

## PONCHATOULA AREA RECREATION DISTRICT #1

### CHAIRMAN AND BOARD

The PARD # 1 held a regular meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2017. Rocquin called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. and the roll was called.

Present: Byers, Fletcher, Palmer, Rocquin

Absent: Kennedy

Guest: Erick Bertrand, Pyrotechnico

Ronnie Rocquin requested Pyrotechnico to be allowed to address the board regarding the 2017 Firework Show. Erick Bertrand, show producer, were present to discuss the proposed Pyrotechnico professional firework show. Bertrand stated Pyrotechnico is a local company from Abita Spring, Louisiana with 125 years of experience in the business. They offer the best technology, techniques and safety with special effects in the business. Show will be unique and precise, paired with lower levels and high levels, barrages of red, white and blue shells and end with a strong finale. Bertrand recommended a multi layers and frontage with barrage boxes to amplify excitement. Rocquin thank Bertrand for his time.

After review of the January 19, 2017 regular meeting minutes, Fletcher made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Byers seconded the motion. There being no discussion, all board members present were in favor the motion passed.

After a review of the financial provided by Martin, Palmer made motion to accept the financial review report. Fletcher seconded the motion and all board members present were in favor and the motion passed.

Under the Chairman's report, Rocquin discussed the Firework Show. Bids are in from Artisan Pyrotechnics and Pyrotechnico and a third bid is expected from J& M Fireworks. Rocquin discussed to meet on March 9 to allow time for final decision on firework show and to review insurance policy renewals. All were in agreement and the regular board meeting will be held on March 9, 2017 at 6:30

Stevens reported the Dedication of Baseball Complex in honor of Julian Dufreche. Dufreche was the districts's founder and first chairman of PARD and laid the foundation for the park we have today. A bronze plaque in honor of Julian Dufreche will be dedicated on the opening day of the 2017 Baseball Season.

Stevens stated internet drops were installed by Advanced Telecom. Fence project will be completed by baseball season. Doors and blinds are installed in the Events Building and exteriors doors were painted. Reports on the pond is good, catching white porch fish at this time. Soil samples are good, pH good with a slight increase in sodium. Minimum adjustment to fields for this year. Adult Softball may not

have a league this year. Not much interest in Friday night will try Sunday afternoon. Timeclocks were installed on lights in parking lots. Lights will no longer need to be manually turned on and off.

Byers discussed repairs to batting cage. Stevens will have crew repair them.

Strawberry Festival requested rental of gym for 2018. Fletcher suggested to check with basketball board to see if they would agree to break after regular season for one week before playoff. Fletcher suggested they move Strawberry Ball to after basketball season.

Rocquin read the athletics coordinator report prepared by Tisha Smith.

Ponchatoula Adult Basketball start date has been set for May 31. Games will be on Wednesday nights in June and July. The youth basketball will not have practice or games the week of Feb 27-Mar.4 due to Mardi Gras Holiday and the Strawberry Festival Ball. Registration is ongoing until March for the Ponchatoula Youth Baseball/Softball. Plans are in place for an Arts Craft Show later this year.

Rocquin suggested walk-in registration Saturday for baseball. Byers will confirm with baseball board dates for the walk in registration. PARD staff will assist at that time.

2017 annual debt service on revenue bonds will be due in March. Payments are scheduled to Regions and Whitney Bank. Insurance renewal will be discussed at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Palmer made a motion to adjourn. Byers seconded the motion. There being no discussion, all board members present were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p. m.

Ronnie Rocquin, Chairman

Charlotte Martin, Secretary