

Henry County Recreation Board
Tuesday, November 20, 2018

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, 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 9:00 a.m.

Those present were:

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

Also attending: Tyron Williams (Georgia Elite Youth Football), Chris Williams (North Henry Youth Football Association), and Staff: Tim Coley and Donna Holder.

Motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve the agenda. John Dewberry, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, October 16, 2018**. John Dewberry, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:

Robin Jones, Prevent Child Abuse Henry County, request to serve alcohol on 2-9-2019, at the Locust Grove Event Center for a Charity Fundraiser. John Dewberry, Jr. made a motion to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Tara Eberhart, Smith, Welch, Webb and White, request to serve alcohol on 12-8-18, at the Locust Grove Event Center for a Holiday Party. David Wilkerson made a motion to approve the request. John Dewberry, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to reduce fees:

Myriam Colon request reduced employee rates for a birthday party on 1-5-2019 at Cotton Fields Golf Club. John Dewberry, Jr. made a motion to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

N. Fordham, Locust Grove Middle School, request reduced school rates for an 8th Grade Formal Dance on 5-17-2019 at the Locust Grove Event Center. John Dewberry, Jr. made a motion to approve the request. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Beau Edwards, Ola Baseball Booster Club, request reduced school rates for a Dinner and Reverse Raffle on 3-2-2019, at the Locust Grove Event Center. David Wilkerson made a motion to approve the request. John Dewberry, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business:

Ms. Neat Robinson, City of Stockbridge Council Member, addressed the Board regarding Cochran Park (located in the Stockbridge city limits) to ask for assistance with aesthetics to include painting, improve decaying areas like dugouts and resurface the parking lot. The City Park next door was a beautification project. The City would be willing to work with the County like an IGA, etc. The park has patrons (with kickball and youth baseball) that the City would like to stay in the City of Stockbridge. Tim Coley advised Commissioner Holmes put \$600,000 of SPLOST IV in the park and improved the lights. Tim advised that a couple of buildings need to be removed. The two-story building will be converted to a one-story access. There are funds in fund balance of SPLOST IV to improve the park. The County has a 70/30 split for projects agreed on and approved. Ms. Robinson stated that Mickie D. Cochran Park also needs improvement. That park is also inside the Stockbridge city limits. The Board wants input from Hoover Sirmans (youth baseball at Cochran Park) and Chris Murphy (youth football at Mickie D. Cochran Park). She also mentioned that Hidden Valley Park needs attention and knows it is not in the City limits. She is willing to help.

Old Business:

Jonathan Buck needs dead trees replaced at Village Park. Tim stated that Rod Gray had advised that the trees planted that died were not meant for the zone we are in. Replacement trees are on special order.

Johnny Wilson told John Dewberry, Jr. that 40 adult football players playing football on Sunday night left the lights on. Tim stated that was the first he had heard of it. Tim will look into it.

John Dewberry, Jr. stated that Commissioner Wilson had concerns over Youth Football and Cheerleading. Tim advised that a regular scheduled game was scheduled during competition cheer time. There was an Association rule to charge \$125 per team if a cheer team does not show up to cheer. The rule has never been enforced. Rod Gray advised the Association that rule could not be enforced.

Department Reports:

Included in the meeting handout.

Public Comments:

Tyron Williams, Georgia Elite, addressed the Board regarding the mandate to restart the Henry County Football League. He requested that mandate be put in place next year. Too many leagues do not have accountability. Georgia Elite will reach out to homeless families staying at an extended stay Fairbridge Hotel. They will feed them a Thanksgiving meal. Tyron invited the Board to the holiday celebration and toy drive on December 1st at the Westin near the airport.

Chris Williams, North Henry Football, stated there is an opportunity for a collaboration. He appreciates the overall idea of the Henry County Football League but the reality is we would not have enough teams to put in the league. The old model is good for a certain skill sets but it is not good for the competitive or elite teams. We would lose those higher competitive teams. The league did not work well before and that is why it split up. He would like to see his park upgraded and would like to know what funding is available. Tim stated that since 2007 or 2008, there was no capital project funding in the budgets. The new SPLOST comes up next year. Money left over in SPLOST IV was moved to complete the road extension project. Tim advised Chris to submit any capital improvements needed so the County may review them and the new District IV Commissioner can review them. The County is seeking recommendations for projects for SPLOST V.

Anthony Lanier addressed the board about gang problems. He also stated the County needs to fund tutoring, counseling and education to touch on other things than sports for kids.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by John Dewberry, Jr. to adjourn the meeting. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Donna Holder, Executive Assistant II

Date of approval