MINUTES OF THE RAYNHAM PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

**Regular Monthly Meeting, March 2, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

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

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

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m. Chris seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

Chris made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2nd meeting. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Jim began the meeting by welcoming a guest.

Seth Kaplan, 616 Orchard Street, Raynham. Representing the baseball/softball association. With the commissions’ approval their looking to replace the fence on their main field, field 4. They would like to replace that 4-foot fence with an 8-foot fence.

Jim asked if it would help with the Regional Tournament.

Seth explained this year their 12-year-old baseball team is hoping to host the Regional Tournaments and this is one of those requirements. A couple years back they were approved to convert that field to a 50-foot mound, 70-foot bases, and redid the infield which allows them to host those types of tournaments. Since they don’t have a deeper field one of the requirements is to have a higher fence.

Chris asked if they have a timeline.

Seth said he has approvals of quotes that the instillation can take place as soon as the middle of March in hopes it will be before the start of the spring season, around the end of April.

Tim said the main communication they’d need in regards to the schools is Mrs. Westell at Merrill due to the trucks passing by throughout the day.

Seth said Chad Gregory has been in contact with the Principal at Merrill. They’re making arrangements with the company drop off any materials and trucks between 7:30a.m. and 8:00a.m. before the buses come.

Chris asked if we have done CORIs on workers in the past.

Tim answered in the past they have not.

Chris made a motion to approve RYBSA’s request for capital improvement on the field 4 fence installment. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Tim signed the necessary paperwork and Seth thanked the commission.

Jim moved on to old business items.

**Old Business (2):**

1. *Program Updates*

Tim announced that they had their February Vacation Club for 3 days at the Lions Club which went great and they’re hoping to do it again in April, unsure of the location depending on if the schools are available.

They are unable to do the Easter Egg Hunt this year so this year but instead, will be creating a Easter Egg hunt around town with larger Easter eggs built from plywood.

The daycare program is going well. More updates will be coming with the possibilities of the schools opening up.

In addition, Heather is doing a wonderful job with all of those programs.

Chris asked about the Drama Program.

Tim said it’s been going consecutively all year, they’re doing a wonderful job. The kinder-care will be doing a show in May at the gazebo for them. Once he gets the final date he will announce it.

1. *Annual Report*

Jim and Chris mentioned that the annual report was good to go.

Tim confirmed that we dedicated this year’s annual report to SJ.

Chris made a motion to accept the annual report. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Girl’s Youth Lacrosse Field Permit Change*

Tim said that Jeremy made a request in regards to practicing for a couple of nights on the Bettencourt Field this season for their 7 and 9-year-old teams. The team had approached them a couple years ago but there was concern about practicing while baseball and softball were going on. They did a Friday night clinic a few years ago and he provided them with some other options.

Jim said his only concern is the field especially with football.

Tim said they’re playing their games at a separate field so they have 1 or 2 different locations throughout the season so it doesn’t appear that they’ll be using Bettencourt Field.

Chris said it would have the entire summer rest to grow as well.

Tim replied it would be for about 2 nights a week throughout the season.

Jim commented that baseball would be the only issue with games going on.

Tim responded they do ask parents to stand aside to be aware of the flyballs.

Chris asked if we already approved a permit.

Tim confirmed but additionally they’d like to add Bettencourt Field.

Chris said those softballs are hard and can be dangerous if people have they’re back turned but as long as they commit to that and are aware of the activity happening he supports it. Chris made a motion to approve the Girl’s Youth Lacrosse Field Permit Change. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

**New Business Items (3):**

1. *RYBSA Field Project*

Took place at beginning of meeting.

1. *Field Use Permit Applications (5)*

Raynham Youth Soccer

Tim said they submitted their permits for both spring and fall. They’re looking for night’s afterschool from 3:00p.m.-8:00p.m. All day Saturdays and 12:00p.m.-5:00p.m. on Sundays. We have never charged them in the past. They do a wonderful job out there. Chris made a motion to approve Raynham Youth Soccer Permit.

Raynham Raptors

Tim said which is a baseball team looking to use McKenny field this year for double headers on Sundays and practices during the week. Tim has spoken to RYBSA, Sundays are not a problem but the rest of the week is booked. Games are not an issue, it depends if the schools are holding middle school baseball this year.

Chris made a motion to approve the Raptors Permit with a fee of $600. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Men’s Christian softball league

Tim said they are a Monday night league looking to start in the middle of April until the last Monday in august from 5-9. We did approve them last year for $775 but they ended up doing monthly in August which we charged them $100 for. Chris mas a motion to approve Men’s Christian Softball League for a fee of $775. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

RIMA Baseball League

Tim said this is the 50 and over men’s baseball league looking for 4 Saturdays and Sundays come July and August to play their double headers led by Randy Karson of Raynham. We have approved them in the past with a fee of $550 and never had an issue. Chris made a motion to approve RIMA Baseball Leagues permit for $600 for this season. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

MASS Rough Riders

Tim said they’re looking for their annual permit to run their horse shows on Sundays all day starting on April 18th through the end of October. They attached their schedule as well.

Jim asked what that fee is.

Tim confirmed it’s for one season, $600 and he reminded them to bring a copy of the insurance policy due to the high risk of horses running. Chris made a motion to approve MASS Rough Riders permit with a fee of $600. Jim seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Youth Sports Summit*

Tim reached out to all of the town leagues, the only one he hasn’t heard back from so far is boy’s lacrosse but everyone is on board and love the idea. Tim is trying to organize some dates that works for everyone.

Chris asked if we could hold it for after a commission meeting.

Tim said we could set it for Tuesday April 6th for 6:30p.m.

Jim called for commissioners’ reports.

**Commissioners’ Reported the following:**

**Chris:** Nothing to report.

**Jim:** Jim asked about anything of the dog park.

Tim said after the meeting he talked about setting up the meeting. He reached out to Derek to see if the school is available. If that’s not the case then they could do it in the gazebo with a projector early, mid-May.

Chris said ultimately, we would need to get into the auditorium because we can’t fit that many people with the risk of the weather outside depending on rain or wind.

While on the topic, Tim mentioned the windstorm took down the Park and Recreation sign. They will be trying to fix it this upcoming Thursday. If not, they’ll look to replace it with a new one.

**Staff Reports:**

**Sammi:** Sammi said they are working on hanging up all of the certificates and awards that were found during the fall clean out. We also updated the commissioner’s plaque and got all of the commissioners and dates engraved up to date.

**Tim announced the following:**

-The state is looking into sending all students back to school so he has been in contact with Sarah and all of the site supervisors to prepare for that depending on the results of the vote. He’s been in communication with the Principals and trying to be more proactive rather than reactive.

-Heather and Tim toured South School which is a great site. The issue is that it’s not handicapped accessible and does not meet ADA requirements so it’s something they have to look at in regards to budgeting.

-Along with Highway, Park and Rec will be ordering several barrels and compatible domes because the barrels out currently do not have the available size domes for order anymore.

-Tim received a pulmonary draft of the town warrant. Everything for daycare and Borden Colony is on there. It appears at this time, due to COVID and the financial affects, the fence for Griffiths will be postponed.

Chris asked how that is financed.

Tim said capital planning. He got 3 or 4 quotes as of right now.

-Tim is still waiting to hear on a location for the Summer Playground Program. If it turns out to be at Laliberte it would be a lot easier however, if it’s at Borden Colony then they will do what they can. Hours may have to be reduced because the kids can’t be out in the sun for that long.

-Tim was asked to attend next weeks selectmen’s meeting to give the annual report to them. So, he will be on a Zoom meeting with them next week.

-The MRPA Conference will be going on next week so Heather and Tim will be taking those for the year.

Chris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sammi Sturtevant

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary