

**COMMUNITY CENTER AND PLAYGROUND
DISTRICT 4 WARD 1
MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 15TH, 2024**

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

Board Members in attendance: Bill Willis, Connie Hoffpauir, and Bill Sommers

In attendance: David Brossett – Brossett Architect, William Wilcox, Mitch Robertson, Toni Wilcox, and Richard Dow

Prayer/Pledge: Prayer was led by Bill Willis; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by board members.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the March 18th, 2024, meeting were presented to the Board.

Connie made a motion to accept the March 18th, 2024 minutes. Seconded by Bill Sommers. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report: Richard presented the Board with the Year-to-Date budget reports. Capital Account 773 was at \$2,142,002.95. Community Center maintenance budget item 774 was \$4,341,302.78. Senior Center account 775 stood at \$1,127,750.30. 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 informed the Board that all the lawnmowers have been delivered. Maintenance staff have been doing a good job with maintaining the Main Complex lawn services. M&M Lawn & Irrigation have been maintaining the Jones Road Complex and Senior Cetner lawn service. Richard stated currently, we have no way to transport the mowers to the other facilities. Bix-Tex Trailers in Sulphur has sent a quote for a 20ft trailer with a spare tire. We are waiting for a few more quotes from other companies. The Parish is asking the trailer company to also take care of the title and license.

Connie made a motion to purchase a trailer to haul the mowers/other equipment; not to exceed a total of \$6,000.00. Motion was seconded by Bill Sommers. Motion passed unanimously.

Office: Richard stated Fire Safety has completed the yearly inspection, several extinguishers were replaced. The recent thunderstorm that came through the area last week has knocked down some trees. ProAct Tree Solutions will be here this week to cut, load, and haul off the broken/ leaning trees at the Main Complex. Bill Willis stated he received a call about a back gate being locked. Toni explained the Buddy Ball gate is opened for Buddy Ball Players when a Buddy Ball game is scheduled. Upon completion of the Buddy Ball game, the gate will be closed. The League has had several vehicles park in the reserved Buddy Ball parking area that were not participants of Buddy Ball. Connie asked if there is a sign posted at the gate. Toni stated there is one sign posted on the side of the gate.

Senior Center: Richard stated the Senior Center 2 millage tax, expires December 31st, 2025. After speaking with Maxine from the Parish, they are tentatively setting the millage renewal for the December 7th, 2024, election date.

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Capital Planning: The Board was presented with a list of possible capital spending projects. Some of the suggestions listed were a community center with basketball courts, covered pavilions, concrete parking, concession stand/storage for football, dog park, field resurfacing (Jones Road Complex), upgrade lighting on fields 1,2, & 4 (Jones Road Complex), canopies for bleacher areas (Main Complex), rebuild field 6 (Main Complex) and frisbee golf. Bill Willis asked Brossett for a cost estimate for a community center building with basketball courts. Bill Sommers stated he visited Ward 7 Recreation Community Center (Vinton) recently and was very impressed with their facility. The Ward 7 Recreation Community Center is 31,380 SF with a 1.5 basketball ball court gymnasium with permanent spectator seating, multipurpose hall, activity room, a meeting room, fitness room and a walking track. Easily accessible from the side entrance, the Multipurpose Hall allows for different functions, such as parties and receptions. The Hall is equipped with accordion doors to separate the space in half, along with direct access to a warming kitchen. Including its own dedicated restrooms, the Multipurpose Hall can be secured separately from the rest of the Recreational Center. The Center also includes administrative offices, storage, and spacious restroom. Bill Willis stated would like to get an estimate for the Jones Road Complex resurfacing of the fields and irrigation system, similar to the recent Main Complex baseball/softball fields resurfacing and irrigation project.

Old Business:

Maintenance Shop Repairs Project: Brossett stated the contractor is working on the punch list items for the Maintenance Shop Repairs Project. One of the outstanding items on the punch list is to replace the exhaust fan. The fan was supposed to be in last week and has not been received yet.

Pickleball Court Project: Brossett stated the notice to proceed was issued for April 11th, 2024. The completion date is set for October 9th, 2024, weather permitting (181 days). Gunter Construction started groundwork today.

Upcoming Projects Update: Batting Cages & Senior Center Repairs: Brossett stated they are working to finish up the drawing for the Senior Center Repairs. The project will be for storm damage repairs with an alternate for the non-storm damage repairs and upgrades. Bill Willis asked if at next month's meeting, Brossett will have the scope of work and drawings completed to be able to get a timeline together to move forward. Brossett stated he hopes to be ready to advertise at next month's meeting.

Brossett stated bids will be received for the Batting Cages Project on April 24th, 2024. The Pre-Bid meeting was held on April 12th. Brossett stated there are approximately 10 contractors on the list. The new batting cages will be a 3-bay batting cage on the west side and a 2-bay batting cage with an alternative option for a 3-bay batting cage in place of the 2-bay batting cage on the east side.

FEMA/Hurricane Laura and Delta: Richard stated we are continuing to work with FEMA.

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New Business:

Tournament Team Requirements Review: Toni presented the Board with tournament team requirements from other local parks. Ward 3 – Lake Charles Recreation rents the fields to tournament teams to practice if the Coach resides in Lake Charles with no deposit or fees. Ward 4 – Westlake Recreation makes all tournament teams pay a fee of \$200.00 per month with a minimum of 2 practices per week. Westlake does not allow tournament teams to practice during the Little League season. Sulphur Parks & Recreation require teams to roster at least 10 players, carrying no more than 4 Out-of-District players. Teams required to roster less than 10 players may carry no more than 2 Out-of-District players. Teams exceeding the number of Out-of-District players will not be eligible. Teams meeting all SPARS requirements are not charged any fees or deposits. Currently Moss Bluff Recreation requires tournament teams to meet the requirement of 2/3 of the team participants must reside in Ward 1. If the 2/3 rule is not met, the Park will have discretion to allow field usage to the requesting team. Once approved, teams are required to pay a damage deposit and submit a certificate of insurance. Bill Sommers asked if there is a tournament team practice schedule. Toni stated once a team is approved and has submitted all the required paperwork, the team is assigned a field and time to practice. During Little League Season, tournament team practices on the baseball/softball fields are scheduled on Sundays and Wednesdays.

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, May 20th, 6:00PM in an open-air conference room.

Bill Sommers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Connie. Motion passed unanimously. 6:50PM

Minutes recorded by and reported by Toni Wilcox.