod should not be played on for 6-8 weeks after installation. He asked if there was a projected date for opening these fields.

Director Audet explained that Public Works will determine the time frame for opening fields 5 and 10.

Ed Keil asked whether all of the fields at Veteran's Park could be renumbered. It gets a little confusing when calling the same field "Football field 2 and Lacrosse field 1". He felt that renumbering the fields 1-16 would be advantageous to all of the groups. The renumbering should be placed on the legend at the field house.

Ed spoke about the lights that are out on field 3. Since it is a safety issue, it will be passed onto Public Works.

EHT Basketball-

Ed Keil spoke about Recreation Basketball. He felt that it is a well-run program. However, he expressed concern about the officiating. Ed advised that the refs did not move with the game, nor were they consistent with the calls or lack thereof. He felt that this type of non-control causes aggressive behavior and unsportsmanlike conduct.

Director Audet explained that all of the officials are NJSIAA officials. In the future, the officials will be closely monitored. Chairman Fairfield said that it is not possible to call everything. The officials should stop the game and explain situations to the players, especially at the 9-10 and 11-12 levels, as that is how they learn the game. The coaches are responsible for teaching the game.

Manny Aponte said that the EHT instructional basketball program is a great experience. At the end of the season, during the semi-championship game, defensive players weren't allowed to go past the 3 point line. Therefore, the offensive team stalled the game, by continually passing the ball to each other and basically played "keep away." This type of behavior is considered to be poor sportsmanship. Director Audet

discovered the “loophole” in the rules and immediately stepped in for the Championship game. A “No intentional stalling rule” was imposed. The Coaches and Officials were advised of the rule. They were rebuked and advised that this should never have happened. Their jobs as coaches and officials, is to teach the game properly and to show good sportsmanship.

Bargaintown Park-

Commissioner Messina opened dialog concerning the 18 and up players using Field 3 at Veteran’s Park. He indicated that the baseball field at Bargaintown Park was built for the adult players. It is also utilized as an over flow field for EHTBA. Commissioner Messina felt that the adult players should only play at Bargaintown Park.

Director Audet advised that his office only has requests for Bargaintown Park for ACBL and the Orioles and nothing from EHTBA.

Chairman Fairfield indicated that the Baseball sub-committee and Commissioner Gallagher and Vice-Chair Messina need to work together. Director Audet advised that a schedule, for the adult leagues and EHTBA at Bargaintown Park, must be submitted to the Recreation Department. The schedule will then be faxed to Public Works.

Vice-Chair Messina reiterated that Bargaintown Park is an adult field and is where the adult leagues should play.

7:45pm Closed Public portion.

4. Old Business:

Security cameras at park facilities-

Commissioner Weldon advised that vendors from Atlantic Coast, Mike Sweeter and CRDA will be contacted to ascertain the type of systems they use. Whatever system that is installed must have the capability to add cameras as needed.

Policies and Procedures-

A sub-committee of Chairman Fairfield, Vice-Chair Messina, Director Audet and Commissioner Rispoli will work together to create a manual for the Recreation Commission and Youth Sports Groups Organizations. Once the manual is prepared, it will be distributed to the Commission to review and formulate a final product. After which, the manual will be submitted to the organizations for their input.

Capital projects-

Fencing (Veteran's Park), surveillance (All Parks), playground equipment (Childs-Kirk Park) and Pickleball courts (Delilah Oaks) are underway. Bids are being accepted.

Resolution for the restroom renovations at Veteran's Park was submitted. Work is scheduled to be completed April 11, 2015.

Bid for the lighting project for field 5 will be awarded in April. It is anticipated that the project will be completed on or around August 1.

D+O insurance-

It is recommended that each group purchase D+O insurance. The cost is between \$750-\$1000. Chairman Fairfield will check with Siracusa for their cost and to see if a Ryder can be applied to the JIF insurance. EHT insurance covers coaches and participants.

5. New Business:

Nomination of Officers-

Fairfield was nominated for Chairperson and Rispoli for Secretary.

Review of By-Laws-

Tabled to April 15, 2015 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.

