

Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
Ponchatoula Area Recreation District No. 1  
19030 Ponchatoula Park Dr.  
Ponchatoula, LA 70454  
*Thursday, March 15, 2018*  
*6:30 p.m.*

- I. Call to Order: Eldrid Palmer, Jr., Chairman  
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eldrid Palmer, Jr. at 6:36 p.m.
  
- II. Roll Call: Terry Byers (P), Greg Fletcher (P), Roger Kennedy (P), Eldrid Palmer (P), Ronald Rocquin (P)  
  
Visitors: Jim Ryan, Ernie Drake, Michael Holly, Mark Becker, Bill Wheat, Jacob Stevens
  
- III. Approval of Minutes: February 15, 2018 Meeting: After review it was motioned by Greg Fletcher and seconded by Roger Kennedy to approve the minutes of February 15, 2018.
  
- IV. Approval of Financial: February 15 to March 14, 2018: After review it was motioned by Terry Byers and seconded by Greg Fletcher approving financials. Motion passes.  
Roll Call: Ayes-Terry Byers, Greg Fletcher, Roger Kennedy, Eldrid Palmer, Ronald Rocquin  
Nays-None, Abstain-None, Absent-None
  
- V. Old Business:
  - a. Gym: Michael Holly and Mark Beckers  
Mr. Beckers, architect with Holly & Smith, discussed preliminary plan and concept for additional gym. The board addressed revisions and discussed other design aspects of court layout, concession stand, handicap parking, collapsible bleachers, and exterior design. Palmer stated board would continue to review plans for gym facility and will meet again with Holly & Smith prior the next board meeting.
  
  - b. Land Purchase: Ernie Drake  
Drake announced purchase agreement of \$10,000 had been accepted for the purchase of neighboring property infringing encroached on walking track. Arrangement are in place for a survey before the agreement is finalized. Motion made by Greg Fletcher, seconded by Ronnie Rocquin to accept purchase agreement of \$10,000. and approval to proceed with the property survey.  
  
Roll Call: Ayes-Terry Byers, Greg Fletcher, Roger Kennedy, Eldrid Palmer, Ronald Rocquin  
Nays-None, Abstain-None, Absent-None  
  
Drake will prepared agreement for chairman to sign and make arrangement to have property surveyed.

VI. New Business:

a. Financial Consultant: Jim Ryan

Ryan shared a brief summary of financial recommendations relating to the additional gym facility and financing of capital outlay projects. The board and Ryan reviewed current operating budget and discussed remaining years on ad valorem tax. Ryan identified issuance of revenue bonds and the authority of the State Bond Commission for approval of bonds. He confirmed saving from the refinance of bonds in 2015 was a sound financial decision and positioned the park in a financial position for the gym facility. He recommended board begin the approval process with Parish Council, Louisiana State Bond Commission, and Registered Municipal Advisors for purchase of Bonds, stating the board would not incur any expense at this time and it would take approximately four months for completion of the process. Palmer thanked Ryan for his financial guidance and said plans to consider a resolution will be presented at the April Board Meeting.

Other business brought before the Board: Bill Wheat

Expressed his appreciation to board members and the special efforts of all the staff.

VII. Reports:

a. Athletics' Coordinator:

Board reviewed Athletics Coordinator report read by Stevens on activity of Ponchatoula Youth Baseball/Softball League and Basketball Association. Smith and Assistant Program Coordinator, Marie Lewis, plan to attend the Louisiana Recreation and Park Association (LRPA) Conference March 19-22 and will update board at the April meeting.

b. Park Manger's Report: Jacob Stevens

Stevens announced April 7, 2018 Opening Day for baseball ceremony planned on Lee's Landing Field. Baseball and softball practices start next week, fields are in good conditions and ready for the season. He announced quotes are being reviewed for resurfacing of walking track around the park.

VIII. Chairman Remarks: Eldrid Palmer

Palmer emphasized the excellent condition of the baseball/softball fields and thanked Stevens for is efforts. He announced ongoing plans for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Firework Show and ask for any suggestions for the upcoming event.

IX. Public Comments: NONE

Adjournment: There was a motion by Terry Byers and seconded by Greg Fletcher to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes-Terry Byers, Greg Fletcher, Roger Kennedy, Eldrid Palmer, Ronald Rocquin

Nays-None, Abstain-None, Absent- None

Eldrid Palmer, Jr., Chairman

Charlotte Martin, Executive Secretary