**MINUTES OF THE RAYNHAM PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Regular Monthly Meeting, January 11, 2022 6:00 p.m.**

**Raynham Senior Center, 2215 King Phillip St, Raynham, MA**

**In attendance:** Chairman Chris Shaw, Commissioner Jim Brow, Director Tim McRae, and Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary Samantha Sturtevant.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:03p.m. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 7th meeting. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Chris called for old business.

**Old Business (3):**

1. *Raynham State Forrest*

Tim said that he has been following up with the state to see if they can help with the trees that are down. It’s currently only Norm and Shawn at the Highway due to the virus so they are very busy and understaffed at the moment. Tim is considering bringing in a private company.

Jim asked if it’s a liability.

Tim responded, no, it’s at their own risk. He will communicate with the state to see what they can do and he’ll go from there.

1. *Griffiths Field Fence*

Tim said that the new Griffiths Field fence has been put up and it looks great. The previous fence tilted over time.

Chris asked who fixed it.

Tim said Inline Company; they did a fantastic job!

1. *Dog Park*

Tim said that if things get better for the spring then they will set up the Reid Field meeting depending on where we are with the virus.

The chairman called for new business.

**New Business (4):**

1. *Annual Department Report*

Tim mentioned that it’s time to start the Annual Department Report. Jim made a motion to nominate Sammi Sturtevant to write the 2022 Annual Report. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Spring Field Use Permit Applications (5)*

*RYBSA*

The RYBSA is applying to use the McKenny Babe Ruth Field and Merrill Baseball Fields #1-#7 from 4/1/2022 – 8/15/2022 on Monday – Sunday from 8:00a.m.-8:00p.m. Tim said that they previously do not have a charge as a Raynham Youth League. Jim made a motion to approve RYBSA’s Spring Use Field Permit Application for no charge. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*Raynham Youth Soccer*

-Raynham Youth Soccer is applying for the use of Burke, Mary Lou Arruda, and Griffiths Soccer Fields for their spring season from April 1, 2022-June 25, 2022 and fall season from September 1, 2022-November 19, 2022 on weekdays from 4:00p.m.-9:00p.m. and weekends from 7:00a.m.-6:00a.m. Tim mentioned that they are going to rest Burke and Arruda Fields this upcoming spring and Griffiths Field in the fall. Jim made a motion to approve the Raynham Youth Soccer field-use application permit. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*Bridgewater-Raynham Girls Youth Lacrosse*

The Bridgewater-Raynham Girls Youth Lacrosse team is applying to use Bettencourt Football Field and the Legion Soccer Field this upcoming spring both from April 4,2022 – June 25, 2022. Bettencourt Football Field on Sundays from 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m. and the Legion Soccer Field Monday – Friday from 5:00p.m. – 7:30p.m. Tim mentioned that a certain percentage of those girls were from Bridgewater so the year prior they were charged $600. Jim made a motion to approve Bridgewater-Raynham Girls Youth Lacrosse’s Spring Field Use Permit Application for a fee of $600. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*New England Over-the-Hill Soccer League*

The N.E.O.T.H.S.L. is applying to use Burke and Mary Lou Arruda Soccer Fields on Sundays from April 4, 2022 – June 19, 2022 on Sundays from 9:00a.m. - 11:00a.m. for 11v11 soccer alternative with seniors. Tim mentioned previously they were charged $600 for spring. Jim made a motion to approve N.E.O.T.H.S.L.’s Spring Field Use Permit Application for a fee of $600. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*Mass Drifters*

The Mass Drifters are applying to use the Reid Softball Field from April 27, 2022 – September 1, 2022 Monday- Thursday from 5:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. and May 1, 2022 – September 1, 2022 on Saturdays 9:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. Tim mentioned that this is a tw0-season permit so in the past they have been charged $1200. Chris made a motion to approve the Mass Drifters two-season Spring Field Use Permit Application for a fee of $1200. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Lions Club Liquor License*

Tim said that the Lions Club is seeking approval for a liquor license for their Super Bowl Party on Sunday February 13th, 2022 from 3:00p.m. – 9:00p.m. as well as the Raynham Lions 75th Anniversary event on Saturday February 26th, 2022 from 5;00p.m. – 10:00p.m.

Jim asked if they will be getting a detail.

Tim said the final approval will be determined by the selectmen.

Jim made a motion to recommend the Lions Club Liquor License to the selectmen’s office for further approval. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Coaches Summit*

Tim announced that Haresh Daryanani is stepping down as Raynham Youth Soccer President. After last years’ successful Coaches Summit, Tim mentioned if and when it will be scheduled for this year.

Jim suggested that it should be scheduled later towards March.

Chris agreed, that way, they can have time to get ready for their seasons, organize schedules, etc.

**Commissioners Reports:**

**Jim Brow:** Thanked Tim for the new attire.

**Chris Shaw:** Thanked Tim for the new attire.

**Staff Reports:**

**Sammi:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Tim announced the following:**

-Tim mentioned that he has been frequently keeping up with the numbers for the youth basketball program and unfortunately, have not been increasing. So far, there are only 2-3 teams for and 6-8 boys and girls. They pushed so hard to get enough to run the program but unfortunately, by the time it was approved, it has been challenging to find numbers being that most children have signed up for other activities in the meantime.

Chris mentioned that it might be worth trying ‘Drills and Skills’ with the low numbers. Possibly play a rotation of 3v3 or 5v5 depending on how many children are signed up for each age group.

Tim agreed however, expressed his concern of what will happen if children are absent one day and numbers are already low as-is.

Chris mentioned that numbers could be split no matter how many children are there.

Tim said that is a good point however, parents may not be happy if children are playing with consistently low numbers each week, which, is likely during this time of the COVID spike.

Chris pointed out that as long as they are getting some kind of activity in, then maybe it could be beneficial no matter what the numbers are. He asked what the current total number of sign-ups is.

Tim said that they are going to do thirty per site because they can only have one family member at a time watching.

Jim asked why that is.

Tim answered that it limits the amount of people in the gym at a time.

Chris said that plenty of kids who already go to that school will be in the gym.

Jim said that the program is based on community and family.

Chris said that the plus side in low numbers of children signed-up could allow for more family members of each child to attend.

Tim said that in order to run youth basketball, they could do a number-based program. The parents could be presented the options via email so that they understand going into the program that the numbers are low and decide from there.

Chris said that he supports the department’s decision regardless of what the numbers are.

Tim said that the numbers typically run over three-hundred.

Chris pointed out that because this has not been an active program in two years, that families have found other activities to sign-up for.

Tim said in agreeance that once people have signed-up to other activities, they typically become annually committed to those activities as well. If the program were to be run, it would be run right.

-Tim further announced that he is currently looking for a new sign. Norm has looked at the old sign and unfortunately, it’s about that time for a new one. Tim is currently getting quotes for a replacement.

-Tim said that EEC has partnered with the schools to do test and stay. If a child at school is exposed, then they can test and stay; if they are negative then they can attend school and the program.

Chris mentioned that they are exposed everyday regardless.

-Tim concluded with his last announcement that February Vacation Club will be at the Lion’s Club again this year. Tim extended a thank you to all of the staff who stepped up to work that week.

Jim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sammi Sturtevant

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary