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

**Regular Monthly Meeting, May 2, 2023 6:00 p.m.**

**Gymkhana Building, King Phillip St, Raynham, MA**

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

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:06p.m. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12th meeting. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Jim called for old business.

**Old Business (5):**

1. *Town Fields*

Tim said that so far, through the first month of sports, things are going pretty well. Besides the past couple of weeks, the rain hasn’t been bad. Norm and the guys have been doing a wonderful job, especially with the LaLiberte and Merrill complexes with the opening of baseball this past weekend so a lot of people are happy about that.

1. *Raynham State Forrest*

Tim sent the Commission some pictures of the Raynham State Forrest recently of the cleaned-out trails and benches. Tim extended a thank you to the Eagle Scouts for the work they did.

Riley said he will have to make it a part of his running group.

Jim asked if they have any plans for becoming back because there’s still some down.

Tim said that when the state came out, they didn’t finish those. Tim has been in contact with the state trying to get them out but if they are unable to in the near future then Tim will reach out to a tree company to get those down. Overall, Tim said that he appreciates all that they have done.

1. *Bristol Plymouth*

The season is already half-way over. They’ve been great to work with. The fields are holding up especially with them only doing their games instead of practices.

1. *Eagle Scout Project*

There is another Eagle Scout Project that they spoke about at the last meeting. Tim spoke to the candidate and after going over the concerns, it just wasn’t the right project for him. He is actually moving on to a different project with another group. Tim is actually working on bringing somebody out to work on fixing the flagpoles in the area to get them more into par to where they need to be. Hopefully, that’ll happen sometime over the next two weeks to be ready for Memorial Day weekend.

1. *Summer Playground Program Update*

Registration for the Summer Playground Program began about two and a half weeks ago and it is basically full. There are only a couple of spots left for full-day and half-day has a few more but if people don’t sign-up fast then they’re going to be gone. The only week where there is a decent amount of room is the weekend of the Fourth of July. It’s like that every year.

Chris asked what the age limit is on it.

Tim said it’s kids going into eight grade so essentially ages thirteen and fourteen.

The chairman called for new business.

**New Business (2):**

1. *Lions Club Liquor License*

The Raynham Lion’s Club is looking for a one-day liquor license for Friday June 16th, which is also the last day of school, for a golf tournament from 11:00a.m. – 6:00p.m. There are no conflicts. Most spring sports are over at that point.

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

1. *Spring Field Use Permit Applications (2)*

*Scholarship Request Form*

Tim said that a couple of things had come in since the agenda was made. A scholarship application was submitted. A family is looking for a scholarship or a partial scholarship. After reviewing the paperwork, Tim recommends twenty-five percent off for the weeks that they have been registered for the summer.

Chris made a motion to adopt the recommendation of Mr. McRae regarding the scholarship request. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*Raynham Youth Soccer*

Tim said that a permit had came in yesterday. Raynham Youth Soccer is looking for a summer permit for clinics Monday – Thursday evenings and a soccer camp the week of July 31st. Tim said that they are planning on keeping just Griffiths open for the summer so they can rest the other fields for the fall. There are no conflicts. There has been no charge in the past.

Chris asked who is running the clinics.

Tim said that it is run by Raynham Youth Soccer.

Chris clarified that it’s a free clinic.

Tim confirmed.

Chris made a motion to accept the Raynham Youth Soccer facility field permit application for Monday – Thursday evenings for Summer Clinics from 5:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. and Monday – Friday for the week of July 31st – the week of August 1st for Summer Camp from 8:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

**Commissioners’ Reports:**

**Chris Shaw:** Chris asked about the meeting with the Water Department.

Tim said that they are going to be meeting with them for June 12th. He tried to get into the May meeting however, it was full. Norm will be attending as well. They are going to fill them in on the state of the fields and what is at stake if they do not water them. They will lose the fields and the cost to bring them back will be astronomical.

**Riley Menconi:** Riley expressed that he is looking forward to getting to work and taking on the challenge of being on the Raynham Park and Recreation Commission.

**Jim Brow:** Jim asked if there is an update on the Gymkhana Committee and where it stands.

Tim said that they had a meeting around Easter. Nothing was really said that night. The next one after that meeting they had said that the next meeting would not be for three or four weeks because they had to get ready for Town Meeting. They had questions for Bob that night but he wasn’t able to make it. There’s still a lot out there that has to be finished.

Jim said that at the last selectmen’s meeting he went to, they had talked about it but there wasn’t much said.

Tim said that on the warrant there is somewhere between fifty and sixty thousand to finish what they need to finish to get that building to where they need to get it. Whether it’s adding a block or a wall to get to the bathrooms. The Mass Rough Riders have their porta-potty out there. They can’t get in.

Jim asked if the committee has come up with a recommendation as far as what the building is going to be.

Riley asked if they are putting an article on that for the meeting.

Tim said yes. It’s been discussed in the Gymkhana meetings.

Riley said that he will be there.

**Staff Reports:**

**Sammi:** Sammi created binders for the commission. She offered to bring them back and forth to the meetings but shell leave it up to the commission. She did mention that the Open Meeting Law copy that is in the binder was last updated in the files from 2015. Other than that, everything should be updated.

Tim said to reach out to Marsha to retrieve an updated Open Meeting Law copy.

**Tim reported the following:**

-Tim reminded everybody that the Town Meeting will be May 15th at the Raynham Middle School. Everything has been approved so far by the Finance Committee is all set and now it will be going public.

-As Tim mentioned before, Norm and him will be going to the Water Department meeting on Monday June 12th. He will keep the commission updated.

-The Summer Concert Series starts Tuesday July 11th. There will be four Tuesday night shows. I’ll be a lot of fun. Dale and the Duds did not retire so they will be back for another year.

-It’s been a very busy time in the office lately and Tim wanted to thank Heather, Sammi, and Bethany for everything going on with projects, getting ready for summer, getting ready for the end of the school year this year, and getting ready for the start of the school year next year.

-Tim welcomed Riley to the commission.

Jim mentioned the item of adjourn for executive session.

Sammi apologized as that was a typo.

Jim entertained a motion to adjourn. Riley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sammi Sturtevant

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary