

Ponchatoula Area Recreation District No. 1
19030 Ponchatoula Park Dr.
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
Conference Room - Gym
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 20, 2025
6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order: Terry Byers, Chairman

The public hearing was called to order by Terry Byers, at 6:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call: Terry Byers (P), Marshall Graves (A), Roger Kennedy (P), Patricia Landaiche (A), Kyle Mitchell (P)

Visitors: Letisha Smith, Mark Verbois, Sheka Quinn, Cadarius Mosley, Hanna

III. Approval of Minutes: December 13, 2024 Minutes

Motion by Kyle Mitchell

Seconded by Roger Kennedy

Favor: 3 Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0 Absent: 2

IV. Approval of Financials: January 1-31, 2025

Motion by Kyle Mitchell

Seconded by Roger Kennedy

Favor: 3 Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0 Absent: 2

V. Public / Guest Comments:

- a. Representatives from the Ponchatoula Basketball Association Board were present to inquire about having a summer league. Games would be on Saturdays with practices on Fridays in the month of June. They also felt the PARD Director was interfering with their program. The PARD Director pointed out issues that were occurring with the program. Kyle Mitchell suggested that they will look at how the rest of the season goes before they approve the summer league.

VI. Reports:

Director's Report – Mark Verbois

1. Verbois updated issue is being looked into and will be addressed. Wesley and Verbois are looking into lighting for the park.

Assistant Director Report- Tisha Smith

1. Smith reported on the upcoming events and activities from the Recreation Coordinator. She asked the board to confirm the date for the fireworks show and if they wanted to go with the same display as 2024. The board agreed that the fireworks show would be held on Friday, July 4, 2025, and they were happy with keeping the same display. James,

Lambert, and Riggs contacted Smith to see if PARD would be using them again for the audit if so they would send over the Engagement Agreement for Terry to sign. Brody who works for the CPA side of their office would be helping with the 2024 closeout to prepare for the audit. Smith then touched on the Recreation Coordinator's event, the Senior Social on Valentine's Day.

Facilities Director Report- Given by Mark Verbois

1. Fletcher reported that the elevator was back in working order, the gym roof and gutter repairs had been completed and the construction on the backstops for the center complex had already begun. He had included a written report of other upcoming projects in the board packet. Fletcher said if they have any questions to let him know. Fletcher updated the board on the new robotic painting machine we are leasing.

VII. Old Business:

- a. Inclusive Playground- There was nothing.
- b. Rentals-
- c. Rentals- Verbois presented a spreadsheet that includes the current field/gym rental fees with the proposed rental fees for Ponchatoula schools, in-district and out-of-district public. Verbois showed on his spreadsheet the fees from the Hammond Area Recreation District #1 to compare the differences. Verbois explained the issues we would have with the influx of people and the wear of the facilities if the fees were not enough to cover the uses. Byers and Landaiche felt that the fees could be lower. Mitchell suggested they table the rental fees until further comparisons could be made.

VIII. New Business- None

IX. Other Business- None

X. Chairman's Remark

- a. Byers thanked everyone for their time

XI. Adjournment:

Motion by Roger Kennedy Seconded by Kyle Mitchell

Favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Absent: 1

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Terry Byers, Board Chairman

Letisha Smith, Executive Secretary