

East Haddam Recreation Commission

Special Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2019

In attendance: Dan Carbo, Tina Piscotti, Chick Grillo, Michele Larson, Michael Davis, Lisa Conroy

Absent: Chris Miner, Margy Roberts, Pat Laffan, Steve Blanchard

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Guests & Audience

None

Approval of Minutes – August 20, 2019

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the meeting of August 20, 2019.

MR. CARBO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. PISCOTTI, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Committee Reports

1. **Unified Kickball** – Dan Carbo reported that 52 people registered for Unified Kickball Day. There were nearly 70 people in attendance. An ice cream truck was present and the Board of Education donated one ice cream per registrant. Unified Basketball is planned for February and simple concessions will be provided.
2. **Music on the River (MOR)** – Ms. Conroy reported that MOR is \$1,973.31 ahead of last year. Ms. Conroy will finalize numbers for the next meeting.
3. **Disc Golf** – Mr. Carbo and Ms. Conroy reported the following: Pat Laffan offered a disc golf clinic. The clinic was held with 35+ attendees. Due to inclement weather, the clinic was held inside the Municipal Office Complex gym. The gym location proved to be more advantageous, providing the ability to hear the instructor more easily, allowing the event be held after sunset and allowing protection from the mosquitos.

Director Report

Ms. Conroy reviewed the fall programs and reported the following:

- Youth Soccer (Grades 4-7): 63 participants
- Dodgeball: 1st day with 2 teams
- Cheerleading Club: 34 participants
- Guitar Lessons: 6 participants
- Cooking Class: Full with 12 participants
- Co-ed Softball: cancelled due to EEE concerns. The committee discussed modifying rules. Ms. Piscotti participated in the softball league as well as the Old Saybrook league. She discussed that she preferred the casualness of the Old Saybrook league with less rules, no umpire and

no strike zone mat. Ms. Larson would like to expand the softball committee and revisit the rules. She would like to explore the possible use of wooden bats, no time restrictions, etc.

Winter Programs

Project Jingles will be held at the Senior Center with the assistance of Straight from the Heart & Senior Citizens on December 12, between the hours of 2-4:30pm. Family Night on the Moodus Green will be held on December 4. Winter programs also include the possible addition of Indoor Futsal with Zane Barber for ages 7-18. Indoor Soccer with UKI for ages 4-6 is scheduled for February – March 2020. Youth Basketball registration deadline is November 1. Grades 3-8 begins first week of December and goes into early March. Pre-K – Grade 2 is a 6 week program running January – February. Shaleen Thody will run grades 1 & 2 and create a practice plan for Pre-K and K as well.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussed the addition of ropes playscapes to Nichols Field and Town Beach. Placement of a Gaga pit at Town Beach was also discussed. All were in favor of researching.
2. Discussed seating at the Dog Park. Ms. Conroy stated that she had visited the Dog Park and discovered that patrons were sitting on old plastic chairs, not the new benches. Patrons stated that the benches were too cold and they were concerned that their dog's paws would be caught in the slats. Patrons stated that they prefer the bench that is in the smaller dog park area. Ms. Conroy suggested moving the new green benches to the beach and purchasing new benches that replicated what they like better. When voted: all opposed. No additional seating to be purchased.
3. Discussed lifeguard budget: \$2000.00 was cut from last year's budget based upon recommendation of the finance manager. This summer we ran over budget. Factors contributing to the overage included additional staffing needed for swim lessons and the addition of the 2nd day at the beach for summer campers. Decreased vandalism and theft reports with current staffing. Ms. Conroy would like to keep same staff numbers for next year. Ms. Conroy will request that money cut from the budget be added back in for the 2020/2021 fiscal year. All were in favor.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Next meeting: Monday, December 9th @ 7:00pm in the Park and Recreation Activity Room.