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

**Regular Monthly Meeting, January 2, 2024 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.

Jim called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Jim entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5th meeting. Riley made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5th meeting. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Jim called for old business.

**Old Business (1):**

1. *McKenney Field Fence*

Tim spoke to City Works last week about the fence. They are waiting for the ground to harden up a little bit before they put the fence up because there’s been so much rain. Once it hardens up, they’re going to come out, get the fence up, and they’ll be good to go for baseball season.

Jim called for new business.

**New Business (3):**

1. *Annual Town Report*

Chris made a motion to nominate Sammi Sturtevant to write the 2023 Annual Report. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

1. *Old Concession Stand at Merrill Complex*

Tim mentioned the small concession stand down by the batting cages in the back. Last year they voted to build a new shed back there. Baseball was going to pay for it themselves. There is an old concession stand is in their way. They are asking for permission to take it down. Tim spoke to soccer because soccer used to have the concession stand when there were games back there, to which they have no issues, and they weren’t aware that it was back there. Tim said that if there is anything salvageable for soccer that they can take it before it’s taken down. As long as they get the Commission’s permission, they can take it down, and get the new shed up.

Chris said that they are going to have to get permission from the Historical Commission. That has been there for a long time.

Riley asked who is in charge of the Historical Commission.

Chris said Dave Donahue.

Tim said that he will reach out to Dave Donahue and make sure that building is okay to be taken down. If he gives permission as well as the Commission, then he will let baseball know.

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

*-R.Y.B.S.A.*

Tim said that there is only one Spring Field Use Permit so far. Baseball wanted to get theirs in early this year. they are asking for their annual permits starting April 1st for fields 1-7, McKenney Field, and Burke Field, Monday - Sunday from 8:00a.m. – 9:00p.m. They are also asking for the R.M.S. softball field on Monday and Tuesday evenings after 5:30p.m. after school is over. Their softball program has really expanded so they just need a couple of extra nights just for practices. There are no conflicts with anything unless there is any with R.M.S. They haven’t been charged a fee in the past.

Chris made a motion to approve the R.Y.S.B.A. permit for Fields 1-7, McKenney Field, and Burke Field on Monday - Sunday from 8:00a.m. – 9:00p.m. as well as the R.M.S. softball field after 5:30p.m. for practices. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

**Commissioners’ Reports:**

**Riley Menconi:** Riley hopes everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He’s looking forward to another year.

**Chris Shaw:** Chris wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**Jim Brow:** Jim wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

**Staff Reports:**

**Sammi:** Sammi said that she is looking forward to writing the Annual Town Report. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**Tim reported the following:**

-Tim said that the year is kicking off so they will be new programing coming out which includes the After-School Program and February Vacation. That information will be coming out soon.

-Basketball starts this week. Numbers have increased since last year, which is great. They have games at LaLiberte and R.M.S. starting at 8:00a.m. on Saturday mornings so both sites will be going all day so that’s great.

-Celtics Tickets sales are back for a group game. The forty seats are sold completely out. It’s next Wednesday night, Celtics vs. the Timberwolves, which are the best two teams, record wise, in the N.B.A. They got them just before Christmas and they sold out in about a day.

-They had Santa’s Calling again this year. It was a great success. A lot of families were happy. Tim apologized that they couldn’t get to everybody but Santa only has so much time.

-Tim wanted to make an announcement now that the time of year is approaching where field permits are going to start flying in. The one thing that Tim has spoken to league presidents about, is to make sure that if anybody goes to them to ask for field availability, that they refer them to the Raynham Park and Recreation Department. There have been too many times in the past where things have been said about blocks being open and they think that they can get right into using the fields without going through the proper channels. If anyone has any interest in using fields they can get that Field Use Permit Application off of the website at raynhamrec.com or they can stop by the office and speak to Sammi or Tim.

-Tim updated the Commission that football is getting quotes to repair the top of the announce tower. Some framing on the inside and walls on the outside are starting to leak through the roof.

-Tim concluded by wishing everybody a Happy New Year.

Chris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Riley seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sammi Sturtevant

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary