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

**Regular Monthly Meeting, November 7, 2023 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.

Chris called the meeting to order at 5:57p.m. Chris entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3rd meeting. Riley made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3rd meeting. Chris seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Tim asked to move up the agenda item new business. Bob from Raynham Youth Baseball. Raynham Youth Baseball is looking to put in a shed 26x14, down by the batting cages, by the concession stand. They would like to talk to the commission to possibly get their approval and go from there. Tim asked what kind of shed will be put up.

Bob said wood, 26x14. They’ll be a concrete pad.

Chris asked what he is using it for.

Bob said storage, equipment, lining equipment, etc. They want a central location to store their supplies that isn’t too much out of the way.

Tim asked if they would get rid of the trailers out there that they are using now.

Bob said he wouldn’t see why they would keep them once the shed is up. He asked if they were the Park and Rec Departments.

Tim said he’s not sure who’s they are, he has never known of those being the Park and Recreation Department trailers but he can look into that and find out.

Chris doesn’t have a problem with it. As long as they coordinate with the school in regards to the construction.

Riley asked where exactly the location of the shed would be.

Chris explained the details of the shed location. He asked if they still use the old concession stand for storage and mentioned that they used to keep the pitching machines in there.

Bob said that they do keep the pitching machines in there.

Tim said that that was the old soccer concession stand back when soccer was played over there years ago. Tim asked if the commission has any other questions about the shed.

Chris made a motion to approve the R.Y.B.S.A. Capitol Improvement Project. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Tim said that once they sign the approval, he also has to speak to the Highway Department and the Building Inspector to make sure that everything is within regulation because they are over that size 200sqft. So, they will have to get a building permit and things like that. When the time comes, they can discuss and organize with the schools just so they know that they are back there.

Chis said that he doesn’t know the principal anymore but it is important to make them aware that they will be back there.

Bob thanked the commission.

Tim introduced Josh Artado and Rob Costa who are looking to make some improvements to the concession stand and redo the bathrooms. Tim provided some information of what they are looking to do in the packets.

Josh said that he can provide a rundown of where they are at. As of right now, those bathrooms are in dyer need of repair. It’s not just for soccer, lacrosse also uses those fields, as well as flag football. It has gotten to the point where sometimes the toilets don’t flush due to the configuration of the plumbing out there, they smell terrible, the walls are in bad shape, the fixtures are in rough shape, last winter, someone camped out in there and destroyed some things in there that they had to take care of, and the lighting is basically non-existent. There’s a lot of work that needs to happen there so they have had multiple construction companies come in and evaluate the situation, provide some quotes, and as they compared the quotes, Rob’s was the one that bubbled up to the quotes. Rob has had a conversation in regards to A.D.A. compliance and to assure the things that will help bring the bathroom up to code and functional because sometimes up to code isn’t exactly functional. To bring it up to code includes making one of the bathrooms unisex and the other would probably remain a female only bathroom. Ultimately, the breakdown in cost. Raynham Youth Soccer would be 100% funding this. They would be raising the money necessary to fund this. They also spoke to Raynham Youth Lacrosse and Flag Football just to see if they would like to take part in helping out. Raynham Youth Lacrosse said absolutely. They will be a part of whatever they need to do in order to help either raise the funds for the Capitol Campaign but also, once any work is done, make sure to keep it neat and clean. Any construction details, he would refer to Rob.

Chris gives them a lot of props for shouldering this project because it’s long overdue. Chris doesn’t have any questions at all.

Rob said that he has kids in town so it’s an important investment to him. One of the things he would like to do is add a new ventilation system. It will bring fresh air in and old air out so that would help with the smell. They would like to try to circulate the air.

Chris said that he thinks that’s excellent. It’s outstanding.

Josh said that there will be a time table where they will have to raise some funds and work with the Park and Recreation Department. He will keep Tim invested every step of the way. There’s some work in order to make sure that there is no catastrophic failures underneath the ground so that they don’t have to deal with it in the future. If there is, they will discuss it when the time comes.

Chris asked where the septic tank is.

Josh said it’s right in front of the snack stand.

Tim said there is a metal crate there.

Chris asked when the last time it had been emptied.

Tim said at least a year or two. He gave Josh and Rob a heads up that they will be shutting the water off soon.

Chris made a motion to approve R.Y.S. Capitol Improvement project. Riley seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Josh and Rob thanked the commission.

