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

**Regular Monthly Meeting, June 7, 2022 6:00 p.m.**

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

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

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:02p.m. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5th and May 3rd meetings. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Chris called for old business.

**Old Business (1):**

1. Summer Playground Program

Tim said that the Summer Playground Program is filling up fast. There are very few slots remaining so he proceeded to encourage people to sign-up fast. The program will run for eight weeks this year. They are back to pre-COVID which is good to see.

Chris asked how they are looking in regards to staffing.

Tim responded that they are doing okay. They have the numbers but they lost a few staff because they are college graduates this year. Tim said that they are still looking to hire another one or two people just to maintain the flexibility.

The chairman called for new business.

**New Business (3):**

1. *Dog Signage*

Tim said that a request has been made by Bob Iafrate to change the dog signage on Borden Colony because the A.C.O. building will now be on the complex and will have dogs on the property. They will need to discuss what kind of wording to place on the signs because they currently state that dogs are not allowed on the fields. There will have to be verbiage that clearly states dogs are not allowed on the complex with the exception of the A.C.O. building.

Josh stated that the dogs will either be in the building or on the run.

Tim said that he is concerned people will think that dogs are suddenly allowed on the property.

Josh asked for clarification as to what they currently say.

Tim said that they say “no dogs on complex” so there will need to be signs out there that are specific.

Chris asked what the town bylaws say.

Tim said that the town bylaws say that there are no dogs allowed on the complex however, now they are working on changing the town bylaws. It’s always been on town property such as Borden Colony or the schools. Tim said at the very least, they have to at least protect the fields.

Chris suggested, “no dogs on playing fields”.

Tim agreed.

Chris said that the town bylaw covers everything else. If there is an unfortunate issue where there’s a dog bite or something similar then the dog owner will be responsible by bylaw.

Tim agreed. He said that he would talk to Bob about making the signs.

1. *Before and After School Program Update*

Tim mentioned that they are currently accepting people for the waitlist for next year. All current families have been either accepted or denied their spot for next year. Emma is in the process of going through all of those and has been reaching out to families the waitlist. If anybody would like to put their name in, now is the time. They will still be using the RMAC program for families on the waitlist which is the overflow program. Tim reiterated that there are a lot of college students that either graduated or are going back to school in the fall so they will be looking for staff for the fall.

1. *Summer Field Use Permit Applications (8)*

Raynham Youth Soccer

Looking for a permit for their annual soccer camp. They will be doing two weeks this year from July 25th – August 5th. They will be on the Griffith’s Field and partially using the multi-purpose field. Last year they did have this and they were approved with no fee.

Jim asked if there were any issues.

Tim said no.

Jim made a motion to approve the Raynham Youth Soccer permit for Griffith’s Field from July 25th – August 5th for no fee. Josh seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

R.Y.B.S.A.

Raynham Youth Baseball is holding their Monte Tournament from July 28th – August 1st. they are asking for all of the fields at the Merrill Complex from 8:00a.m. – 8:00p.m. Last year they were approved with no fee.

Jim made a motion to approve the R.Y.B.S.A. permit for the Merrill Complex from July 28th - August 1st for no fee. Josh seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

ECPO

Looking for a one-night permit for using the gazebo and the field for their Merrill school play 2k. This is their first time doing this. They’re using it as an introduction for the kids who are coming into the school as well as a fundraiser for the school. Wednesday July 20th there are no conflicts. The concerts will be held that Tuesday.

Jim made a motion to approve the ECPO permit for the gazebo and field on July 20th from 5:30p.m. – 7:30p.m. for no fee. Josh seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Merrill ECPO

Looking for Tuesday June 21st for a Merrill family block party. This is a new event. They are looking to use the Merrill Complex. Tim spoke to Chad and there are no conflicts as they will be traveling for districts. There are no issues on the departments end. They are asking for all of the fields however, Tim recommended that they remain off of field 4 for the tournament games that are coming up. Tim recommended mainly field 1,2, and the outfield of Burke.

Chris asked what their using the fields for.

Jim asked if it was like a field day.

Tim said that they would be having field day kinds of activities like a dunk tank etc. They just don’t want the grass burned.

Chris mentioned that it would include the parking lot as well.

Jim made a motion to approve the Merrill ECPO permit for Merrill Complex fields 1,2, and the outfield of Burke for no fee.

Josh seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Raynham Recreation of Volunteers for Education

R.A.V.E. is taking over community day this year. It will be the first time it is going on since pre-COVID. They are looking at Sunday September 18th. There is no horse show that weekend so there are no conflicts. Soccer might have a few games on the opposite side so there are no conflicts with the rain day on the 25th.

Chris said that the gazebo has become very popular. It looks great after it was stained.

Josh asked if there would be a fee for that one.

Tim said no.

Josh made a motion to approve R.A.V.E. for Sunday September 18, 2022 from 11:00a. – 4:00p.m. at the gazebo with no fee. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Raynham Giants Football

Looking for their annual seasonal permit for practices and games. Baseball ends August 21st so they’re looking to start even earlier which doesn’t include the football camp. They are asking for August 1st – November 22nd. They’ve also included Borden Colony Softball Field like last year for when the sun starts to come down earlier.

Chris mentioned the Merrill Baseball Fields #1 - #7.

Tim said last year they made agreements with cheerleading. They worked together so that the cheerleaders had a place to practice.

Jim made a motion to approve the Raynham Giants Football permit for the Borden Colony Softball Field, Merrill Baseball Fields #1 - #7, Bettencourt Football Field, and the Legion Soccer Field for no fee. Josh seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Guv Deluca

This gentleman would like to use the gazebo for a luncheon and a Bible Study. It would be on June 25th for three hours. He is a Raynham resident. There are no conflicts on that Saturday.

Josh asked if the other people in the group are Raynham residents.

Tim said he’s not sure.

Jim made a motion to approve the permit for Guv Deluca to use the gazebo on June 25th from 12:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. Josh seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

South Shore Rox

Tim said when they originally reached out, they were only asking for the upcoming Sunday for a doubleheader for about a 1:00p. m. – 6:00p.m. or 1:00p.m. – 7:00p.m. time frame. Tim got that paperwork about an hour ago.

Chris asked what kind of organization they are.

Tim said that it’s a AAU baseball team which includes U14 and U16. He recommended that they just focus on the one Saturday and the one Sunday this upcoming week so he can contact baseball and the senior baseball league to see if there are any conflicts.

Jim asked if it would be for four hours.

Tim said that they are asking for games at 2:00p.m. and 4:00p.m. so it would be closer to five- or six-hour window so they can have time to setup and get there early.

Chris said if they can approve them for the other dates then they will just charge them for the full season and then subtract the $210 from the $600 to be $390.

Josh made a motion to approve the South Shore Rox for one day for $210 for the six hours pending approval for the season $600 fee minus the $210. Jim seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

**Commissioners’ Reports:**

**Jim Brow:** Mentioned that it looks like they have been doing work on the state forest.

Tim said that it is a slow proves but they’ll get it done.

Chris asked if they left everything that they chipped.

**Josh Daisy:** Thanked Tim for the nice Park and Rec gear and it’s good to see the sign up.

**Chris Shaw:** Chris said that between the sturdy sign, clean building, and stained gazebo, there are lots of great things going on and they look fantastic. He said that a friend of his who is a Middleboro resident who has a granddaughter that is a part of the towns’ softball league and he doesn’t recall it ever looking so nice.

**Staff Reports:**

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

**Tim reported the following:**

-This past Friday, a request came in to put advertisements around the road such as around sports complexes and around the schools. Tim said that he reached out to the boarding, building, and zoning. They said that there’s no bylaw against it but each department can control what’s there. Tim said that he personally isn’t a fan of those sitting out especially when they’re trying to cut the grass, they get in the way. Tim said in his humble opinion, that they aren’t on the fence then they shouldn’t be out there.

Chris asked who is requesting it.

Tim said that it’s a group called Rayn-Water Steam advertising for afterschool-childcare. It will be more of an afterschool program governed by EEC for kids who are looking to get involved and do projects but it’s not affiliated with the town, department, or school.

Chris asked if it’s a non-profit.

Tim said no. Typically, the signs that are out there are affiliated with the department.

Jim said that they can reach out to youth programs to see if they can advertise it.

Sammi asked if that’s something that can be posted on Facebook.

Tim said that it can be discussed.

-Tim said that the building has been worked on a lot on the outside such as the basement, sign, and power wash. Hopefully, next year the interior can be worked on next. The basement now has a dehumidifier as well.

-Tim said that there is a couple of Eagle Scout projects that are going on. One is going to be starting next Tuesday night working at Johnson’s pond putting out information about plant life and some town history. He will also be doing an announcement board out there. Tim also reached out to another gentleman who will be doing horseshoe pits out by the Senior Center. There will be horseshoes, bocce, and cornhole out there.

-Tim spoke to Chad from baseball. Right now, they aren’t looking to have a Babe Ruth league so he is considering refurbishing the infield. It hasn’t been done in a while. Essentially, the problem is that the infield has sunken down. They would put more infield mix around which isn’t too much of an expense for a project so they’re going to look into getting some estimates and getting that project done.

-Tim said that they are also looking into getting the McKenny fence done as well which would be a capitol project. He has spoken to Mrs. McKenny over at Town Hall and she approved.

-Tim provided a copy of the lease for the Commission to review. The department now receives the check rather than Town Hall which was a request made last year by the Selectman’s office. The check did come in last week in full and will be deposited tomorrow.

-A reminder that the July meeting will be held Tuesday July 12th due to the holiday.

The chairman called for the reorganization of the Commission after it had been postponed the previous week.

Jim made a motion to nominate Mr. Josh Daisy as the new Chairman of Raynham Park and Recreation Commissioners. Chris seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

Chris appointed Josh Daisy as Commission Chairman.

Josh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sammi Sturtevant

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary