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

**Regular Monthly Meeting, March 5, 2024 6:00 p.m.**

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

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

Jim called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Chris made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6th meeting. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

**Organization Representatives/ Town Officials/ Community Members (0)**

The chairman called for old business.

**Old Business (3):**

1. *McKenney Field Fence*

Tim met with City Works, which is the company that won the bid. They went over the final details of the installation which will begin mid-week next week. Hopefully, things will dry from the rain that is expected the next few days. There is one section that might need to be put off by a week depending on the flood situation. It should be ready to go for April 1st come basketball season and they’ll be good to go.

1. *Youth Basketball Program Update*

Tim said that the basketball season ended this past Saturday March 2nd. The numbers were up this year which was good. Tim extended a thank you to Heather, Sammi, staff, referees, and Taunton High. The referees did a wonderful job. Hopefully next year will be even bigger.

1. *Summer Playground Program*

After discussions with the staff, they decided to go from 8:00a.m. - 4:00p.m. this year. Starting June 24th and running for eight weeks. Most of the field trips are set. Information will be going out by the end of the month and early April, sign-ups begin. It’s recommended to sign-up early because the program is maxed at one hundred and twenty and usually fills up fast. They will do their best to fit everybody in.

Jim called for new business.

**New Business (3):**

1. *Gymkhana Building*

Tim announced that the bathroom in the Gymkhana building has been completed. Its in the same room where they can access the basement so there will have to be a lock put on that door. The Mass Rough Riders or any events that the department runs, will no longer require porta-potties.

Jim asked where it stand with the Animal Control requirements.

Tim said that there are things being completed right now. New doors, air filtration system, additional access doors, and a separate play area for those dogs to go out. Tim has a department head meeting on Thursday so he will figure out when that side of the building will actually be opened.

1. *Lion’s Club Liquor License*

The Lions Club had two letters. One is for March 22nd for their Sportsman Game Dinner from 5:00p.m. – 10:00p.m. and the second is for Friday June 14, 2024 for a Golf Tournament from 12:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. The other letter was for Sunday April 14th from 12:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

Chris made a motion to send a letter of recommendation to the board of Selectmen for the approval of the Lion’s Club Liquor Licenses as stated. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Spring Field Use Permit Applications (11)*

*-Mass Drifters*

Looking for their annual two-season permit to use Reid Softball Field from Wednesday May 1, 2024 – Tuesday October 1, 2024 from 5:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. There are no conflicts and last year they were approved for a two-season permit for $1,200.00.

Chris made a motion to approve the Mass Drifters permit as stated for a fee of $1,200.00. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*-Nathan Horseman Baseball Academy*

Looking for a permit for Sundays only at Reid Field from 9:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. Last year they were approved for two fields last year for a fee of $1,200.00. This year they only need one field which would be for a fee of $600.00.

Chris made a motion to approve Nathan Horseman Baseball Academy’s permit as stated for a fee of $600.00. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*-Early Childhood Parent Organization (E.C.P.O.)*

Looking for a permit for their annual fun run on the Bettencourt field on Friday April 12th. One thing Tim reiterated from the years prior, is to not use spikes on the field and that they always change directions when they are running on the field so that they don’t ware it down. In the past they have been charged no fee.

Chris made a motion to approve the E.C.P.O.’s permit as stated. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*-Fearless One Sports Academy*

Looking for a two-season permit at the R.M.S. softball field. There is a conflict with Monday evenings. R.Y.B.S. A. already has that. Tim asked if they would rather take Fridays which they will be following-up with him with. It would be a fee of $1,200.00.

Chris made a motion to approve the Fearless One Sports Academy’s permit for a fee of $1,200.00 pending no conflicts and providing insurance documents. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*-RaynWater STEAM*

Looking for a one-day permit to use the Bettencourt Football Field for Monday April 8th from 2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. for a STEAM event the day of the Eclipse. They have glasses as well so the kids can see the Eclipse. The department is also holding an event for the people of the community as well. It’ll be a nice event across town. There is no fee.

Chris made a motion to approve RaynWater STEAM’s permit. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*-Special Olympics*

Looking for their annual spring permit on Sunday afternoons starting April 7, 2024 – June 23, 2024 from 5:00p.m. – 6:00p.m. Last year they were approved with no fee.

Chris made a motion to approve the Special Olympics permit as stated for no fee. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

*-Men’s Christian Softball League*

Looking for their annual two-season permit on Monday evenings starting April 22, 2024 –August 26, 2024 from 4:30p.m. – 9:00p.m. at the Clarke softball field. They are usually charged a fee of $775.00 since they are half-way through the spring season. There is one conflict, Tim has already spoken to B.P. to let them know that their practices have to be over on Monday by 4:30p.m.

Riley made a motion to approve the Men’s Christian Softball League for a fee of $775.00. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

**Commissioners’ Reports:**

**Riley Menconi:** Kudos to Tim, Heather, Bethany, and Sammi for all of their hard work.

**Chris Shaw:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Jim Brow:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Staff Reports:**

**Sammi:** Provided a copy of the 2024-2025 Parent Handbook for each of the commissioners which contains everything from the statement of purpose, rules, drop-off, behavioral plans, etc. Bethany updates and hands out a copy of it to each of the parents each year.

**Tim reported the following:**

-Tim gave the commissioners a copy of the budget that he had submitted last week. There are 0% increases. The only one that may have changed is yearly increases for wages. Everything else is straight across the board. Tim also submitted a Capital Improvement Plan over the next ten years because the town wants to see that so they’ll see what happens there.

Chris asked if there is any reason the energy usage is highlighted.

Tim said that they are a little over budget but its going to come down and heating is going to go up. Across town, that hits pretty hard.

Chris said that he is assuming electricity is field lighting.

Tim said that it is field lighting and irrigation as well.

Chris asked how much they charge users for electricity.

Tim said $35.00 an hour.

Chris asked if that is across the board.

Tim said that R.Y.S. pays their own version but the outside groups pay.

-The next election is Saturday April 27th. It’s also opening day for baseball so it will be a busy day at R.M.S. and the Merrill Complex.

-Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday May 20th.

-The annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday March 23rd on the Bettencourt field unless it’s completely soaked to which it will be moved inside in the LaLiberte gym.

-April Vacation Club is in the works. Sign-ups will be available at the end of the month.

-Sammi will be accepting Garden Plot Applications starting March 11th.

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