

Henry County Recreation Board
Tuesday, August 17, 2021

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, August 17, 2021. 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 9:02 a.m. via Zoom video conference.

Those present were:

Bridgette Foresyth, Chair Appointee
John Dewberry, Jr., District I Appointee, Vice-Chairman
Alford Williams, District II Appointee
David Wilkerson, District III Appointee, Chairman
Brenda Winston, District IV Appointee
Jonathan F. Buck, District V Appointee

Also attending: Tyron Williams (Georgia Elite Football), and Staff: Jonathon Penn, Tim Coley, James Martin, John Bailey, Brandi Dailey, and Donna Holder.

Alford Williams made a motion to approve the agenda. Bridgette Foresyth seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Alford Williams made the motion to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, July 20, 2021**. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:

Patricia Fillmore request to serve alcohol on 9-11-2021 for a Birthday Party at the Locust Grove Event Center. Jonathan Buck made a motion to approve the request. Brenda Winston seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Robert Greer request to serve alcohol on 8-22-2021 for a Baby Shower at the Nash Farm Carriage House. Alford Williams made a motion to approve the request. Bridgette Foresyth seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Akia Flowers request to serve alcohol on 8-28-2021 for a Wedding / Reception at the Locust Grove Event Center. Bridgette Foresyth made a motion to approve the request. Alford Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to reduce fees:

Robin Jones, Prevent Child Abuse, request reduced rates on 2-12-2022 for the fundraiser at the Locust Grove Event Center. Alford Williams made a motion to approve the request. Bridgette Foresyth seconded the motion. The motion passed

New Business:

Tim Coley stated that Perfect Game is looking to do Sunday tournaments for 13-year olds and needs the big field with 80' bases at North Forty Park. Alford Williams will take the request to the Hampton City Manager.

Old Business:

David Wilkerson updated the board regarding Ola Baseball Association. He has worked with Ola Athletic Association to notify more people for elections and meetings. He notified Ola that minutes are to be recorded for all meetings and that the Recreation Department is to be notified of all meetings. The meeting was not posted on their Facebook page or website. They should have emailed the Association members. The board would not let people nominate themselves. Two of the people running for office, Mr. Powell, and Mr. Hyde, were employees/workers of the park as umpires and field workers. The umpires wanted to go up on fees and there was a dispute. Ola was advised to take bids on the umpires. Johnny Powell quit, and Ola found another Umpire Association. David Wilkerson will monitor the meetings and the Association. The financials were reviewed. A cash app charge was used, and it was legit. James Martin stated the associations handling the officials can be a problem when members request certain umpires not call their games. There is a shortage of officials.

Jonathon Penn stated that he, and Brandi Dailey of Youth Athletics, will have a meeting tomorrow evening at 6:30 pm with Fall Sports Associations and the User Agreements will clearly update bylaw requirements and supersedes any youth association agreements:

Proposed *ASSOCIATION QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES...*

In order to qualify to operate on Henry County park property, each Association must adhere to certain minimum organizational requirements. These requirements are necessary in order to insure the protection of all participating Association members. Violation of any requirement shall constitute cause for revocation of the Facility Use Agreement. There is a checklist at the end of this agreement which states the due dates of each item. The minimum qualification requirements are as follows:

v Not for Profit Organization Status

§ Each Association will incorporate and register with the Secretary of State's Office as a not for profit organization; 501c3. Proof of "not for profit status" must be submitted annually to the Henry County Parks and Recreation Department.

v Membership

§ The membership of the Associations shall be any individual, parent or legal guardian who is participating, has a child participating or a coach and is registered with the organization and in good standing with the organization and HCPRD. Individuals must be 18 years and older to be eligible for membership. The cost of membership is to be determined by the individual organization. "Family" is defined as two individuals who have parental control over the child. Membership is valid for one (1) calendar year. Membership may be revoked or terminated for violation of Henry County Association rules and regulations or any other governing procedures or policies including HCPRD policies and procedures. Members must attend a minimum of two (2) membership meetings within a twelve (12) month period to be eligible to run for an elected position.

v Charter/Bylaws/Election of Officers

§ The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of each Association, consistent with the Charter and Bylaws of the Association, to conduct the affairs of the Association. A Board is formed to insure the overall interest of all programs, activities, and events. A copy of the Charter and Bylaws must be turned in to the Henry County Parks and Recreation Department each year prior to the issuance of a Facility Use Agreement.

v Association Annual Meeting / Membership Meetings

§ All Associations must have at least three (3) membership meetings each year at a time and place fixed by the President of the Association and publicized. The membership meetings must be announced no later than two (2) weeks prior to said meeting. Notification of the membership meetings must include postings in the park, the HCPRD office, the HCPRD Advisory Board's District Representative and the newspaper. The agenda for one of these meetings shall include the election of the Board of Directors for the Association. This meeting will be known as the Annual Meeting. Efforts must be made for all Association members to be notified of the annual meeting by means of posting in the park, e-mail, newspaper, calling post and notifying the HCPRD office, notifying the HCPRD Advisory Board and records maintained of this notification. The Henry County Parks and Recreation Department must be notified of the annual meeting. A HCPRD staff member will be present at the annual meeting. A schedule of all regular association meetings must be provided to the HCPRD at minimum 2 weeks in advance.

v Open election of the Board of Directors is mandatory.

§ The following statement must be a part of the Association Bylaws:

The President will appoint a nominating committee consisting of three people from the membership and two from the Board of Directors who will select a list of candidates. These nominations will be in writing and received by the Secretary at least five (5) days prior to the annual meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the annual membership meeting.

The names of all nominees for each office will be entered on a single ballot and submitted to the membership present at the annual meeting. Those nominees for each office getting the greatest number of votes will be deemed to have been elected as the new Board of Directors. 100% of the Board of Director members must reside within Henry County. A list of the names, addresses and phone numbers of the newly elected Board of Directors must be sent to the Henry County Parks and Recreation Department within thirty (30) days of election.

v Officers, Elections and Terms of Office

§ The Executive Board shall include the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Board of Directors will be elected by the members of the Association. Persons seeking election for the Board of Directors must meet the following criteria: (1) be a member in good standing (2) must be 21 years of age (3) must have served as a coach, a team representative, or served as an appointed official for the Board of Directors for a minimum of one year and (4) attended at least two meetings within a twelve month period.

§ The Executive Board will be elected by membership, simple majority. Once elected, members will serve a one (1) year term. If a member of the Executive Board is unable to complete their term of office and the member has not served at least 50% of their term, a special election will be conducted to elect a replacement. If the Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary vacates their office and the 50% demarcation point has passed, the President will name a replacement. If the President vacates the position and the 50% demarcation point has passed, the Vice President will assume the President's duties and will appoint a Vice President.

v Financial Reports

§ Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 14-3-111 states that all corporate minutes and books of account be held open for inspection by any member of the Association at any reasonable time. The Association shall assume the financial responsibility for the programs, activities and events it operates. The County assumes no responsibility for management of the Association's programs, activities, and events or for maintaining financial stability of the Association except for those parks run by the Department. Further, the County expressly assumes no responsibility for the financial well-being or outstanding debts of the Association. The Association shall provide, to the HCPRD, an annual financial statement and a copy of the annual tax return. The Association is also responsible to provide a copy of the monthly financial statement upon request. This documentation may be requested for review by the Department at the end of the calendar year and prior to the issuance of a Facility Use Agreement. All financial reports and tax returns must be prepared by a qualified accountant or bookkeeper and be certified by the preparer and President of the Association indicating the accuracy of the documents. All documents provided to the Department shall be subject to audit by the County. Any member of an Association shall also be entitled to receive a copy of any financial report required herein upon written request.

Department Reports:

Reports were emailed to the Board.

Public Comments:

Tyron Williams addressed the Board. He stated the typical people to attend the meetings are the disgruntled group, of one side of a situation. Georgia Elite expanded flag football into many areas in Henry and surrounding counties. (Most of tuition, of government assistance participants, except \$10, may be paid by a National Organization.) The ages are allowed up to 17, but the Flag program goes up to 14. The Recreation Board would like Tyron to forward his information to them. The Board thanked Tyron for all his hard work and for making a difference in the community.

Bridgette Foresyth asked if there was a volunteer program for youth to volunteer at the parks. The volunteers need their hours tracked and a letter. Some association do utilize youth volunteers. Tyron Williams explained how his Association utilizes youth volunteers. She would like to see the volunteer program expanded.

Alford Williams would like to know how to refer potential umpires for training.

John Bailey said drop-in people are using charcoal grills in the park and that is not allowed. He would like signage for No Charcoal Grills. The Splash Pad floor surface is very nice. Skateboarders and bicycles will tear

up the pad and it would not make it 5 years. The playground has a drainage issue. Someone dug out an area but it is not helping.

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 9:56 a.m.

Donna Holder, Administrative Coordinator

Date of approval