

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

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, August 17, 2016

7:00pm

- I. **Call to Order** Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Fairfield.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Opening Statement** Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act read by Director Audet.

- IV. **Roll Call:**
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Robert Fairfield, Chair - Present | Charles Gallagher - Present |
| Carmen Messina, Vice Chair - Present | Justin Riggs - Present |
| Toni Rispoli – Present 7:24 p.m. | Paul Weldon - Present |
| Kathy Fiedor - Present | Kevin Stetser – 7:45 p.m. |
| William Warrell - Present | |

Laura Pfrommer (Township Committee Liaison) - Present
Rick Audet (Director of Recreation) – Present
Paul Hodson (Township Committee Deputy Mayor) – Present
Al Simerson (Public Works Director) – Present
Sam Giaconda (Public Works Supervisor) – Present
Robert Lundberg (Public Works Supervisor) -Present

V. **Reading / Acceptance of Minutes**

- a. Minutes – July 13, 2016.

Motion	Motion to accept the minutes as presented. Chairman Fairfield made a motion to accept the minutes. Carmen Messina seconded the motion.
Vote	Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

VI. **Presentations / Public Comment**

- A. Tom Sullivan, General Manager MEGL

Tom Sullivan, General Manager at McCullough's Emerald Golf Links made a presentation to the youth groups presidents regarding the opportunity to conduct golf tournaments for fundraising at McCullough's. Mr. Sullivan discussed the various options and considerations to hold a tournament at the course. Commissioner Fiedor asked about pricing on beef and beers. Sullivan commented that the golf course operates the restaurant directly again, and would be competitive. Commissioner Fiedor added the pricing that was before, and as recent as last month, was too high for these youth groups and that is why they go to other establishments. General Manager Sullivan passed out folders with information to each youth group president at this time.

Presidents of EHT Recognized Youth Sports Groups Presentations

Jr. Wrestling Club

President Niki FranklinNeeds to coordinate an audit to be done with Director Audet in protocol to our youth groups manual. Locations of practice and hours being able to use facilities is a problem. Director Audet commented he can be flexible and help by adding some additional hours to the Recreation Center.

Travel Basketball

Michele Zinckgraf Coaches clinics have been held with some success. A 3-3 tournament has been added to the schedule. Tryouts are in Oct. And asked about progress with gym fees with the school district. Commissioner Riggs responded with he understands the concerns, and it is an ongoing discussion with the school district. Director Audet, The Commission, and the Governing Body are working on setting up a meeting with the new Interim Superintendent Nickles and his administration.

EHT Soccer Club

Christine Gras, President of EHT Soccer Club, stated that the soccer fields are in good shape, thank you to public works for their help. Bathroom building construction has started. Christine asked about the possibility of implementing a 80/20 residency rule for the youth groups and mentioned that she has had to disband a team this past year due to insufficient registrations from our residents in one of the age groups. Pros and Cons were discussed by Chairman Fairfield and the Commission will be looking at this in the near future.

Preceding minutes were written by Commissioner Riggs

EHT Lacrosse

Vice President Drew Gargan inquired whether netting could be placed on the side of field 3 facing the parking area. The netting would protect the cars parked in this area. Drew indicated that the handicap space has been washed out and the parking lot needs to be leveled. Public Works Director stated that the area needs to be paved. However, there isn't enough money in this year's paving budget. Al will speak to Township Administrator Miller to ascertain whether the project can go forward.

Drew asked whether a 12X20 foot shed with electric could be placed between fields 3 and 4.

Chairman Fairfield advised that three bids are required. A layout of the shed and its location need to be submitted. Al explained to keep condensation out of the shed, it should be off the ground by at least 6 inches. Vents need to be placed high in the corners and some low to alleviate condensation problems.

Simerson stated that he will work with Lacrosse on the location and installation of the shed once it is approved. Commissioner Rispoli reminded Drew that Director Audet agreed to store the electronic scoreboards at the Community Center.

EHTBA-

President Brian Hawkes thanked Public Works for all of their help at Veteran's Park. Kim Feinstein resigned as Treasurer and Erica Messina was appointed to replace him. Brian indicated that field 7 needs work for next season. The scoreboard on field 6 is not working. Al and Robert said they would look at it to determine the problem. Field 4 has ground wasps near the dugouts. Field 5 has wasps in the fence covers. Al said Public Works will address the wasps problem by spraying. Brian asked for lights on field 6 as a capital improvement project.

BMX-

President Stan Russ thanked Public Works for all of their help. State qualifying races will be held in August and September. Flyers will be placed in the schools concerning the BMX Veteran's Day Race.

Commissioner Rispoli reminded Stan that BMX and Street Hockey will need to sign a form when turning over the stand. A universal document will be prepared by the Recreation Commission. It will be given to all of the Youth Groups that share fieldhouses.

EHTYO-

President Dominic Branca read a letter expressing the EHTYO Board opinion that the fees to use the EHT School facilities and fields are too high. He stated that it is unfair that Recreation groups are charged to use school facilities and that Elite Football is using the Miller School field at no cost.

Chairman Fairfield explained that conversations between the School Board and the Recreation Commission have been ongoing. Commissioner Riggs invited the Presidents of the Youth Groups to come to a EHTBOE meeting to discuss the fees.

Dominic requested water lines to be run from the irrigation lines for water stations. Al Simerson explained that such a system could not be tapped into the irrigation system.

Whenever it rains, water from the snack stand and entrance to the field foods and water drains into the field. Dominick asked Public Works to find a solution to the flooding problem. Al said he would consider paving the area to alleviate the problem. Hopefully it will be fixed in the next few weeks.

Bulbs need to be replaced on the game field. Al indicated that a list needs to be compiled from all of the parks regarding to burnt out bulbs. Sam, Al and Rick will assess the parks and Delta will be contacted to replace the bulbs.

President Branca asked whether an electronic sign similar to the one at the Community Center can be placed at the Veteran's Park entrance.

VII. Public Comment

Non-Resident Coaches, Trainers and Participants

Lori Oberman inquired whether the Recreation Commission has decided to give non-resident Nelson Gaskill a waiver to continue coaching in EHT. She asked whether the Commission's decision is personal or in the best interest of the children involved. Commissioner Warrell stated that Nelson Gaskill has been deleted from the Kids Safe coaches list. Chairman Fairfield indicated that a dialogue concerning non-residents coaching or acting as trainers, in EHT, has begun within the Recreation Commission. Commissioner Warrell said that interest in sports change. Programs may disband due to a lack of interest by participants and parents. Commissioner Warrell supports the notion of non-residents coaching.

Vicky Hawkes stated that EHTYO Cheer had a coach that was a non-resident.

Christine Gras, Soccer President, stated that she is not happy with not receiving any answers regarding a change to the 100% residency rule for players. Chairman Fairfield stated that the Recreation Commission has not discussed changing the 100% residency rule and does not foresee a change to this rule.

Beth Russ said that the Youth Groups have two goals. First to create teams for the High School. At ages 12-13 players begin to lose interest in sports. Secondly, in this day and age there are blended families. If the Recreation Commission does not allow non-residents to coach, it may hurt the programs. Grandparents and divorced parents are willing to help but may not live in EHT.

Letter of Rebuttal

JoAnne Cordy read a letter to the Recreation Commission citing her credentials. She explained that her character was impugned by EHTBA Coach Manny Aponte, at the July 13, 2016 Recreation Commission. Commissioner Warrell stated that the comments were made so quickly that the Commission did not react immediately to Coach Aponte's words. Commissioner Rispoli indicated that she was not in the meeting when the comments by Mr. Aponte were spoken. However, when she heard other him make other disparaging remarks, she immediately stopped him. She cited that everyone is entitled to face their accusers. That it was not the proper place for him to make disparaging remarks when the person was not present to defend their honor. Commissioner Rispoli apologized to Ms. Cordy on behalf of the Recreation Commission.

*** Public portion closed at 8:37 p.m.**

Motion made by Commissioner Riggs and seconded by Commissioner Fiedor.

VIII. Old Business

A. Capital Projects Update

Recreation director Audet spoke about the upcoming capital projects.

Canale Park Soccer Field Bathrooms

Site prep work has commenced with work on water and sewer slated for the upcoming weeks and delivery of the bathrooms is scheduled for September.

Canale Park Amphitheater cover

The Township is working with the architect for a new design. Once the design is finalized, the project will go out for bid.

BMX

One bid has been received for the turn work. It is anticipated that work will commence in the Fall of 2016.

Childs-Kirk Park

Field 3 digout project is going out to bid next week.

Security Camera Project

Breakers Group, LLC. is under State contract. Work is to commence in the Fall of 2016.

Recreation Commission by-Laws

Township Administrator Peter Miller is working on by-laws that will be consistent throughout the Township. The Recreation Commission by-laws are good through April 2017. Revisions to our by-laws will be drafted after the handbook is received from Township Committee.

IX. Use of Parks Facility Requests

Coca-Cola Employee Day-

A motion to approve the use of a softball field at Childs-Kirk Park on Saturday, September 17, 2016 was made by Commissioner Fiedor and seconded by Commissioner Warrell. The request was approved by a vote of 9-0. Commissioner Rispoli advised the Commission concerning the aid Coca-Cola has provided to the EHTYS program.

X. New Business

Vice-Chair Messina advised the Commission that the infield on Veteran’s Park Baseball Field needs to be fenced off during football season. The Field Rotation Committee addressed this issue with Public Works. However, the infield has not been fenced. Director Audet will speak with the Director of Public Works. Commissioner Fiedor inquired whether the font size can be increased on the electronic sign at the EHT Community Center. Director Audet will determine whether the font can be changed.

XI. Correspondence

EHT Youth Group Minutes

- A. Baseball Association– 3/3, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 7/7/16
- B. BMX –last received last received 6/8/16
- C. Diamond Cheer
- D. Jr. Wrestling – last received 4/26/16
- E. Lacrosse – last received 4/5/16
- F. Soccer Club – last received 6/7/16
- G. Street Hockey Association – last received 3/7/16
- H. Travel Basketball – 8/11/16
- I. Youth Softball – last received 3/28/16
- J. Youth Organization – 7/6/16

Handouts

- a. EHT Soccer Club financials 7/21/16
- b. EHT Public Works- Building and Grounds Summary

XII. Tabled Matters

None.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion	Motion to adjourn the meeting Commissioner Warrell made the motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Riggs.
Vote	Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. by a vote of 9-0.

Robert Fairfield, Chairman

Toni Rispoli, Secretary

These minutes were approved at the September 14, 2016
Recreation Commission Meeting