

**Henry County Recreation Board**  
**Tuesday, July 16, 2019**

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at Heritage Park. The media was notified of this meeting. Notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Heritage Park Recreation Office. David Wilkerson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Those present were:**

John Dewberry, Jr., District I  
Wayne Swanson, District II Vice-Chairman  
David Wilkerson, District III, Chairman  
Tyrone C. Anderson, Sr., District IV  
Jonathan F. Buck, District V

Also attending: Tyron Williams (Georgia Elite Youth Football), Anthony Lanier (North Henry Football), Aaron Bolton (Ellenwood Vikings Football), Chris Murphy (The Generals Youth Football), and Staff: John Bailey, Vincent Miller, Tim Coley, Brandi Dailey, James Martin and Donna Holder.

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

Motion was made by Wayne Swanson to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, June 18, 2019**. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:**

**Requests to reduce fees:**

Joanie Whitson, Henry County Cancer Services, requests reduced rate on 5-20-2020, at Nash Farm Park Activity Barn for a Derby Day to benefit cancer patients and their families in Henry County. John Dewberry, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**New Business:**

John Dewberry, Jr. stated he had an issue with rigs/tractors parking overnight at Warren Holder Park and Cotton Fields Golf Club. Tim will check on the ordinance and police requirements. Sometimes the ordinance has to be on the signage. Tim explained that overnight parking is not a problem at Cotton Fields Golf Club.

John Dewberry, Jr. stated the mound of dirt left at Warren Holder Park for three weeks might be an issue. He does not want the dirt placed on handicap parking spots. Tim will speak to the people that deliver it at 3am-5am in the morning. The dirt was delivered after the season ended but the field was in worse condition than we thought it was. Locust Grove had an infield issue that needed to be built up and then drainage issues that led to getting quotes for laser grading. The estimates were so high at \$8,000 that the County talked to DOT workers to do the grading within a quarter of an inch. The bids take up to two weeks. There were three different mixtures: sand, topsoil and infield mix. The dirt was screened and it has to be picked up with a skid loader and it needs to be on a paved surface to keep the load free from rocks, etc. The City of Locust Grove and the

County were aware of the project. Normally the dirt would not sit there that long and is used in the same day or next day.

**Old Business:**

Tim stated the County went to mediation and had a meeting last Friday and will meet again sometime next week to finalize the SDS. Parks and Recreation sent requested items about the upkeep of parks, cost, etc.

Aaron Bolton, Ellenwood Vikings Football, needs resolution on field repairs at Village Park. The soccer usage is what is tearing up the fields. The soccer rec program (Revolution Soccer /Eric's Southern Crescent/Formal Methodist Church league that folded) only has 40 kids but they are playing club teams and adults out of the facility. The fields are multipurpose: football, lacrosse and soccer. Playing on Bermuda grass year round is not good for the field. Field turf may be an option to consider. Tim stated that football is starting earlier instead of mid-July. There is no downtime on the fields. Another option was to put baseball at Cochran Park and redo Hidden Valley Park athletic fields or vice versa. Cochran Park has the largest field at 300' and Hidden Valley Park's largest field is 250'. The County has contacted the Board of Education to use former HCHS athletic fields.

**Department Reports:**

Tim updated the board on Cotton Fields Golf Course and rentals. The County employees have wellness classes in the Event Center three nights a week. Cotton Fields made over \$612,000 last year. Tournaments and school teams are booked frequently at the facility.

**Public Comments:**

Anthony Lanier, North Henry Football, complimented the County for the upkeep of their athletic fields. He requested paperwork for a football tournament youth association fundraiser on July 26-28, 2019. Brandi Dailey will send him the paperwork requested.

Tyron Williams, Georgia Elite Football, updated the County on the success of the 3 on 3 basketball tournament held at the Jason T. Harper Event Center. Miller's Ale was the sponsor and was prepared to feed over 400 people at no cost. They purchased a wet bulb to monitor weather conditions. Red Cross will provide a training to certify their coaches in First Aid and CPR. Their numbers are higher than last year. They did a summer reading program, trip to space museum and began the financial training program. Cars and dogs were on the football field this past weekend. Tyron stated he really needs fencing at Avalon Park and he reminded the City of McDonough that the Avalon Park has the County's only residential fencing and football field with no fencing. He appreciated

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by John Dewberry, Jr. to adjourn the meeting. Wayne Swanson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.