

Henry County Recreation Board
Tuesday, November 21, 2017

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at Heritage Park. The media was notified of this meeting. Notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Heritage Park Recreation Office. Terry Sanders called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Those present were:

John Dewberry, Jr., District I
Wayne Swanson, District II
David Wilkerson, District III, Vice-Chairman
Terry Sanders, District IV, Chairman
Jonathan F. Buck, District V

Also attending were: Tyron Williams (Ga Elite Football), Chris Williams (North Henry Youth Football Association), Schylevere Davis, Asford A Williams, Coach Terry Richardson, John Bailey and Staff: Tim Coley, Kenny R. Morris, Brandi Dailey, and Donna Holder.

Motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve the agenda. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion was made by Jonathan Buck to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, October 17, 2017**. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business:

Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:

Hayne Parks request to serve alcohol at Nash Farm Park on 12-30-17 for a wedding reception. David Wilkerson made a motion to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lauren Johnson request to serve alcohol at Cotton Field Golf Club on 12-8-17 for a Christmas Party. Wayne Swanson made a motion to approve the request. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to reduce fees:

Bruce Fowler of Ola Middle School requests reduced rates for the 8th Grade Dance at Locust Grove Event Center on 5-4-18. David Wilkerson made a motion to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Nikki Rogers of Caring for a Cause requests reduced rates for Christmas Kindness gift giving for under privileged kids at the Locust Grove Recreation Center on 12-17-17. David Wilkerson made a motion to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Quanisha Dawson requests reduced rates for a Daddy Daughter Dance to benefit the Atlanta Children Shelter on 2-10-18 at the Cotton Fields Golf Club. John Dewberry, Jr. made a motion to approve the request. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Zach Welliver requests reduced rates for a Thanksgiving Dinner with young adults from Eagles Landing at Nash Farm Park on 11-21-17. Wayne Swanson made a motion to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business:

Old Business:

Wayne Swanson asked for a clarification on procedures to rent Nash Farm for July 4th. Were they supposed to have a special use permit before they came to the Rec Board? Tim Coley clarified that the County just met about this yesterday. The procedures if someone wants to rent the facility that does not require a special event permit (expect large crowds, need police, fire, DOT, parades, filming, some 5k events). The Planning and Zoning Department's Special Event Committee (Police, Fire, Planning and Zoning, etc.) will not address the request unless they have been approved for a date. They come to the Recreation Department to get a date prior to going before the Special Event Committee. If they are approved then they proceed to the Board of Commissioners for Fireworks. They do not have any four year contracts for the Fourth of July events. They are still working on a partnership with the County for the December 5th meeting with the Board of Commissioners. The Commissioners wanted the event to be free admission if the terms of the partnership could be worked out. John Dewberry stated that he was concerned that tax dollars would be negotiated as a partnership by not charging for certain services with a group for an event. Different fees have been charged over the years for parking fees.

John Dewberry, Jr. said he received compliments about the security lights that were replaced with LED lights at the Locust Grove Event Center. He also stated he received a complaint that the infields was not being cut on the BMX track infield. He said the waterline was taken care of.

Wayne Swanson inquired about the lease for the caretaker house at Nash Farm Park. Tim Coley stated the Board of Commissioners handles leases of rental home properties. John Dewberry, Jr. stated the caretaker and a facility attendant and or her husband had a disagreement. Tim had not heard about that incident and stated he would look into it. Wayne stated he had an incident during the Farmer's Market where there was some miscommunication about the equipment that could be used at the Barn. Tim met with all concerned and clarified that the Farmers Market is part of our program and can use our equipment and he had not heard of any problems since that time.

Wayne Swanson asked how the Hotel Motel Tax funds are used. 60 % of funds go to the Henry County Board of Commissioners and 40% go to the CVB. Tim stated that the Board of Commissioners does not show that on our budget. The funds have to be used to promote tourism that brings people from outside the County to the County. The tournaments that come in from out of state fund a good portion of the funds. The CVB has a Board of Directors that funds to advertise for tournaments. They determine if the criteria is met for them to set aside funds for the tournament.

Public Comments:

Mr. Alford A. Williams, recruiter for West Georgia Tech and retired military who resides in Hampton, addressed the board concerning lack of opportunities for youth and young adults in Hampton and all areas west of 75. The center has rules for the weight room to be age 16. Tim stated the rules exist because of the staffing levels and the liability insurance. He wants more opportunities for ages 14-17. Tim stated the original plan for the Recreation Center in Hampton had a gym. When it was time for the construction of the facility after a few years when it was budgeted, the cost of construction escalated so much that either the Senior Center had to go

or the gym. The gym lost out. The Board thanked him for getting involved and representing his area of the County.

Coach Terry Richardson, pastor and tennis coach that resides in the North Henry County Ellenwood area, addressed the Board about tennis facilities at Hidden Valley Park. Tennis can be a life-long sport that you can be extremely good at regardless of your size or physical attributes.

Tim stated that Kenny R. Morris left the Recreation Board meeting to attend an EOC meeting with Department Heads.

Tyron Williams, Georgia Elite Football, addressed the Board. They served 800 families in their athletic and academic programs. They received increased sponsorships. They had a banquet at Sky Zone. They had national and regional events. They are delivering food baskets to families identified by school counselors. They helped DFACS kids participate in their program. They held a health fair at Heritage Park as well as an etiquette program. They will soon start a robotics program. They are currently offering a 3 on 3 basketball training league. Their dinner and toy drive will be December 16, 2017 at Pilgreens. December 2 will be the Regional NFL Flag Football Falcon tournament. Sports Illustrated is doing an article on flag football. There is also a Hockey request for a tournament. They will use vans to transport athletes. SPLOST is doing the porta john and concession trailers for the weekend. Parks and Recreation got the estimates for the trailers. The railing barriers are left at Avalon until the season is over.

John Bailey, attendant at the Village Park, had concerns about charcoal grills in the park. The signs at the pavilion stated no charcoal grills. A lady said the staff said she could use a charcoal grill as long as it was 10' away from the structure. Tim stated that no charcoal grills are allowed at the park because years ago a child was burned by getting into hot charcoals that were left on the ground. Pavilion # 2 last Saturday was the rental in question. John also requested a clock and a dry erase board with cork for the Village Park Community Room.

Youth Association volunteers are required to attend meetings twice a year. Tim will invite the Board members to those meetings. He will invite the Youth Associations to the Rec Board meetings.

Bull and John Bailey will work together on communication of scheduled events at the park for rentals. Jonathan Buck shared concerns with Gary Wills about cleaning the park after usage, a coach tossing out charcoals on the new sod.

Jonathan Buck stated that Hidden Valley Park has a sign that was vandalized and needs to be replaced. Kenny said that he will remove the sign that was vandalized. Tim stated that people can call the office or email us to correct and address these items sooner.

Wayne Swanson stated several neighbors in District II do not have a community room and they would like to let them use the facility for free in the Carriage House only not the barn during the week only for subdivision HOA meetings. He would also like security lights at Nash Farm Park Barn. Planning and Zoning handles requests for street lights and how they go before the Board of Commissioners.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by John Dewberry to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Wayne Swanson. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.