

PONCHATOULA AREA RECREATION DISTRICT #1

CHAIRMAN AND BOARD

The PARD # 1 held a regular meeting on Thursday, August 17, 2017. Rocquin called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. and the roll was called.

Present: Byers, Fletcher, Kennedy, Rocquin

Absent: Palmer

Guest: J. Stevens, J. Hatfield

Ronnie Rocquin asked to begin the meeting with guest, Jim Hatfield. Hatfield discussed clearing out of drainage canal and debris along banks of PARD and his personal property line. Hatfield suggested to clear both sides of drainage canal and remove lump bamboo planted on PARD property line. Rocquin explain the purpose of the bamboo planted on the PARD property was to service as barrier for drainage canal. Hatfield requested opening the view between PARD and his property to deter thief he recently experienced on his property. The board discussed trimming bamboo to maintain the barrier and allowing visibility or to remove and add fence. Byers and Fletcher agreed parish drainage district should be contacted and are responsible for maintain of canal. Rocquin will contact drainage board and parish council for assistance in clearing project. Hatfield thanked the board for the time.

After review of the July 20, 2017 regular meeting minutes, Kennedy made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Byers seconded the motion. There being no discussion, all board members present were in favor and the motion passed.

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

Rocquin announced PARD Employee Handbook is now under review by Drake and any questions about the handbook should be addressed directly to Drake. All PARD job descriptions will be included in the handbook.

Stevens stated new score boards for football and baseball fields are in production. No definite date of deliver at this time, delivery not expected in time for this year football season. Football scoreboards will be the first to be installed, baseball second. Current football scoreboard are under repair by Netco and will be operational for start of season. Automatic lift and safety belts on basketball goals in gym are scheduled for inspection within the next few weeks.

Rocquin read the Youth Sports Program report prepared by Tisha Smith. Youth softball, baseball and volleyball registration will close August 28, 2017. Football practices will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Jamboree is scheduled for Saturday, August 26th. Adult basketball season ends August 9th. Adult Pickleball will be available on Monday and Wednesday morning from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm starting August 2.

Rocquin shared the PARD brochure currently underway for print. Brochure features specialties of the Ponchatoula Area Recreation District - Pete's Lake with pier for fishing and feeding ducks, inside walking track, two playground areas with activities for young children, gymnasium court for recreational league basketball and volleyball. Two football fields and 12 baseball fields for recreational leagues for children of all ages, pavilions and event building for social events. Brochures will be available in the business office and on display in the gym.

Rocquin informed the board Smith will attend the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Convention in New Orleans, September 27-28, 2017.

Under the Park Manager report, Stevens report the American flags inside park were stolen. Ropes were cut from the poles and flags removed. Plans are in place for utility bucket truck to re-thread poles and replace flags. After summer and spring season baseball fields were restored with over 60 cubic yard of mansion sand.

Board discussed growth of willow trees and bamboo inside park and agreed on the need to clear out overgrowth is more than just esthetics. All agreed ussed the need to remove bamboo or lower existing bamboo. Fletcher suggested removal of bamboo to install a fence rather than to maintain growth. Stevens will research options for removal.

Board discussed upcoming Benefit for Williams. PARD donating the facility and Strawberry Fest board will prepared food.

Rocquin informed the board softball infields will be raise for this season, crimson removed and clay installed.

Fletcher made a motion to adjourn. Kennedy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, all board members present were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p. m.

Ronnie Rocquin, Chairman

Charlotte Martin, Secretary