

Henry County Recreation Board
Tuesday, June 19, 2018

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 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 9:01 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: Tyron Williams (Ga Elite Football), Chris Williams (North Henry Football), Brad Johnson (Assistant County Manager), Dr. Rita Bailey (STEAM Camp), Ashley Johnson (STEAM Camp), and Staff: Tim Coley, Rod Gray, John Bailey and Donna Holder.

Motion was made by Wayne Swanson to approve the agenda with one addition: Mary Jo Kite request to serve alcoholic beverages on 6/30/18 at the Locust Grove Event Center. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, May 15, 2018**. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:

Lucero Diaz request to serve alcohol on 6/30/2018 for a Wedding Event at Nash Farm Park Activity Barn. A motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve the request. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Felicia Pittman request to serve alcohol on 7/28/2018 for a Wedding Event at Locust Grove Event Center. A motion was made by Wayne Swanson to approve the request. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Adrian McFalls request to serve alcohol on 6/23/2018 for a Wedding Event at Nash Farm Park Activity Barn and Carriage House. A motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve the request. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Stephanie Sheppard request to serve alcohol on 7/22/2018 for a Family Reunion at Nash Farm Park Activity Barn. A motion was made by Wayne Swanson to approve the request. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Elena Santos request to serve alcohol on 8/4/2018 for a Wedding Reception at Locust Grove Event Center. A motion was made by Wayne Swanson to approve the request. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mary Jo Kite request to serve alcohol on 6/30/2018 for a Reunion at Locust Grove Event Center. A motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve the request. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to reduce fees:

Robin Jones, Prevent Child Abuse Henry County, request reduced rates on 2/09/2019 for a fundraiser at the Locust Grove Event Center. A motion was made by Wayne Swanson to approve the request. David Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Susan Howington, Henry County Extension Service, request reduced fees on 5/6/2019 for a Youth Leadership Event at the Locust Grove Event Center. A motion was made by David Wilkerson to approve the request. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business:

Wayne Swanson suggested the County consider bilingual or picture signage (no smoking) for parks. Jonathan Buck stated additional ventilation is needed for the pump house at Village Park. It was reported previously and the County will begin working on it next week. He would like additional two trashcans placed at trail on each side, near where the graffiti was at the bench and one near end of football field. Astro turf could be considered for areas near the splash pad.

Jonathan Buck proposed raising the pavilion fees to be aligned with surrounding counties. We charge \$25 and \$75. He thinks we should only rent the pavilions out once per day and charge a deposit. Tim agreed that the County could consider charging more for the Village Park Pavilions during the season because of the Splash Pad but go back to lower winter rates when the Splash Pad is closed. Jonathan Buck stated the County might need to charge for the Splash Pad like other counties. Rod stated he would research charging for the splash pads because there are advantages to not charging for some facilities. He does not want to be an enterprise fund but maybe a cost recovery. He is also ok with charging for a facility attendant to bring in for larger groups. Build on cost and adjust the volume. Jonathan Buck requested a chain link fence be installed for a grill area for the associations using the concession stand. John Bailey was advised to contact the Recreation Office to call out Code Enforcement if there is a problem with illegal dumping in Village Park.

Old Business:

Department Reports:

Rod stated the County will resurface the splash pad and install a decorative fence near the facility. This will make the surface safer and have less grass clippings to clog up the pumps. Inmates will clean up the area around Mickie D. Cochran Park tennis courts and right of way area across the road by the end of the week. Storm water has delivered top soil and seeded lower hill to control some of the erosion. They are trying to do projects at the smaller parks for the community. The County is in discussion about the ownership of Pates Creek before they commit to improvements. Pates Creek is wetlands and protected streams and Rod would like to see the park transition to Stormwater Department because they have designated funding. The County is having a Capital meeting at 10 am this morning and he hopes to represent the Department well. The list that Tim helped prepare addresses safety and need. Avalon Park needs are being addressed by the City of McDonough. The County contributed financially for the improvements for that park.

Rod stated the County is looking into park maintenance staffing needs. He has submitted a maintenance plan to the County Manager's office for seven employees. They would like the County to consider hiring a part-time attendant next summer for the splash pad. The Locust Grove Event / Senior Center is reopening in July.

Tim stated that the Department is getting more requests to rent the Village Park Greenspace area. He handed out some pricing for the Board to review.

Public Comments:

Rita Bailey (Rising Phoenix Steam Camp) addressed the board about a security guard that requested the prisoners use the restroom facility in the Village Park Community Room. John Bailey asked the guard to use the public park restrooms at the center of Village Park instead due to Steam Camp utilizing the Community Room. The guard agreed.

Tyron Williams (Georgia Elite) said the cars are parking on the grass at Avalon Park. He requested fencing and gates to close at both entrances to keep cars out of the field area. He also stated the County needs to address teams fundraising in the street medians with children present. Chris Williams would like the County to clarify if adults are allowed to fundraise in the medians and if teams can still fundraise in front of store entrances if they have permission to do so from the store. Rod stated he would look into addressing this in the facility use agreement. Wayne Swanson requested adding a marketing plan to facility use agreements. Chris Williams stated that a marketing plan for an association does not reflect a marketing plan for individual team fundraising. Tyron invited the board to attend the Balling for Education event this Saturday.

Ashley Johnson (Rising Phoenix Steam Camp Contracted Instructor) addressed the board concerning camps. They combined their two camps for Nash Farm and Village Park to meet the 10 minimum campers at each location requirement. She wants that in writing. She wants clarification about pricing about CAPS, other subsidiaries, etc. that she assists with. She wants to know what she can and cannot do. She has banners, signage and has started to grow. They have two vans now. Tim clarified camps are revenue based off a percentage of the campers registration fees. The 10 minimum participant requirement just help the camps to be cost effective. State regulations call for one staff per 10 participants. We have to have at least two staff per location in case one staff member has to leave. Wayne Swanson stated that Tim did have a conversation with him and Ashley regarding the 10 minimum participant requirement to be cost effective. Tim made improvements to the structure at Nash Farm Park for the camp by adding sinks, classroom area, storage, gardens, arbor, etc. He also approved transporting participants and stated the criteria for transporting participants. Tim received one complaint from a parent that the camp transported participants in a personal vehicle that was not acceptable. The complaint was addressed and he has had no other complaints from the camp. Tim hopes the camp grows.

Alfred Williams addressed the board about Hampton Parks. He wants to know the status of repairing the scoreboards at Coley Park in Hampton. He wants a copy of the agreement to maintain Coley Park between the City and County (House Bill 489 – City maintains passive areas and the County maintains the active areas). He wants to know what the Association’s responsibilities are. The public can submit work orders through the SeeClickFix App or phone it in or place it through our website.

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 10:23 a.m.

Donna Holder, Executive Assistant II

Date of approval