

**COMMUNITY CENTER AND PLAYGROUND
DISTRICT 4 WARD 1
MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 20TH,2023**

The meeting was called to order by Bill Willis at 6:00pm.

Board Members in attendance: Connie Hoffpauir, David Nixon, Theo Chantlin, Bill Sommers, and Bill Willis (Theo entered the meeting at 6:05pm)

In attendance: David Brossett- Brossett Architect, Tyler Theunissen – Hornsby Sports Turf, Troy Romero – Sports Turf, Robert Miller – M&M Lawn and Irrigation, Ben Lofton - M&M Lawn and Irrigation, David Flores - M&M Lawn and Irrigation, Bobby Boom-MB Youth Soccer League, Courtney Boom-MB Youth Soccer League, Madison Sommers – MB Youth Soccer/MBLL, Paul Burgess- Calcasieu Soccer Club, Cody White- MBLL, Billy Sommers- MBLL, William Wilcox, John Todd, Toni Wilcox, and Richard Dow

Prayer/Pledge: Prayer was led by Connie Hoffpauir; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by board members.

Police Jurors Comments: No Police Jurors in Attendance.

Visiting Guest Agenda Items: Board recognizes David Brossett with Brossett Architect. Brossett stated the Maintenance Shop Restoration drawings have been furnished. Bill W. asked if any additional outlets will be added to the shop. Brossett stated yes, there will be some additional outlets added to the shop. The metal on the outside will be replaced. David asked what the timeline would be for the Maintenance Shop. Brossett stated the next steps is approval to advertise for 30 days. Once bids are received, the low bid will be accepted, then contracts can be signed/approved. David asked if the additional electrical can be broken down as an alternative scope. Brossett stated that would be no problem.

David made a motion to give permission for Brossett Architect to advertise the Moss Bluff Recreation Maintenance Shop Repairs Project with the bid process to include replacement in-kind and an option for the electrical upgrades. Seconded by Connie. Motion passed unanimously.

Brossett presented the Board with the awning/canopy ideas. He stated it will be a fabric canopy, one on the first base side and one on the third base side. There will be some space between the canopy and the dugout. Brossett stated one of the biggest questions are the size and number of the bleachers. David stated for fields four, five and seven - ten the proposed drawings would be adequate but for fields one – three, he would like something that would make good use of that space. Brossett explained we do have a vision for the space between fields one, two, and three. It would possibly be a two-story covered viewing area with big fans. Bill W. stated he has concerns about the size of the canopies not being enough covered space. Bill W. would like to look at options for the bleachers due to people sitting in chairs in front of the bleachers, the first row of the bleachers is useless with the standard bleachers. Connie asked if the structure of the canopies is attached to the fence. Brossett replied the structure is not attached to the fence. Connie asked Brossett to get an estimate on the canopies vs. the metal awning. Theo asked what the life expectancy for the canopies is. Brossett stated approximately seven to ten years. David suggested wrapping the canopies from dugout to dugout.

Next, Brossett presented the Board with the Pickle Ball Court ideas. He proposed six courts, fenced in with lighting. He stated he envisioned the pickle ball courts on the

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north side of the old football field. Bill W. stated some of the courts he has seen have a low fence between each of the courts. Brossett stated some courts have fences and some don't have the fence. The courts with fences will require more space. Bill W. expressed concerns about putting the pickle ball courts on the north end of the old football field area such as parking issues. Brossett stated it was an idea to have the pickleball courts located on the south end of the old football field next to the open-air gym. Bill W. asked the Board for feedback on moving the pickleball courts to the Jones Rd facility. Bobby stated the south fields at the soccer complex should be for football. He stated Moss Bluff Youth Soccer League shared the complex with Moss Bluff Youth Football last year, but they have major safety concerns due to squeezing the fields closer together. David stated he feels the pickleball courts need to be at the main complex. The proposed idea is the courts would run north and south. Bill W. asked about seating. Brossett stated he has benches inside by each court. Connie asked to include spectator seating on the outside of the courts.

The Board then recognized Troy Romero with Sports Turf. Romero explained he started Sports Turf in 2008. Romero has done fields in Youngsville, Broussard, and LSU. He recently worked on the Iowa High School practice field. He sold the company to the Hornsby Brothers a little over a year ago. He still works as a consultant. Romero provided the Board with a proposal for field renovation for the main complex and Jones Rd complex. Romero stated the proposal is broken up by fields and options. The first options are infields only with Celebration Bermuda. The second option is adding a new irrigation system at the Main Complex. Due to not knowing the true status of the current irrigation system and with Musco coming in and running new wires and lines being cut, the recommendation is to put in a new irrigation system. Romero recommends head-to-head coverage with the new irrigation system. The third option is the complete field renovation. There will be cut out around the bases only. No cut out is needed for the pitching mound due to having artificial mounds. The prime time to due the fields would be March to Mid-October. David asked once the fields are complete, do they do the maintenance on the fields? Romero stated that the Hornby Bros can give a proposal on doing maintenance on the fields after they are completed. Bill S. asked what the warranty on the boosters for the irrigation system is. Tyler Theunissen with Hornsby Sports Turf stated they warranty them for one-year. The manufacturer's warranty depends on the parts and system. Theunissen stated field six is not included in the proposal. Romero stated fields would have to be prioritized because he doesn't think they can all be done by the end of September. Bill S. asked what the irrigation process is currently. Richard stated since the storm we do not have an irrigation system at the main complex. It was suggested that the Jones Rd complex field renovations start in February or March time frame. The Disposal cost on the Jones Rd proposal is optional, if the Park has a spot to put the materials that cost can be removed from the proposal. The irrigation works at the Jones Rd complex.

The Board recognized Robert Miller with M&M Lawn and Irrigation. Miller presented the Board with a proposal for the Main complex irrigation system repairs, infield renovations, and installation of a water well. Miller suggested installing a water well for the irrigation system at the main complex. He suggested researching the Parks water bill for the busy seasons over the past couple of years. Miller stated he knows some of the main lines did get compromised but the lines on the fields are salvageable for the irrigation system. David asked if Miller recalled when the system did work, was the coverage sufficient. Miller replied he felt the coverage was efficient for the fields but

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feels there is room if more need to be added. The proposal is to restore the system and upgrade the controllers. Bill W. asked where you would propose to install the water well. Miller replied possibly over by the old field six area. David asked if the decision was to do the water well later, would it affect anything. Miller replied no, the water well could be done at any time, but you could save cost by installing it now because of the boosters. Miller stated the field renovation proposal consists of removing the infield sod, installing topsoil where needed, to grade (infields) for positive drainage and install sod on ten fields. Connie asked if they had any references of fields they had previously done. Miller stated they do a lot of work for the City of Lake Charles and golf courses. He stated they do a lot of grading and drainage work. Bill S. asked if anyone remembered the irrigation system and how it worked in the past. David stated he feels fields one, two, and three have a relatively new system but other than that he doesn't remember the rest of the fields. Miller stated he remembers the irrigation system working. He stated he could look back at the records to see what repairs were done in the past years for the main complex. M&M also presented the Board with a proposal to fertilize the Jones Rd complex. David asked if August 1st the soccer/football fields will be in shape to host approximately 400 kids, is that what this proposal includes? Miller stated he would have to go back and revisit the Jones Rd complex to see how bad the weeds are on the fields. Lofton informed the Board; it will take approximately a year to go through all the cycles and seasons to get all the weeds out and fertilize. David asked if they had a 45-to-60-day window to get the fields in shape, could something be done? Miller replied not in 60 days due to the weeds. Bill asked them to reevaluate the Jones Rd fields to see if there is anything they can do to get the fields in shape in the next 60 days.

Next, the Board recognized Bobby Boom with Moss Bluff Youth Soccer League. Bobby stated this year Moss Bluff Youth Soccer League is looking to partner with Calcasieu Soccer Club. Bobby stated Calcasieu Soccer Club will allow more opportunities for the Moss Bluff youth to play soccer and offer more training opportunities for coaches. Boom stated he has concerns about the future of Moss Bluff Youth Soccer with several board members ready to move on and no longer having youth in the program. Paul Burgess is the Executive Director of the Calcasieu Soccer Club. He has served as the Executive Director for Calcasieu Soccer Club for the past 10 years. Calcasieu Soccer Club has a recreational program for ages 4 -17 years old. They also have a competitive program for ages 10-18 years old. The organization has approximately 1,400 youth members. Burgess feels combining the two organizations would give the youth more opportunities to grow. Bill asked Boom what the participant numbers for last season are. Boom stated they had 475 participants in Moss Bluff Youth Soccer League last season. Bill asked when does registration open for the upcoming season. Boom stated registration will open on July 1st. The Calcasieu Soccer Club is affiliated with the Louisiana Soccer Association. Connie asked if this partnership is for recreational soccer. Boom replied yes, its recreational with the offering of tournament soccer. Connie asked how Calcasieu Soccer Club is run. Burgess replied they have 2 full-time paid staff members, Kyra Williams (Administrator) and himself (Executive Director). They also have a 7-member Board of Directors. Connie asked how the Board Members are selected. Burgess stated Board members have a 2-year term and are voted on by the club membership. The club membership is the youth's parents. Courtney Boom stated they suggested to Calcasieu Soccer Club to possibly have a Moss Bluff Representative Board Member position on

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their board and continue to have a volunteer Moss Bluff Board to be on-site for practices and games. Burgess stated there is a possibility to amend their by-laws to add a Moss Bluff Representative Board Member position. Burgess stated he wants to do what he can to build trust with the Park Board, as well as our community moving forward.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the May 15th, 2023, meeting were presented to the Board.

Connie made a motion to accept the May 15th, 2023, minutes. Seconded by David. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report: Richard presented the board with the Year-to-Date budget reports. Capital Account 773 was at \$1,555,649.86. Community Center maintenance budget item 774 was \$2,568,541.85. Senior Center account 775 stood at \$989,213.80. The Board was reminded that some of the reports did not indicate the monies that were already allocated in awarded bids.

Committee Reports:

Park: Richard stated Star Services have been fantastic. We have had several A/C issues at the Main Complex and the Senior Center, they were able to come out and get them fixed. The field 11 shed has been reconstructed, the outside metal provided by K&J Development and Wills Electric came to restore power to field 4 and field 11 sheds. The Maintenance staff were able to fix a few leaks at the Main Complex. Nets of Texas will be out this week to fix field 9 backstop netting. They stated it was due to a few things such as hitting balls into the netting, people climbing on the netting and people putting things such as the field rake on the netting. Fields have been painted and the grass is cut once per week.

Office: Bill asked about rock for the parking lot at the Jones Rd Complex. Richard stated we found another company; they do not have the #57 gray limestone, but they do have #57 white limestone. Toni is working with the company to have the rock delivered next week. Bill stated he has concerns about the potholes in the parking lot at the Jones Rd complex due to the upcoming Red, White, and Boom event. Connie asked about signs. Richard stated we have installed field signs and no smoking signs. We are in the process of working on the memorial signs for the fields.

Senior Center: Richard stated the desk has been ordered. They will take 6-7 weeks to be delivered. Richard informed the Board; we have found a leak towards the back of the Senior Center property. He believes there was a sprinklers system back there and feels the leak may be due to a broken line. Bill asked about the CCOA Contract. Richard stated we have called and sent emails to the CCOA with no response.

Old Business:

Main Complex Lighting Project: Bill W. asked if all the lighting issues have been resolved. Brossett stated the last thing he heard was they needed to pull a line which should have already been done. Richard stated that originally the parking lot lights behind field three and five were not wired correctly. The parking lot lights only turn on

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when the field lights are on. Musco is aware of the issue and determining the best way to correct the issue. All other issues have been resolved.

Soccer/Football Field Lighting Project: Richard stated Justin Gautreaux from VSG Architects was not able to attend the meeting but did send an update on the Jones Road Project. Richard stated the poles have been installed. We are waiting for the breaker panel. The estimate for the breaker panel is Mid-October. Justin and Richard walked the project site earlier this week with the contractor and discussed the items that were missing or need to be addressed. Justin sent the following list to the contractor that needs to be completed. The electrical engineer will be on site at the end of the next weeks to complete his punch list that will be added to the list below. Justin spoke with Chani from Trahan Construction about the list, and she indicated that most of these items will be addressed next week.

- Fill holes at Geotech sample location, near Northeast corner of playing fields.
- Remove temporary fence and fill holes where stakes were driven in the ground.
- Remove excess construction materials from project site.
- Clear area for new power pole at South end of property.
- Provide Geotech soils report.
- Provide warranty information.
- Provide as-builts drawings.

FEMA/Hurricane Laura and Delta: Richard stated we are continuing to move forward with FEMA. There are some projects coming close but waiting on an insurance update before things can be completed.

Little League: Toni asked White for an update on the removal of the upside-down batting cage. White stated the company that they purchased the batting cage from needed more photos of the damaged batting cage. White stated someone was supposed to take it down yesterday, but something came up. White informed the Board that the plan is to have the upside-down batting cage removed within the week. White asked about the other batting cage. Toni stated the other batting cage will need to be taken down once the All-Stars teams are done.

New Business:

Maintenance Shop Repairs Advertisement: Update given earlier in the meeting.

Irrigation and Resurfacing of fields: David stated he has gotten very good feedback from the community on the progress the Park has made but the fields need a major overhaul. David asked with the dollar amount proposed; does this project need to go through the bidding process? Connie replied we will have to check with the Parish. David stated he feels this is something that needs to be done and done correctly. Bill S. asked if we would need an RFP with specific details. Bill W. replied yes, that will be needed. David stated he feels if we are going to do this investment in the fields, we need a new irrigation system installed. Bill W. stated he will speak with the Parish to see if an RFP is required, if a special meeting is needed it will be called to get the

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project moving forward. Bill W. is going to ask the Parish if this project can be done from the Maintenance account vs the Capital account.

**Connie made a motion that the Board go into executive session at 8:10PM Second by David. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Connie made a motion to rejoin the regular session at 8:22PM. Seconded by Theo. Motion passed unanimously.*

Bill S. asked what the relationship between the Park and the Leagues is. Bill W. explained the Park does not run any of the leagues. The Leagues are run separately. The Leagues are allowed to use the fields for recreation purposes. The Park maintains the facilities for the main complex, Jones Rd complex and the Senior Center. The CCOA runs the day-to-day events at the Senior Center.

Commissioner's Comments: The next regular meeting for the Board of Commissioners for the Community Center and Playground District 4 of Ward 1 is scheduled to be held Monday, July 17th, 6:00PM in an open-air conference room.

Connie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by David. Motion passed unanimously. 8:30PM

Minutes recorded and reported by Toni Wilcox.