Chris called for old business.

**Old Business (2):**

1. *McKenney Field Fence*

Tim said that they are in the process of replacing the McKenney Field Fence as the old one has been taken down. They are just waiting for the final materials to come in from City Works to get the fence put up. They left the outfield fence up for now just so people parking there don’t decide to drive onto the outfield of McKenney. Norms going to have it out the day before they come. It should take about a week and a half to do everything so hopefully, there will be a nice run of dry weather, they will have a brand-new fence put up, and everything will be looking good. It will be nice to have that fence because it was coming out of the ground, especially the outfield. Tim said that he will keep the Commission informed on when it will be officially going up. Hopefully, by the end of this month, things will be good. Tim has also been keeping the McKenney family informed as well and they are very appreciative of having a new fence. Tim said he can’t believe that fence is around thirty-five to forty years old.

Chris agreed.

1. *Raynham Giants/Jay Messler*

The Raynham Giants Project has begun. They poured the pad for the bleachers which came out very nice.

Chris said that they had playoff games on Saturday.

Tim said that unfortunately, the bleachers didn’t get up in time but they’ll have them ready to go for this spring and for next fall. The pad looks great and again, they were very appreciative that the commission voted to approve towards their project. It’s a worthwhile project, and it’ll be nice out there, and they’re in good shape.

Chris called for new business.

**New Business (3):**

1. *R.Y.B.S.A. Chad Gregory/Bob Maddock*

Moved to beginning of meeting.

1. *R.Y.S. Josh Attardo*

Moved to beginning of meeting.

1. *Fall Field Use Permit Applications*

Nothing came in. This item was put on the agenda just in case we received a last-minute permit.

**Commissioners’ Reports:**

**Riley Menconi:** Riley shared that he heard some very positive feedback about the Trunk-Or-Treat. Riley thanked the Raynham Fire Department, Raynham Police Department, and everyone who was involved in that.

Chris said that he drove by and there were a line of cars and people.

Tim said that the line went all the way down to the Senior Center. He ran out twice to get more candy.

Chris asked how many cars were there.

Tim said about twenty-seven. Tim thanked the daycare staff for stepping up and working the event. He thanked Sammi, Bethany, and Heather. Heather’s won again this year for the vote. It was a great event.

**Chris Shaw:** Chris said that he was also going to mention Trunk-Or-Treat. With the few weekends that have been good weather, so people are out and about. It’s hard to even get a parking spot at this complex and Pleasant Street complex. They are packed with people and it’s nice to see everybody out and about.

Riley said that there are a lot of family-oriented activities.

Tim said that it has been busy.

**Staff Reports:**

**Sammi:** Sammi also said that Trunk-Or-Treat was very fun. The only issue was the age group. It’s supposed to be Pre-K – 2nd grade but it’s challenging to keep the numbers down with siblings and friends, understandably.

**Tim reported the following:**

-Basketball sign-ups are going to be closing this weekend because they are going to start building teams next week. A few people have asked about adding playoffs in. The one thing that is important for families to know, is that this is a rec league. This is for fun for kids to learn and play the same the right way. The Rebels are the ones who travel. The system the program has is great. Kids are able to learn and get better. There are referees for the older kids. They just want to make sure that they are keeping it fun so everybody can play and nobody feels singled out. That is the purpose of the rec basketball league.

-They’re blowing out irrigation when they do the concession stands next week.

-Just a reminder, Rock Hard Racing was going to do their big bike event next weekend before Thanksgiving but they pushed it back because there will be soccer tryouts going on. It will now be Sunday November 26th, so the Sunday after Thanksgiving they’re going to run their event.

-Tim wanted to give a big thanks to T.M.L.P. There were some issues with the Burke Soccer Field lights. They came out and took care of it. They donated the labor, Tim is just waiting on the bill for the parts. He greatly appreciates it.

-There will be a Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt. They’re working on that right now in the office. It’s just a little family fun activity, there will be little signs that they had made up, set up around town just like the Easter Egg Hunt that they do. It’s called ‘Catch That Turkey’.

-The Tree Lighting will be Saturday December 2nd from 3:00p.m.- 4:30p.m.

-Santa’s Calling will be on Wednesday December 13th from 6:00p.m. – 8:00p.m.

Riley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sammi Sturtevant

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary