

**St. Tammany Parish Recreation District #4  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**Minutes**

**June 2, 2021**

**6:30 pm**

Present: Chairman Al Hamauei, Vice Chairman Gerrin Narcisse (entered meeting at 7:15), Wendy Batiste, Jimmy Laurent and Shannon Menard

Absent: Antoinette Wright

Counsel: Laurie Pennison (Board Attorney), Emily Couvillon (Parish Council District Attorney)

Guests: Jackie Schneider

Minutes: March and April 2021 minutes were tabled by a motion by Jimmy Laurent and second by Wendy Batiste. All present in favor and motion passed.

Financial Report: Discussion on numerous expenses that include \$2,900 for the new website, part-time night and maintenance workers being paid through Netchex's as per Jordan, profit and loss issues. Laurent asked about bank balances and expenses. Hamauei stated that nearly half the budget goes to employee wages and benefits. Jordan to set up conference call with Laporte CPAs. Motion to approve by Menard and second by Laurent. All present in favor and motion passed.

Director's Report: Jordan Johnson stated that we joined the St. Tammany Chamber, there will be a Sock Hop in June, T-Ball has started, Tri-Parish Roofing has become a sponsor, nothing happening with the Methodist Church, Dance Camp and Basketball will start this summer, State Treasurer Schroeder will help with basketball court and that it was fine to just put the concrete slab in first and then the covering could come later, working on grants from NBA and Drew Brees. The Blood Bank and the Food Bank will be working with him to establish MOUs for their events. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has sited the Park and Keller Field for not having discharge permits. He will be working on correcting this issue and he will obtain extensions in order to complete this task

timely. Academy Sports will also be a sponsor for the District. He will be attending a Conference in September and will give us the details soon.

Both attorneys commented on the DEQ issue and Johnson was asked to send Pennison all documents pertaining to this issue.

## Old Business

The **Emergency Plan** was sent to the Board by Pennison, for their review over the next few weeks. This document has all the information about our employees in it and it is for internal use only but it can be obtained by a "Public Records Requests". Motion to table by Batiste and seconded by Laurent. All present in favor and motion passed.

**Basketball Court** was discussed and the proposal was submitted by Paul Dimitriou. The complete slab costs would be \$169,000 and the entire covering project will be \$380,000. He told the Chairman that you can do the slab first and do the covering later as long as you meet all requirements he stated in his proposal.

## **Narcisse enter the room at 7:15**

**Arborist Proposals** were discussed and reviewed. Pennison stated that we need monitoring of our trees as that would be the prudent thing to do at this time since the playground was put under the tree canopy. Laurent said the wind has been very strong and we need this monitoring and this is a liability issue in his opinion. Narcisse questioned the need for monitoring and asked what other parks do in a case like this. After review of numerous proposals a motion made by Laurent and seconded by Batiste to offer the job to Michael Thornton. All present in favor and motion passed.

**Walking Trail** from the Trace to the Park was obtained by Councilman Jimmie Davis at cost of \$75,000. The NEW estimated cost of the entire project from the Trace to the Park was estimated at \$220,000. Johnson stated that the State will give us a \$90,000 grant and another \$22,500. Based on those numbers we would be over \$32,000 short on this project.

Johnson will set up a call with the State, himself and Hamauei to discuss this further. Laurent stated that he was very concerned about change orders in situations like this.

The Board discussed Johnson obtaining bids on a small lawnmower. And Johnson will be working on obtaining a Grant writer.

**Millage Documents** were read in full by Hamauei **“Not to roll the millage forward”**. Motion was made by Laurent and seconded by Batiste to approve the resolutions. All present in favor and motion passed. The meeting was opened to public comment and there was none. Hamauei signed all documents.

**A discussion began on an Adult Men and Adult Women’s Softball League.** Johnson commented that we have tried in the past with little success. It was stated that if we do form this league they would have to follow the rules just like anyone else. Registration would be set up and fees would have to be paid. Motion was made by Batiste and seconded by Laurent that Johnson would begin the process of starting this league and report back to the Board regularly about its progress. All present in favor and motion passed.

It was stated that Board Member Steve Muller and Secretary Sharon Delong resigned. Hamauei asked for any recommendations for replacements to be sent to him.

A motion by Narcisse and second by Menard to go into Executive Session. All present in favor and motion passed.

Executive Session held.

A motion by Laurent and second by Batiste to go back into Open Session. All present in favor and motion passed.

A motion by Laurent and second by Batiste to put in the file of **Director Jordan Johnson Reprimand** as to his actions in an employee matter. The file will include the complete timeline document of events that took place over a period of months. This complete document was prepared by Board attorney Laurie Pennison. Johnson will be able to put his response in the file if he so desires. All

present in favor and motion passed. The Board Chairman thanked the District Attorney's representative attorney Emily Couvillon and our Board attorney Laurie Pennison for all their work on this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm by a motion of Batiste and seconded by Laurent. All present in favor and motion passed.