

**Hart County Recreation Department
Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
November 21, 2023**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Bob Frye

Present: Lonnie Robinson, Steve Wehunt, Erin Gaines, and Kay Ankerich

Staff Present: Jim Owens, Recreation Director

Approval of the agenda: Mr. Wehunt motion to approve. A second was given by Mr. Robinson. Vote: 5-0.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes from October 17. Mrs. Ankerich gave a second. Vote: 5-0. Mrs. Ankerich made a motion to approve the minutes of October 30. Mr. Wehunt gave a second. Vote: 5-0.

Invited Guest: None.

Chairman's Report:

Board Member Reports: Mr. Robinson wants a work session to discuss future SPLOST projects. Mrs. Ankerich asked about re-painting the parking lot lines in the park. Mrs. Ankerich also asked about signs being installed to keep people from parking next to the pavilions. Mrs. Ankerich also asked about installing surveillance cameras in the parks.

Director's Report: Director Owens gave an update on Youth Basketball uniforms and a picture of the jersey mockup. Director Owens informed the Board about repairs made to the Boy Scout Hut and the Creek Pavilion retaining wall. A report was given on the youth basketball registration numbers and teams. 86 players total. Director Owens informed the Board about ongoing Civic Rec registration software training. Director Owens gave an update on the Pickleball/Tennis court bathrooms replacement building.

Old Business: Mr. Wehunt made a motion to take the Kyle Whalen situation off the table. Mr. Robinson gave a second. Vote: 5-0. Mrs. Ankerich gave a motion to change the punishment. Mr. Frye gave a second. A call for a vote was asked for. Mrs. Ankerich and Mr. Frye voted in favor to amend. Chairman Frye said "it failed" and did not call for those against was not asked for.

New Business: Director Owens gave out information about Parents/Spectator Code of Conduct. Mr. Robinson asked if this will be connected to the NGYFA. Director Owens informed the Board that NGYFA will be discussing this issue at their next meeting. No action was taken and will be on the next meeting agenda. In the last meeting Mrs. Ankerich asked to discuss the Recreation Departments position on vaping in the parks. Director Owens suggested that the RAB recommend to the BOC to change the No Smoking Policy to include No Vaping. Mrs. Ankerich motioned to recommend to the BOC that "No Vaping" be added to the County's No Tobacco/No Smoking policy. A second was given by Mrs. Gaines. Vote: 5-0.

A motion by Mr. Wehunt was given to appoint Perries Rucker to be a coach in the 8U Boys league. Mr. Robinson gave a second. Vote: 5-0. A motion was given by Mrs. Ankerich gave a motion to appoint Mr. Jonathon Durrett, Reggie Leverette, and Timothy Thomas as coaches for the 10U Boys teams. Vote: 5-0. A motion was given by Mr. Mrs. Ankerich to appoint Thaddeus Durrett to coach the 12U Boys team. Mr. Wehunt gave a second. Vote: 5-0. A motion was made by Mrs. Gaines to do away with the Block System for player participation. Mrs. Ankerich gave a second. Vote: 5-0. A motion was made by Mrs. Gaines to appoint Ashley McNeill as a coach for the 8U Girls team. A second was given by Mrs. Ankerich. Vote: 5-0. A motion was

made by Mr. Robinson to appoint Cherry Maddox to coach the Girls 10U team. A second was given by Mr. Wehunt. Vote: 5-0.

A motion was given By Mr. Wehunt to reappoint Mr. Frye. A second was given by Mr. Robinson. Vote: 4-0 with Mr. Frye abstaining. A motion was given By Mr. Robinson to reappoint Mrs. Ankerich. A second was given by Mr. Wehunt. Vote: 4-0 with Mrs. Ankerich abstaining. A motion was given By Mrs. Gaines to reappoint Mr. Robinson. A second was given by Mrs. Ankerich. Vote: 4-0 with Mr. Robinson abstaining. A motion was given by Mrs. Ankerich to appoint Mason Bowers as a new member to the RAB. A second was given by Mr. Robinson. Vote: 4-0 with Mr. Wehunt abstaining. These are the recommendations of the RAB to the BOC.

A motion was made to forgo the December meeting by Mr. Wehunt. A second was given by Mr. Robinson. Vote: 5-0.

Public Comment: Mr. Kyle Whalen spoke about his situation. Ms. Whalen also spoke her piece. Mr. Frye said we need to back up to where a vote was taken on the Whalen issue. Mr. Frye said he asked for those in favor of an amendment but did not ask for those opposed or who might abstain. After some discussion Mr. Frye asked the members for those who were opposed. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Wehunt voted to oppose. Mrs. Gaines abstained.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Ankerich. A second was given by Mrs. Gaines.

Minutes by James A. Owens, CPRP
Recreation and Parks Director

Next scheduled meeting: January 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Clay Street Park HYDRA Room. Meeting time may be changed due to circumstances. Notification will be given as soon as possible in the event of a change.