

Henry County Recreation Board
Tuesday, December 15, 2020

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 via Zoom. 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 9:26 a.m. due to connectivity issues with Zoom.

Those present were:

John Dewberry, Jr., District I, Vice-Chairman
Alford Williams, District II
David Wilkerson, District III, Chairman
Tyrone C. Anderson, Sr., District IV

Also attending: Cheri Matthews (County Manager) and Staff: Jonathon Penn, Kenny R. Morris, Vincent Miller, Brandi Dailey, and Donna Holder.

Alford Williams made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a request from an umpire organization to train on the athletic fields. John Dewberry, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

John Dewberry, Jr. made the motion to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, November 17, 2020**. Alford Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:

None.

Requests to reduce fees:

None.

New Business:

Tim presented a request from Anytime Sports (Contractor to provide officials for HCPRD Adult Softball Leagues) to utilize Heritage Park on Saturday, January 9, 2021, from 12-3pm for a training at no charge. For the next weekend on Saturday, January 16, 2021, they request 4 fields at Heritage Park for a small tournament for training umpires. The team registration is reduced as this is a tournament to train umpires. Any funds made from the tournament will be used to pay sanctioning fees, uniform allowance, insurance fees, etc. There would be no profit made. They need to recruit new officials as there is a shortage nationwide for youth adult league officials. The normal field rental rate is \$175 per field and they have requested no charge. They could be charged for light usage if the tournament ran late. **David Wilkerson made a motion to approve the requests and Anytime Sports pay for any light usage for cost purposes. John Dewberry seconded the motion. Discussion was held. The motion passed. Continued***

Jonathon Penn stated he did not think the Board could waive fees for rentals, etc. There is a resolution for the Board to reduce fees for employee rentals but not other fees. Tim stated the policy reads:

Reduced Rate Facility Pricing...

Organizations with a 501c3 (Henry County recognized service organizations or a partner with Henry County Government)	50% of Rental Fee Only
Henry County Schools	50% of Rental Fee Only
Henry County Board of Commissioners Employee (must show Henry County Board of Commissioners ID)	30% of Rental Fee Only
Henry County Board of Commissioners Department Function Free (must pay Facility Attendant Fees)	
Security Deposit	No Discount
Facility Attendant	No Discount

Contract must be filled out for everyone.

Security deposit is fully refundable if no damage occurs during the rental and is refunded 7 – 14 days after the event date.

Cheri Matthews stated the only partnerships are those approved by the Board of Commissioners. There would need to be a Memorandum of Understanding outlining the rules of engagement or an agreement in place for them to be a part of the County Government. The policies listed does not fall in line with what they are asking to do. There are other expenses than the light bill like trash that needs to be picked up, maintenance, etc. The Recreation Board did not have the authority to reduce or waive the fees for field usage outside of the policy Tim read. She will let the County Attorney review it and issue an opinion and then if applicable, the Recreation Board could have a called meeting to handle it that way. Other groups would want the same consideration so we must be consistent. John Dewberry, Jr. stated he understood what Cheri Matthews was saying but also wanted to point out that the revenue we collect off the leagues could be impacted if we do not have enough officials to call the games. Tim stated the organization could just pay full price for the tournament until an agreement could be reached. The Board of Commissioners could approve a resolution giving the Recreation Board authority to review applications for partnerships with the Board. The Recreation Board will need to determine what a partnership would look like, set those parameters and bring it before the BOC for approval.

David Wilkerson made a motion to rescind the motion. John Dewberry seconded the motion. The motion passed. The organization will pay the regular fees until a partnership can be formed and approved.

Old Business:

John Dewberry, Jr. requested the youth association contact list. Donna will send the information. Associations are also listed on the County Parks & Recreation Website. Staff will ensure the website is current.

The Board still has concerns with illegal dumping at Parks. Jonathon Penn advised the Board to take a photo of their license plate if possible. Please do not confront anyone. The Police are installing cameras. The County is issuing citations for this. The County is placing dumpsters quarterly for dumping to alleviate some of the illegal dumping. This should begin after Christmas. The County is still working out the details.

Department Reports:

Reports and calendars were emailed out to the Board. Jonathon Penn reported on capital projects. We will be getting fencing, netting and dugouts at one or two parks in each District. The Board approved at their last meeting to install pickleball courts and redo tennis courts at Hidden Valley Park. The next BOC meeting will vote on a new small playground that will be installed at Sandy Ridge Park to replace the one near the large ballfield. We will do fencing and renovate the older pavilion restrooms. The majority of the parks will have their parking lots resurfaced and restriped. We plan to install an A/V – Audio Visual System at Locust Grove Event Center. As we go through the budget process we will review revenue fees with comparable counties to

make sure we are in line. We are replacing the ActiveNet Registration System that will be more user friendly to staff and customers. This should be faster and more efficient. This will take a few months.

Public Comments:

Adjournment:

A motion was made by John Dewberry, Jr. to adjourn the meeting. Alford Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Donna Holder, Administrative Coordinator

Date of approval