

Egg Harbor Township Recreation Commission

March 27, 2013 minutes

Attendees: Fairfield, Davis, Gallagher, Messina, Rispoli, Schafer and Warrell

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm. Meeting was suspended at 7:01 pm. Meeting resumed at 7:10pm.**
- 2. Minutes:
March 13, 2013 minutes were approved 6-0.**
- 3. Public:**

EHT Junior Basketball-

***Cameron Bell* spoke of forming Summer Travel Basketball teams, for boys and girls, at the 5&6 grade and 7&8 grade levels. The Winter (December – February) Travel Basketball teams would include 3&4, 5&6 and 7&8 grades. The establishment of these leagues would be in conjunction with the existing Egg Harbor Township Recreation Basketball program. Mr. Bell asked for support of the Recreation Commission to go forward with this program. He completely understands the limited gym space at the EHT Community Center. This program would be an extension of the Recreation program. All players and coaches who are interested in Travel Basketball would be required to participate in the EHT Recreation Basketball program. The group would work to help increase the number of girls playing Recreation Basketball. Registration for the Summer program would occur in May. On occasion, due to inclement weather, the summer program may need gym use.**

Jaime Gillespie, Holy Spirit Basketball coach, stated that travel Basketball is a good, competitive avenue for the players to explore. Mr. Gillespie indicated that he is willing to serve on the Board.

Danielle Conroy and Michele Zinckgraf were players on the EHTHS State Championship team. They are running clinics during the summer at the high School to generate interest. Ms. Conroy read a letter from Karen Schutz, EHT Girls Varsity Basketball Coach.

Susan Smith concurred with Mr. Bell about the summer program which would run Monday through Thursday. The winter league would run on Saturday and Sunday. There would be an open tryout for those interested in participating in Travel Basketball. The group is aware of the limited Community Center gym space. They realize that they may have to go to the EHT School Board for gym use.

Danny Barber is a Recreation Basketball coach. He indicated that most sports have Travel programs and it is through this type of program that athletes become better players. Their skills improve when playing at a more competitive level.

Tammy Mahana is a Recreation Basketball coach. She has coached for two years. What she has found is that the girls are intimidated by playing against or with boys. The group is looking for backing from the Recreation Commission. She understands that advertising in the schools and papers is vital to both of the programs.

Commissioner Gallagher explained that PAL took over the Basketball program several years ago. When it fell apart, Recreation took over the program. Over the past three years, girls Basketball has been offered, but not enough girls register to play in a separate league. There is only one gym at the EHT Community Center and it is used to its capacity during the Basketball season.

Wanda Schafer, Assistant to the Director of Recreation, indicated that Recreation has offered both Boys and Girls the opportunity to participate in EHT Recreation Basketball. However, not enough girls register to establish all girl teams. Therefore, the girls are offered the opportunity to play on a coed team, or receive a refund.

Chairman Fairfield advised the group that they would have to work with Recreation. They do not need a board if the program is run through Recreation. Under Recreation the teams would be covered through Township insurance.

Commissioner Davis feels that this would not work with the programs being split between Recreation and Travel. He believes that either they take it all (Rec and Travel) or that Travel comes under Recreation. The Basketball Board needs to meet and decide what they want to do. The Recreation Commission agreed.

EHTYO-

Tony Savastano, Acting President inquired whether the PA stand is safe for use. Chairman Fairfield advised that Public Works has indicated that the building is safe.

Leaks in the building are caused by holes in the fascia. Mr. Savastano asked whether a platform for filming could be erected. Chairman Fairfield stated that Public Works would have to address this. Tony advised that the Cape Atlantic Junior Football League had a change to their by-laws. They are requesting that signs be posted concerning the leagues code of conduct. Commissioner Davis reviewed the By-law change and advised him that if the signs followed the NJ Code of Conduct Law the officer could enforce the law.

4. Use of Facility:

Vince Flukey of the South Jersey Maniacs requested field use at Childs-Kirk Park. Commissioner Messina stated that Babe Ruth Softball presently has a travel program that EHTYS is involved in. He believes that all travel Softball programs should come under one banner, just as EHTBA does. A vote was taken and the request was denied by a 0-6 (against) vote.

5. New Business:

Nominations were taken for the position of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary. Ray Davis indicated that he would like to run for the position of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Rispoli made a motion and Commissioner Messina seconded the motion. Chairman Fairfield and Commissioner Rispoli ran unopposed for the positions of Chairman and Secretary respectively. A vote was taken for Vice-Chair with the nominations of Kathy Fiedor and Ray Davis. Commissioner Davis was appointed Vice-Chair by a vote of 5-0-1 abstention (Davis) Commissioner Fiedor received 1 affirmative vote.

Scullville Park:

Chairman Fairfield advised that he was unable to continue on the Board for the Passive Park. He appointed Commissioner Rispoli to take his place. Commissioner Rispoli accepted.

EHTBA:

Commissioner Messina questioned why EHTBA needed to use the field at Bargaintown Park. He explained that this request was not necessary as there are enough fields at the 60-90 level for the amount of teams needing them at Veteran's Park.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

