

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:

- a. Director's Report – Mark Verbois

Verbois updated the board on the new conference room. There are four companies giving a bid for the plans. Once all the bids are in Verbois would like to set up a meeting with anyone who would like to be involved in the planning. The position for the new Sports Supervisor was posted and will close soon. Announced that an intern was hired to handle social media and marketing. Getting bids to update the park lights to change to led to brighten up the park for safety. Verbois spoke to someone with Hammond DDD to get an idea of what it cost them to develop a masterplan and what it consists of.

b. Assistant Director Report- Tisha Smith

The fireworks show contract was signed for the same show as last year. Byers signed the Audit engagement agreement. Smith reported that the Valentine's social was a success with nearly 70 attendees.

c. Facilities Director Report- Given by Mark Verbois

Baseball fields are being prepared for the upcoming season, the backstop project has been completed. Fletcher is getting prices to rekey the facilities. Fletcher is working to cancel the uniform contract with Cintas and moving forward with getting uniforms from Elite. Acquiring prices for fans in both pavilions, maintenance shop, and concession stands. Outlets have been added in the gym for the new monitors in the lobby and gym concession. Netting for the batting cage by the Events Building was delivered and should be completed by the middle of next week. New signs are being made for the batting cages. New Kubota is coming next week. Turf Tank has arrived and training is complete. Getting prices on golf carts. Purchasing new backstop padding and L-screens for batting cages.

VII. Old Business:

- a. Inclusive Playground- There was nothing.
- b. Rentals- Verbois presented another spreadsheet that includes the current field/gym rental fees with the new proposed rental fees. Byers still felt they could be lowered. The discussion was tabled.

VIII. New Business- None

IX. Other Business- None

X. Chairman's Remark

- a. Byers thanked everyone for their time and called for an executive session and asked for a motion.

Motion by Kyle Mitchell Seconded by Roger Kennedy

Favor: 3 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Absent: 2

Executive Session was called at 7:54 p.m.

Returned from executive session at 8:15 p.m.

XI. Adjournment:

Motion by Kyle Mitchell Seconded by Roger Kennedy

Favor: 3 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Absent: 2

Meeting adjourned at 8:16.

Terry Byers, Board Chairman

Letisha Smith, Executive Secretary