

**East Haddam Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2019**

Attending: D. Carbo; C. Grillo; P. Laffan; C. Miner; T. Piscioti
Absent: S. Blanchard; M. Davis; M. Larson; M. Roberts
Guests: L. Conroy; S. Wheeler

Mr. Grillo called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Guests & Audience

No topics were discussed.

Approval of Minutes – October 15, 2019 Meeting

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting.

MR. CARBO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. PISCIOTTI, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2019 MEETING AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Committee Reports

- **Music on the River (MOR)** - Ms. Conroy reported that the Music on the River committee has been accepting submissions for next summer's program. She advised that regular meetings of the committee will begin after the holidays.
- **Unified Family Basketball (February 8th)** – Director Conroy circulated a draft flier for the event. Mr. Miner recommended holding the event from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to avoid a scheduled event in a neighboring town. Ms. Conroy agreed to check gym availability for that time. The Commissioners discussed registration fees and logistics for the games.
- **Disk Golf** – Mr. Laffan stated that things are running smoothly and there was no update to report.

Director's Report

- a. **Winter Programs Review** – Ms. Conroy provided the following review:
 - She reviewed registration numbers for the Pre-K through 4th grade basketball and advised that the 5th grade through 8th grade basketball program was cancelled due to very low registration.
 - She advised that Guitar Lessons will begin next week and that the program was opened up to adults.
 - Director Conroy stated that there have been some issues with several of the participants in the 30+ Men 's Basketball program. There was a general discussion concerning the problems.
 - She advised that there is a new supervisor for the 18+ Men's Basketball program who has addressed the issue of participants who have not been paying their registration fee.
 - Ms. Conroy briefly reviewed the following programs: Youth Open Gym, Indoor Soccer, Girls Basketball Fundamentals, Yoga Bootcamp, Pickleball, and Taiichi.

Director Conroy also reported on the following:

- She is planning a UK International soccer camp for ages 4 through 6.
- She would like to plan another Adult Dodge Ball program and Mr. Carbo stated that the coordinator is available as of February 1st. There was a general discussion regarding establishing a Family Dodge Ball program.
- The structure holding the Eagle's Nest swing at the Town Beach needs repairs before the new swing is installed. She is waiting for an estimate for the work.
- Due to a recent incident at the Dog Park, she has been visiting it regularly in an effort to meet with the offenders and discuss the rules of behavior while using the Park.

There was a general discussion regarding people bringing their dogs to Nicol's Field and not cleaning up after them. It was noted that the posted Rules of the Park state that no dogs are allowed; however, Ms. Conroy agreed to post a "Pick up after your pet" sign at the Field and will reassess the situation if the sign does not provide the desired results.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Revisit Town Beach Cameras – Director Conroy stated that she had revisited a discussion of installing cameras at the Town Beach with Facilities Director Turner. She noted that Mr. Turner stated he misunderstood their first discussion and is, in fact, in favor of installing a camera system at the Town Beach. She noted that she had received a quote of \$1,840.00 to install two cameras and \$25.00 for two non-operational cameras.

MOTION MADE BY MR. MINER, SECONDED BY MR. CARBO, TO AUTHORIZED DIRECTOR CONROY TO SPEND \$1,840.00 FOR A CAMERA SYSTEM FOR THE TOWN BEACH AND \$25.00 FOR TWO NON-OPERATIONAL CAMERAS. UNANIMOUS AYE.

- b. Budget/Annual Report – Director Conroy reviewed information that she plans to include in the Recreations Commission's Annual Report. She noted that the cost of repairing the tennis courts may be covered by a potential surplus from the construction budget for the Municipal Offices Building.

Regarding budgetary requests, Ms. Conroy reiterated that the tennis courts need a complete overhaul and advised that she had received estimates for the work of between \$130k-\$150k. She noted that the Recreation Commission has set aside a small amount for the repairs and the Municipal Office Facilities Building Committee has stated that any funds remaining from their project shall go toward refurbishing the tennis courts. She stated that she is not certain when, or if, the funds from the Building Committee will become available and she would like to schedule the work in the next budget season. There was a general discussion regarding the repairs and the Commissioners agreed with Ms. Conroy's recommendation to request funding in the upcoming budget discussions.

- c. New Software Options Comparison – Ms. Conroy reported that Jarvis, the department's current registration software, costs \$2,100.00 annually. She reiterated that the software is unreliable and not user-friendly. She stated that she had gotten quotes for two other software packages that are used by neighboring towns. She stated that the annual fee for RecDesk is \$3,900.00

and the fee for MyRec is \$3,695.00. Ms. Piscioti stated she is familiar with MyRec and likes that software; Ms. Conroy noted that the MyRec software is her preference.

MOTION MADE BY MR. MINER, SECONDED BY MR. CARBO, TO REQUEST THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR MYREC SOFTWARE IN THE 2020-2021 BUDGET. UNANIMOUS AYE.

- d. Unified Basketball – February 8th – This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting during the Director’s Report and is reported on in the above minutes.

Adjournment

THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. PISCIOTTI TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Sharon R. Wheeler
Recording Secretary