

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

REGULAR MEETING - MINUTES
Wednesday, August 8, 2018 7:00pm

I. **Call to Order** – Recreation Commission Chair Toni Rispoli called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

Parks and Recreation Director Rick Audet read the Opening Statement Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

IV. **Roll Call:** Toni Rispoli, Chair - Present Amy Smith - Present
William Warrell, Vice Chair - Present Paul Trinkle - Present
Charles Gallagher - Present Christine Gras (Alt. 1) - Present
Paul Weldon – Excused Jonathan Parker (Alt. 2) – Excused
Kevin Stetser - Present

V. **Reading / Acceptance of Minutes**

a. Regular Meeting July 11, 2018

Motion	To approve the 7/11/18 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Motion made by Amy Smith. Seconded by Toni Rispoli.
Vote	Motion carried 4-0. (Stetser, Gras, Trinkle – Abstain).

VI. **EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups – Bi-Annual Meeting Presidents Presentations**

Travel Basketball

Matt Kraybill, 513 Dogwood Avenue, introduced himself as the new President of EHT Travel Basketball. Mr. Kraybill stated that the organization is finishing their summer league soon. They had 9 teams with 95 players total, 6 of the teams made the playoffs. He considered it a very successful summer league for EHT. Their board is meeting tomorrow and will plan and prepare for the fall/winter league. EHT Travel intends to move tryouts up on the calendar to the end of September and beginning of October. Their practices will begin in mid-November. Their biggest need as an organization at this time is help from the Commission to reduce the school gym use fees imposed by the Board of Ed.

EHT BMX

Stan Russ, 3 Patricia Terrace, president of EHT BMX spoke for the organization. John Hall, 120 Azalea Lane, was attendance as the EHTBMX treasurer. Stan handed in his organization’s financials report to the Director prior to the meeting. Next Saturday at 5:30 p.m. is their state race, they expect a lot of riders. The health department made an inspection of their kitchen recently. Mr. Russ has not yet heard on the status of the National Race Host application. He further stated National Night Out was a great event, and the track is in great condition.

EHT Street Hockey

Gary Adams, 102 Ruby Drive, President of EHT Street Hockey, thanked the Township for their help and support of the west hockey court rebuild project. The asphalt of the new west court plays well and players like the new court. The street hockey board approved to build a new dugout for the west court at an expense of \$16,000. Street Hockey is wrapping up their summer league. Registration for the Chipmunks division is up from last season. The Chipmunks start new season soon. Street Hockey also purchased \$5000 worth of new skins to repair the north and east rinks as needed. There are a lot of broken panels to address. Rick Audet suggested to Mr. Adams that street Hockey may want to consider running a tournament like they did last year that raised a lot of money for an outside organization, and instead run it through EHT Street Hockey that could fund these recent projects and expenses. Mr. Adams said they are discussing that as a board.

EHT Girls Softball

Kathleen Glick, 1024 Ocean Heights, President of EHT Youth Softball stated they had a great time at National Night Out and it was a great event. Their fall season begins September 9. Their registrations for fall ball concluded last night. Ms. Glick reviewed the fields for Public Works staff that she feels has problems at this time including Field 1 (divots that collect water), Fields 3, 2 (water on the whole infield), as well as fields 5, 6, 7.

Ms. Glick asked public works to look at the fencing for field 5, it is coming up along the 1st and 3rd base lines. Robert Lundberg from public works said that he has clay bricks and infield mix on order and plans to install mix on all infields as needed and get them better ready for play in the fall. Ms. Glick said the softball board still wants netting along the 1st base/right field fence of Field 5 as well as a new net for the backstop of Field 3 where there was an injury last season. Toni Rispoli stated that if we do a new backstop for field 3 that would be a Capital project.

Ms. Glick stated that the softball board would like another lighted field, field 2 or field 7, a scoreboard, a new infield grooming machine as their capital budget request for this year. The proposal to take down the second floor roof behind field 2 and make it one story and provide storage for softball was discussed. Rick Audet stated that he told Kim Collins that they need drawings for the project that they can turn in to the Construction/Zoning official. Al Simerson stated that Public Works could provide a dumpster for the project. Ms. Glick stated they also need a net for the Field 4 batting cage, also the grass is too high in there. They also wish to get a new batting cage for Fields 5, 6, 7 area.

EHT Baseball Association

Niall Bridgeman, 223 Tallwood Drive, introduced himself as the EHT Baseball Association Vice President. Mr. Bridgeman stated that their president Jamie Gillespie was unable to attend the meeting but did read a letter from Mr. Gillespie to the Commission. Mr. Bridgeman stated that their fall registration numbers are good. They had successful seasons recently, there were 8 teams in 9U, an EHTBA team won the District tournament. EHT Baseball has purchased a gator and water tanks. Rick Audet reminded EHT Baseball that we need a certificate of insurance for every team that plays in a tournament hosted by EHT Baseball. Mr. Audet also reminded the Commission that EHT Baseball has approached the Township with a proposal to add infield grass to fields 5 and 6. The Commission is pursuing a capital project this fall of installing a new well at Veteran's Park and adding irrigation to a number of areas, including the proposed new grass infields. The project also included new hose bibs to fields 4, 5, 6, 7.

EHT Jr. Wrestling

Damien Correa, 109 Ohio Ave, EHT Jr. Wrestling Club President stated that the club has been doing well lately and thanked Christine Gras as their liaison. Mr. Correa and the board are planning for their season and will confirm with Parks and Recreation Department their schedule of use of the Community Center. Mr. Correa requested another wrestling mat from the Recreation Commission's Capital budget, their last mat was purchased in 2014.

EHT Lacrosse

Andrew Carpenter, 35 Marshall Road, President of EHT Lacrosse Association stated that lacrosse is not in season at this time. Public Works has helped them with their fields and fencing, and Mr. Carpenter stated that Robert does a great job. There is a gate not shutting properly. Mr. Carpenter asked when the Football field 4 goal post would be fixed as he had pointed it out to the Township as a potential safety concern. Rick Audet stated his preference that we repair the current goal post rather than buying a new one. Al Simerson, Public Works Director, stated that he has a piece to perform the repairs, he is waiting on a tool coming in to do it. He stated that they expect to complete it by the second week of September. Mr. Carpenter went on to explain that parking at the park is horrendous, there is often no place to park. He stated that the condition of the field turf is one of his primary concerns for his organization. He asked when YO football would be coming off of field 4, Rick Audet stated October 15 as he has coordinated with the President of YO.

EHT Soccer Club

Matt Bailey, 107 Cabot Lane, President of EHT Soccer Club stated that travel soccer started this week, registrations remains open for rec and intramural soccer until September 1. Games start on September 8. Next week, the EHTSC Board will discuss the status of the intramural girls program due to very low numbers. They have two teams that may play in a 7v7 shore league. There are 11 girls registered for U9, U10, U11. Nathan Schaefer, Intramural Coordinator discussed where the girls are playing including Hamilton and Brigantine. The board is concerned about the low number of girl players, the county does not have girls teams. Amy Smith asked Mr. Bailey and Mr. Schaefer to discuss and explain how travel soccer works compared to rec soccer. The soccer club will offer a trainer to and play small sided games for divisions with low numbers to give the players a good experience. Christine Gras stated they could roll out individualized training and let the trainers run small sided games. They don't know if they will have a league for girls, EHT is the last town to have girls teams. Amy Smith stated that often the parents want their kids in travel and have created a mentality in youth sports that travel sports is the place to be. The soccer club can offer soccer with a large age gap of children as long as they don't put them in a game situation. Matt Bailey is requesting lights on the soccer field area adjacent to the softball field. The soccer board has moved 11 v 11 field back to Canale Park. They will install netting on the ends of the fields to keep the balls from going into parking lot and retention basin .

EHT YO

Mark Menseh, 2 Dockside Drive, YO board member and liaison to the Recreation Commission stated that their season has started. The registration numbers in the Pee Wee and JV teams are low, the varsity teams numbers are good. The amount of kids playing in the younger divisions are the lowest he has seen. Kevin Stetser stated that he feels that one team in a division across the whole town would make for the strongest youth football program. The youth organization playing with two teams in a division and Elite football program having a small team is not the best approach and is hurting youth football in EHT. The YO cheer coordinators stated that for next year's summer cheer camp they need to try and find an indoor location in

case of bad weather. They looked into it for this year but the cost from the school district was too high for them to consider holding the camp at a school.

VII. Public Comment

None.

I. Old Business

a. 2018 Capital Projects

Parks and Recreation Director summarized the current 2018 Capital projects and the status of each project. A lot of quotes have been obtained and planning for the projects has been completed with work on the projects scheduled for September and October.

VIII. Use of Parks Facility Requests

A. EHT Soccer Club – use of facility request for fall soccer season

Motion	To approve the park use request presented by EHT Soccer Club for the 2018 fall season at Canale and Bargaintown Parks. Motion made by Christine Gras. Seconded by Kevin Stetser.
Vote	Motion carried 7-0.

B. EHT YO –kickoff party Veteran’s Park 8/24/2018

Motion	To approve the park use request presented by Youth Organization Booster Club Coordinator for the YO Kickoff Party at Veteran’s Park on 8/24/18. Motion made by Christine Gras. Seconded by Paul Trinkle.
Vote	Motion carried 7-0.

C. Church St. Katharine Drexel Canale Park 9/30/18

Motion	To approve the park use request St. Katherine’s Drexel Church for a parish picnic at Canale Park on 9/30/18. Motion made by Amy Smith. Seconded by Christine Gras.
Vote	Motion carried 7-0.

D. EHT Key Club Canale Park 8/18/18

Rick Audet stated that he rejected the park use request when it came in from a student. He contacted the teacher who coordinates the key club who then applied for the event and confirmed it would be supervised by the teacher. Mr. Audet also asked them to move their requested date to 8/18 as there was a Parks and Recreation Department program scheduled on 8/17.

Motion	To approve the park use request from EHTHS Key Club for a welcoming party at Canale Park on 8/18/18. Motion made by Christine Gras. Seconded by Amy Smith.
Vote	Motion carried 7-0.

E. Prestige Soccer Training

Canale / Bargaintown Sep, Oct 2018 / Apr May, 2019

Christine Gras stated that she had input on the park use request but will abstain on voting on it. Ms. Gras stated the soccer club is attempting to create a supplemental program to boost the level of soccer play in EHT. This proposed program would allow our area elite level players to stay and play in EHT rather than going to play in a surrounding community. The PST's EDP program is for profit. Matt Bailey stated that the proposed program would not impact the EHT Soccer Club program in any negative way, PST also provides most of the scholarship funding to the EHTSC scholarships. Rick Audet stated that when a group applies for use of fields in this type of scenario that he contacts the sponsored group using the park to confirm that the proposed park use request would not impact the sponsored group's schedule or use of park. Matt Bailey stated that the owner of Prestige Soccer Training has informed all of the EHT players who may play on his EDP League teams that they must also play for EHT Soccer Club, thereby not taking players away from the club. Toni Rispoli asked Matt Bailey how it might affect the practice and/or game scheduled, Mr. Bailey stated that the coaches make their own schedule and avoid any conflict. The Recreation Commission directed Toni Rispoli and Rick Audet to meet with the owner of PST to discuss the field use policy and field use fees prior to final approval. Contingent upon this meeting, the Commission will approve the park use request.

Motion	To approve the park use request from Prestige Soccer Club for use of Tony Canale Park as presented. Motion made by Amy Smith. Seconded by Kevin Stetser.
Vote	Motion carried 5-1-1. (Trinkle – No / Gras – Abstain)

IX. Director's Report

None.

X. New Business

Toni Rispoli directed each Commissioner to take the memo that Rick Audet wrote to all sponsored youth group presidents that outlines their seasonal and annual responsibilities to each youth group board to discuss it with the board and have all boards sign off on the memo that they will agree to be in compliance with it.

XI. Correspondence

EHT Youth Group Minutes

- A. Baseball Association – last received 3/1/2018
- B. BMX – last received 4/16/2018
- C. Youth Organization – last received 4/11/18
- D. Jr. Wrestling – last received 3/27/18
- E. Lacrosse – las received 5/1/2018
- F. Soccer Club – last received 6/12/18
- G. Street Hockey Association – last rec'd 4/9/2018
- H. Travel Basketball – 7/11/18,
- I. Youth Softball – 7/9/18

Handouts

- A. EHT Street Hockey – 2nd quarter 2018 Financials report
- B. Article on Stealing in Youth Sports
- C. EHT Baseball Association Financials Report 1/1/18 -7/31/18
- D. PW Buildings and Grounds Report 8.8.18
- E. Letter from EHTBA President

F. Memo to Youth Groups Presidents on Annual Requirements

No further discussion on minutes or handouts presented in this meeting.

XII. Tabled Matters

None.

XIII. Public Comment

None.

XIV. Closed Session

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

Deputy Mayor Paul Hodson and Township Committee member Laura Pfrommer met with the Recreation Commission in a closed session to discuss the findings of the Recreation Commission's Finance Subcommittee. Christine Gras summarized the findings of the Finance Subcommittee, comprised of her, Amy Smith, and Rick Audet, as it related to the Youth Organization's 2017 Audit Report and a response letter from the accountant who reviewed the audit report. The Commission agreed that all youth groups have to be held to a high standard and be consistent in its reporting and financial transparency. Toni Rispoli stated that she wants the Commission to bring the YO President and their Board in to a meeting with the Commission to review the findings and explain two financials transactions in particular. The Commission discussed why there are as many debit cards as there are in our youth groups, and that there needs to be approval from the board before each debit card purchase.

Toni Rispoli called a Special Meeting of the Recreation Commission on August 22, at 6:00 p.m. for the purposes of meeting with the YO board to discuss the 2017 financials and purchased made by the Booster Club Coordinator on the YO debit card. Rick Audet stated that he could update the policies and procedures manual and include a receipt of acknowledgement page that each president must sign.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion	To adjourn meeting of Recreation Commission at 9:17 p.m. Motion made by Bill Warrell. Seconded by Amy Smith.
Vote	Motion carried 7-0.

Toni Rispoli, Chairperson

Rick Audet, Director of Parks and Recreation

These minutes were approved at the September 12, 2018

Board of Recreation Commissioners meeting.
