

Egg Harbor Township Board of Recreation Commissioners Meeting  
Egg Harbor Township, NJ

**REGULAR MEETING - MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, July 11, 2018**                      **7:00pm**

**I. Call to Order**

Recreation Commission Chair Toni Rispoli called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act**

Opening statement was read by Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet.

**IV. Roll Call:**

Toni Rispoli, Chair – Present	Amy Smith – Present
William Warrell, Vice Chair– Present	Paul Trinkle – Excused
Charles Gallagher– Present	Christine Gras (Alt. 1) – Excused
Paul Weldon– Present (Arrived 7:20pm)	Jonathan Parker (Alt. 2) – Present
Kevin Stetser – Excused	

**V. Reading / Acceptance of Minutes**

a. Regular Meeting June 13, 2018

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To approve the 6/13/18 Regular Meeting minutes as presented.</b> Motion made by Bill Warrell. Seconded by Charlie Gallagher
<b>Vote</b>	Jonathan Parker abstained. All others voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

**Closed Session**

**VI.** Authorizing the Recreation Commission to convene into a Closed Executive Session to discuss matters which may involve personnel and/or legal matters.

The Commission discussed the coaching status of David Sonnie. Mr. Sonnie had been previously removed from the Approved Coaches list. Mr. Sonnie did recently obtain a successful volunteer background check. The Commission discussed and noted that Mr. Sonnie had been uncooperative in the past when asked to step down temporarily as a coach in both the baseball and softball organizations. The Parks and Recreation Director, in the past week, placed Mr. Sonnie back onto the approved coaches list due to the background check letter received.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To place David Sonnie on probation status until January 1, 2019 due to his disregard for the Recreation Commission’s policies and procedures.</b> Motion made by Amy Smith Seconded by Jonathan Parker
<b>Vote</b>	Motion carried 5-0.

**VII. EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups**

Dr. Mark Menseh, 2 Dockside Drive, reported to the commission that EHT YO President Tony Savastano gave him a copy of the audit response letter that was sent to the YO board. The Commission discussed the response letter and tasked the finance subcommittee to review the letter and the various response items to their 2017 audit.

**VIII. Public Comment**

Richard Rockelmann, 1158 Ocean Heights Avenue, spoke on Starshield Entertainment Group hosting the upcoming special event, the EHT Talent Showcase to be held at Canale Park. They are accepting 25 registrations for the talent showcase. The event will be held Saturday, August 25, from 2-9pm. The showcase portion will last 2 1/2 – 3 hours with a 30 minute intermission. On August 11, they will hold auditions at the EHT Community Center. They are playing ads on local radio stations to promote the event. They are looking for food trucks to participate in the event. The Commission advised Mr. Rockelman that the food trucks must contact the Clerk’s office. Mr Rockelman and the Parks and Recreation Director will coordinate the use of the park that day and process all the forms needed for the use of facility permit. Mr. Rockelman stated that they had a short window of time this year to properly plan and host the event. They will start a lot earlier next year and wish to possibly host the event in June.

Public Comment closed at 7:50 p.m.

**IX. Old Business**

a. 2018 Capital Projects (memo)

Parks and Recreation Director reviewed the list of 2018 Capital Projects with the Commission. Mr. Audet advised the Commission that the recent lighting project at the Robert J. Lincoln amphitheater created a much better level of lighting on the perimeter of the amphitheater. Therefore, Mr. Audet recommends removing the Park Lighting project from the 2018 capital projects plan. The funds would be reallocated to the Recreation Improvements line of the budget and support additional park improvements, notably in the new wells and irrigation systems to be installed. The Commission discussed this proposed change.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To remove the Park Lighting project from the 2018 Capital Projects list and place the \$8000 in funding into the Recreation Improvements project.</b> Motion made by Christine Gras. Seconded by Bill Warrell
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

b. Fields Subcommittee Report

The Recreation Commission Field Subcommittee reviewed its recent meeting with the Public Works department and the analysis of our most pressing areas needed to improve the infrastructure of our parks. The subcommittee and Public Works jointly recommend the installation of a new well and expansion of the irrigation system at Canale and Veteran’s Parks as the best use of Capital funding for this year.

Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet further discussed the remaining balance of funds in the Recreation Improvements line of the capital budget. They could be used for the expansion of fields at Tony Canale Park. Rick Audet stated that he and Public Works staff both feel that an expansion of Canale Park would benefit our current fields as well as it would lessen the amount of use, and wear and tear. The Commission discussed the state of our current fields and reiterated that the turf management of our fields needs to improve. The Commission also stated that they do not want Mott Associates involved in the project.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To use the funds in the Recreation Improvements line of the 2018 Capital Project for the installation of wells and new irrigation as proposed and for the design and engineering work related to the athletic fields expansion project at Canale Park.</b> Motion made by Bill Warrell Seconded by Amy Smith
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

**X. Use of Parks Facility Requests**

None.

**XI. Director's Report**

None.

**XII. New Business**

a. Sponsored Youth Group Policy and Procedures re: BOE facility reservations

Discussion was held on the EHT School District Business Administrator's request that all facility use requests be processed through Parks and Recreation. Toni Rispoli spoke in favor of the new process. A brief discussion ensued on how the process would work.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To amend the sponsored youth groups policies and procedures manual to reflect that EHT School District facility use requests will be processed through the Parks and Recreation Department office by the Parks and Recreation representative and no longer requested directly by the sponsored youth groups.</b> Motion made by Bill Warrell Seconded by Amy Smith
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

b. Revisions to EHT Community Center Use of Facility Regulations

The Parks and Recreation Director presented his proposed changes to the community center use of facility rules and regulations. The changes reflect an updated work schedule on Saturdays of our building custodian, new ordinance banning smoking in parks and a few grammatical changes. Additionally, the Director recommended adding EHT Private Schools to the Group B list of users.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To amend the EHT Community Center Use of Facility Rules and Regulations as presented by the Parks and Recreation Director.</b> Motion made by Paul Weldon Seconded by Bill Warrell
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

c. At the August meeting with the sports groups presidents, Toni Rispoli stated that she will inform all youth groups that the background check ordinance states for all volunteers to perform the criminal background check and be added to the Approved Volunteers List, and not just coaches.

d. Amy Smith and Christine Gras stated that as the finance subcommittee, they recommend having the youth group treasurer's come in for a meeting and training on proper accounting practices and principles that they should be using in their own group.

**XIII. Correspondence**

EHT Youth Group Minutes

- A. Baseball Association – last received 3/1/2018
- B. BMX – last received 4/16/2018

- F. Soccer Club – last received 4/10/18
- G. Street Hockey Association – 4/9/2018

- C. Youth Organization – 3/14, 4/11/18
- D. Jr. Wrestling – 1/23, 2/27, 3/27/18,
- E. Lacrosse – last received 4/3/18

- H. Travel Basketball – last received 4/12/18
- I. Youth Softball – last received 1/14/18

Handouts

- A. EHT Baseball Association Financials Report 5/3/18
- B. EHT Jr Wrestling Updated Board List
- C. PW Buildings and Ground Report 6/13/1

**XIV. Tabled Matters**

None.

**XV. Public Comment**

Matt Kraybill, Josh Brown, and Michele Zinckgraf, representing EHT Travel Basketball Association joined the Commission meeting and spoke under public comment to discuss an issue in their organization. Josh Brown, EHT Travel treasurer, was reviewing the bank statements and noticed that a 4<sup>th</sup> team was registered for the Ocean City summer league when EHT travel had only 3 teams participating. The president had paid for an independent team to play in the summer league using travel basketball debit card. The president informed his board he had used the wrong card by accident. The travel president reimbursed the travel organization the cost of this team fee with a check. A text thread and discussion ensued amongst the travel basketball board on this error. The travel basketball board members expressed concern over summer registration fees that had not been paid by some travel basketball players, and discussed a lack of communication from the president of their group including why they were not informed a fourth team was playing until the error was caught on a bank statement. Toni Rispoli stated that she, the travel basketball liaison, and Parks and Recreation Director would attend their next board meeting to review the concerns presented tonight.

**XVI. Adjournment**

<b>Motion</b>	<b>To adjourn the July 11, 2018 meeting of the Recreation Commission meeting at 9:39 p.m.</b> Motion made by Christine Gras. Seconded by Charlie Gallagher
<b>Vote</b>	All voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

*Minutes as heard by Rick Audet, Director of Parks and Recreation.*

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Toni Rispoli, Chair

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Rick Audet, Director of Parks and Recreation

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These minutes were approved at the August 8, 2018

Recreation Commission Meeting