

Henry County Recreation Board
Tuesday, September 21, 2021

The Henry County Recreation Board held their public meeting on Tuesday, September 21, 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 9:06 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), Caniece Haywood, Brenda Gant and Monica Johnson (Above the Net Tennis), Antwann Harris (Ellenwood Dolphins), Monica Johnson, Lateshia, Ronel Salters, Jacqueline Blalock, Lorenzo Harris, Kara Lee, Lenard, and Staff: Jonathon Penn, Tim Coley, James Martin, Vince Miller, John Bailey, Brandi Dailey, Kenny Morris, Thomas White, Kevin Patterson and Donna Holder.

Alford Williams made a motion to approve the agenda. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Alford Williams made the motion to approve minutes from last meeting held on **Tuesday, August 17, 2021**. Jonathan Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Requests to serve alcoholic beverages:

None.

Requests to reduce fees:

None.

New Business:

Old Business:

John Bailey said more signs may be needed for “No Charcoal Grills” at Village Park other than at the picnic shelters. JP will look into it. We will also advise the youth associations. The rental agreements may need to be updated: no glitter, no confetti. HCPRD will keep their deposits and may not let them rent the facility in the future. John Bailey would like some police presence at the youth football games during the heavy usage of the park. Park Rangers were not funded in this year’s budget. The County did not want the budget to increase. Associations should be monitoring the parking lot hourly. JP is addressing issues. Half of the youth football

season remains. JP does have a plan to finish the season strong and has plans for the next season to improve it. Currently, elite teams are in different leagues. Associations that do not monitor their programs will be given reprimands and may be replaced.

Department Reports:

Reports were emailed to the Board. JP gave a report. The County wanted a second location to consider for the Aquatic Center location. Cotton Fields Golf Course is being considered. It would not eliminate the golf course. It would be an 18 Hole Par 3 or Executive Course. The buildings at the golf course need to be renovated.

We received approval to move forward with some capital projects: renovate restrooms, concession, score boxes at JP Moseley Park; redo concrete near ballfields; new tennis courts and pickleball courts are being used a lot. The new restroom/concession building will be delivered this week at Hidden Valley Park.

Warren Holder Park – install new bench, shade structure, and concrete pad.

Avalon Park – install new industrial fencing, replacing residential fencing.

Mt. Carmel Park – floor plan rendering for District II Recreation Center received.

Nash Farm Park – group will soon do fishing and archery out of there; Barn renovation to Blackbox theatre underway; new playground (waiting delivery and installation), fence and corporate pavilion (in design stage to be ready weather permitting Summer 2022). All part of the Nash Farm Master Plan.

Village Park – redid Splash Pad with safety flooring but cannot turn on until permit is received from DPH – we now need a phone hardline there. We are working toward that issue and will request a variance. A shade structure over the exercise equipment will be installed. Will correct drainage issue at playground and building between football fields - Stormwater is looking into this.

Cochran Park buildings and restrooms will be renovated.

New vehicles on order and old equipment will be replaced.

North Ola Park just finished renovating concession.

Sandy Ridge Park - new playground and fencing installed. Will do work on the BMX track.

Heritage Park – Jason T Harper Event Center roof needs to be replaced soon (bid out, then 180 days weather permitting).

Some city/county parks and have an SDS agreement between the entities. Cities need to repay a portion of their impact fees to the County for improvements to the parks. The cities collect those fees from their developers.

FY'22 – Richard Craig Park Tennis (go out to bid, then 180 days weather permitting) and lighting.

Alexander Park - lighting will need to be addressed with the City and County.

Tanger Station - lower end lighting needs to be addressed. JP is working with the City of Locust Grove on that issue.

Many rentals are down due to the restrictions listed in the Declaration of State of Local Emergency for rentals during Covid. Declaration restrictions may be extended through the end of November.

JP introduced new staff member: Thomas White, Special Events Coordinator.

Public Comments:

Tyron Williams addressed the Board. Tyron Williams had an 8-year-old participant that got sick prior to playing in a game. He is now on life support. Thoughts and prayers are with him and the family.

Caniece Haywood, Above the Net addressed the Board regarding Richard Craig Park tennis court improvements and timelines. JP advised 4 to 6 courts will be resurfaced and the lighting will be addressed in 90 – 120 days weather pending, etc. Tennis may be considered for Cotton Fields if funding becomes available with

the aquatic center relocating to the golf course. The tennis court area at Warren Holder Park ADA access issue is being addressed. The tennis courts will be addressed after that project. A shade structure with benches will go in at the poured surface area.

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 9:48 a.m.

Donna Holder, Administrative Coordinator

Date of approval