

Town of East Haven, CT
Recreation and Athletic Complex Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2013
Page 1

Members Present:

Chairman Angelo Santomassimo
Vice-Chair Joan Adamczyk
Commissioner Lou Anastasio

Staff Present:

Director Lou Pane

Members Absent:

Commissioner Louis Pacelli

Chairman Santomassimo called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve the minutes of the July 8th, 2013 meeting was made by Vice-Chair Adamczyk and seconded by Chairman Santomassimo. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Correspondence Received

None

At this time Chairman Santomassimo made a **MOTION** to add the following to the agenda and to hold public comment on the same. **"A Resolution Amending the Recreation Commission's fee policy regarding use of Town Fields."** Commissioner Anastasio seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained.

MOTION CARRIED

Vice-Chair Adamczyk then read the Resolution (a copy of which is attached).

Public Comment

Al Carfora-156 East Main Street Branford, CT- Said he was here representing the East Haven Umpires Associates and that he requested that some organizations be added to the list of approved organization in the resolution. The organizations he requested are EH Alumni Hall of Fame, Board of Education, EH Fireworks, American Red Cross, EH Police and Fire Depts., All EH Rec Leagues, and all well deserving organizations. He also thanked the commission for reconsidering and changing the resolution. They just ran their tournament which brought in \$500 and it went to the Food Pantry.

Ray Marsico-30 Batt Lane East Haven, CT- Vice President of the Umpires Association and wanted to elaborate as to if people think that they have a lot of money. The league has

Town of East Haven, CT
Recreation and Athletic Complex Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2013
Page 2

been in existence for over 50 years and has given back thousands of dollars to the community, including scholarships to High School students. By charging more it would hurt the children not help if they had to pay more money for the fields.

Paul Carbo-10 Nicholas Drive East Haven, CT- agreed with the resolution and wanted to know if it was any league not just the Umpires Association that have to abide by the new resolution.

Peter Cianelli-31 Short Beach Road, East Haven, CT-Thanked the Umpires Association for their donation as it is much needed. There are approximately 173 families that come into the Food Pantry a month looking for food. He spoke regarding the EH Police and Fire Dept. being placed on the list of approved organization and just wanted to state that they are 100% volunteer organization who shops for food, unloads the trucks and then loads bags for residents. He appreciates all help.

Atty. Zullo interjected at this time and wanted to make clear that the commission can increase the list, an organization can be added to the list at the commissions' discretion. This will allow adding one by one as opposed to large lists.

Anne Smith-8 Maplevale Road, East Haven, CT-Has been involved in the Foxon Rec League for well over 20 years. There are many people who need money in Town. She finds it silly that tens of thousands of dollars are spent fixing up fields and to not have teams help take care of them is ridiculous. At the Pit alone, there are sinkholes, the clay is never done because they're told there's no money in the budget. Director Pane asked the Town about the maintenance of the fields and he suggested that each organization make a list on their letterhead, and give it to the park caretaker who can put in the budget that goes before the Board of Finance and then Town Council. She stated that she doesn't understand why there are certain parts of Town that are pristine while others are not, and if they try to do something on their own, the workers file a grievance.

Pat Paulson-919 North High Street, East Haven, CT- With regard to the Umpires Association it is a shame that one person has a vendetta against them because he doesn't put out and give to the organization anymore. The USSSA were given the fields for \$1000 plus OT for the Parks Department. There was an agreement that the OT for the Park Caretaker and the laborer would be paid and the rest goes to the Rec. Dept.

At this time, Atty. Zullo said non-profit or not for profit, second thing is this is a temporary stop gap measure. He did some research in other are towns. There are very few towns that

Town of East Haven, CT
Recreation and Athletic Complex Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2013
Page 3

allow the proceeds to go to outside sources. He would like to sit down with the Chainman and the commission just for now and discuss options.

Commissioner Anastasio asked for time. At the present it stated two weeks prior that payment must be made. If and when your event was, you could give the donation in January 2014 but the event is in June 2014. He believes that 2 weeks prior can show good faith and give the money beforehand.

Ed Crisafi spoke about his high school fall softball league in conjunction with Branford and that he has used the pit for the last few years. There is an entry fee for each team of \$1100 with 6 teams. If you do the math and subtract what they umpires are paid and the balls that are paid for and every member on the teams shirt, there not much of a profit to give out. He can up the entry fee and possibly give the money to Foxon Rec. Chairman Santomassimo stated that there were no policies in place prior and now there are. It will be revisited again next year.

Pete Cianelli asked Ed Crisafi who sets up his fields on Sunday when there's midget football which Ed Crisafi explained that to him.

At this time, public comment was closed for this item.

Vice-Chair Adamczyk stated that for now she thought the resolution was a good compromise and it will be revisited again in 2014.

Public Session

Lorrie Pellegrino-49 Robby Lane, East Haven, CT-Would like to speak about the beach and the parking issues at the beach and splash pad. She would like to make sure parking is available to ALL residents, which she feels will decrease the liability issues at the splash pad in which there is no supervision. There are a lot of other people using it and they are not residents. There is a parking attendant but not all the time and sometimes they're not paying attention. She then read to the commission other local towns policies regarding parking and use of facilities. Director Pane said she had some great points and had done her homework. A policy will be discussed further but it is

feasible to concentrate on the Splash pad and come back to the commission early next year to discuss as the beach season is just about over.

Public Comment is now closed.

Town of East Haven, CT
Recreation and Athletic Complex Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2013
Page 4

Director's Report

Director Louis Pane read the Director's Report, which is attached.

Old Business

James Masotta was in attendance asking about landscaping around the monument for his father, Aggie Masotta at Deer Run School. He sent a letter in July and would like to know the outcome. Ray Marsico, who was in attendance for another matter, spoke about the cleanup efforts for the monument area as he works for the DPW. He stated that East Haven Hay and Grain would donate what was needed for the monument. That was in August and will remind Steve Kluth as it is now the end of September and it should be taken care of.

Al Carfora would like to publically thank Steve Kluth and his crew for the work they did for his tournament and all year as the fields are in great shape as well as the commission for allowing their group to use the fields.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Santomassimo stated that he received a letter from the Mayor regarding the conditions that the baseball fields are being left after use. Chairman Santomassimo stated that he went and did inspections and found out who was responsible and recommended that they clean up after use. A discussion was held with regard to a possible deposit, but the members didn't feel that was necessary at this time. Director Pane stated that maybe a non-Town run league could be asked for a deposit which would be kept in lieu of them not keeping it clean. More discussion was held regarding this issue but no action was taken.

There being no other business to come before the commission, a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 was made by Commissioner Anastasio and seconded by Chairman Santomassimo. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 9th, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. LaLuna
Clerk