**Hart County Recreation Department**

**Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**

**January 22, 2018**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Bob Frye, Chairman. He welcomed new Board Member Jeff Meitz to his first meeting.

**Present:** Bob Frye, Steve Wehunt, Lonnie Robinson, Bill Fogerty, Erin Gaines, and Jeff Meitz.

**Staff Present:** Jim Owens, Recreation Director

**Guest Present:**  B.O.C. Member Marshall Sayer, Mr. and Mrs. Monte Harper

Lonnie Robinson made a motion to amend the agenda to include the election of officers. Second by Erin Gaines. Vote: 6-0

**Nominations for Officers:** Steve Wehunt nominated Bob Frye. Lonnie Robinson gave a second. Lonnie Robinson motioned to close nominations. Erin Gaines gave a second. Vote: 5-0.

Bill Fogerty nominated Erin Gaines for Vice Chairman. Steve Wehunt nominated Lonnie Robinson for Vice Chairman. Lonnie Robinson made a motion to close the nominations. Steve Wehunt gave a second. Mr. Robinson and Bill Fogerty voted for Erin Gaines. Steve Wehunt, Jeff Meitz, and Erin Gaines for Lonnie Robinson. Vote: 3-2.

**Approval of the minutes:** A motion was made by Steve Wehunt and a second by Bill Fogerty to approve the minutes of 12/19/16. Vote: 6-0.

**Chairman’s Report:** Mr. Frye informed the Board of a formal complaint that had been made against a youth basketball coach. Director Owens suspended the individual that the complaint was made for one (1) calendar year from all Hart County Recreation and Parks Department facilities and programs. The effective dates January 22, 2018 through January 21, 2019. Chairman Frye asked for a copy of the Recreation Department current budget.

Director Owens mentioned to the Board that former Mr. Bill Granger had passed away on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Fogerty informed the Board of the arrangements.

**Board Member’s Reports:**

*Lonnie Robinson:* Mr. Robinson asked about the 9U Girls basketball schedule and the number of games. Director Owens informed him that one more game will be scheduled for that age group. Mr. Robinson asked if a one-day football camp could be programmed during the summer to allow Hart County kids to attend so they would not have to travel elsewhere for this type of camp. Director Owens said he would look into this. Mr. Robinson asked about the lighting for the tennis courts and the status of the repair. Director Owens informed the Board about the time-line for the reconstruction of those courts. Mr. Robinson asked about the steps outside the Recreation Building. Director Owens said a contractor has been selected and the project should be started soon. Mr. Robinson wanted to go on record to say he would like the steps to include a handicapped accessible ramp as well. Mrs. Gaines concurred.

*Steve Wehunt*: None

*Bill Fogerty*: Mr. Fogerty asked to get more information on the potential coaches. He wanted to get past applications, with their backgrounds, and any other information on those coaches. Mr. Fogerty asked for more background information on potential coaches. Mr. Frye mentioned there is not much more information on our volunteer application. Mr. Robinson mentioned he would like to see a more in-depth background checks and potentially outsourcing the background checks. Mr. Fogerty spoke on supplemental funding. Mr. Fogerty said,” he had not done any research at all other that looking at magazines and the newspaper. Mr. Fogerty mentioned that Boing had given 5.3 million in North Carolina to various groups. Mr. Fogerty mentioned that Director Owens gave him information from the USTA about tennis court reconstruction. Mr. Fogerty also mentioned Georgia Power and Hart EMC and their philanthropy. Chairman Frye recommended Mr. Fogerty do more research on these potential funding sources. He declined. Chairman Frye said “looks like it falls back on you Jim.” Director Owens agreed to look into this.

Would like to get more information on coaches applying for coaching positions in HCRPD programs. Mr. Fogerty also spoke about matching grants from companies in our area and how could we get some of this money for the Recreation Department.

*Erin Gaines:* None

*Cecil Marett:* absent

*Jeff Meitz:* None

**Director’s Report:** Director Owens reported on the youth basketball program. Director Owens informed the Board about upgrades to some facilities and plans for the upcoming month. Opening Day of Little League is March 17, 2018, this year.

**Old Business:** Chairman Frye suggested that a few members get together and come up with a recommendation for park rules and bring them back to the full board for recommendation. Mr. Fogerty asked how these park rules will be enforced. Mr. Wehunt and Mr. Frye offered to help put together the list for recommendation to the R.A.B.

Chairman Frye asked about the preparation of the 2018/2019 Budget. Mr. Frye, Mr. Fogerty, and Mrs. Gaines offered to work as a committee to work on the upcoming budget.

**New Business:** GRPA Tournaments for youth sports. Director Owens investigated the possibility of Hart County entering teams in some of these tournaments for post season play. Director Owens found out that the GRPA Tournaments dates coincide with our program and in-house tournament.

Little League Facility Use Agreement: Changes or Clarifications are:

V Section B: **During LESSOR holidays, the fields will not prepared for games or practices by**

**LESSOR staff. If games are scheduled the AGENCY is responsible for field preparation. Hand tools, line painter with**

**paint, and a line chalk machine with chalk will be provided.**

V Section E: **No vehicles will be allowed inside the complex while an event is underway. This includes**

**golf carts.**

V Section N: **The AGENCY will schedule practices and games, as much as possible, during daylight**

**hours to assist the LESSOR with cost cutting practices (ie: not using lights as much as possible).**

Erin Gaines made a motion to accept the Facility Use Agreement as written for the Little League 2018 season. A second was given by Bill Fogerty. Vote: 6-0.

Barnes Academy Facility Use Agreement: No changes.

Jeff Meitz made a motion to accept the Facility Use Agreement as written for the Barnes Academy 2018 season. A second was given by Lonnie Robinson. Vote: 6-0.

Director Owens informed the Board of the meeting with the Property Owners Association from January 15. He also informed the Board of the upcoming meeting. Director Owens will be speaking to the Kiwanis Club on 2/5, to the Rotary Club on 2/8. To the Lions Club on 2/12, and to the Hartwell Service League on 2/13. He will be speaking about the Recreation and Parks Department parks and the future direction of the department. On March 6 there will be a 2 meetings at the Clay Street Park Community Room. These meetings will be facilitated by Archway and Anna Strickland along with UDA students. These meetings are part of the Long Range Master Plan update.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Monte Harper asked about the S.P.L.O.S.T. projects for recreation and what were the priorities of those projects. Mrs. Harper asked if the recreation department could provide more programming for the community and for residents other than just kids.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Lonnie Robinson. A second was provided by Erin Gaines. Vote: 6-0.

Minutes by James A. Owens

Recreation and Parks Director

Cc: Terrell Partain, County Administrator

Next scheduled meeting: February 19, 2018, at 6:00 pm at the Clay Street Park Community Room. Meeting time may be changed due to circumstances. Notification will be given as soon as possible in the event of a change.