

The Parks and Recreation District 3 met in a regular meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the North Park Multipurpose Recreation Facility located at 30372 Eden Church Road in Denham Springs, La.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Julie Dyason-Norris, noting that any public may comment on any agenda item or resolution during discussion period for same.

Present-J.Dyason-Norris, J.Mallett, R.Harris, S.Elliott, K.Anderson

Absent-Ray Riley Jr, Jeffrey Wale

Guests - Management Employees of the District

Public-34 citizens, volunteers, and parents for the Pards Soccer Club

LM Lockart Advisory Committee members-Daniel Landry, Drexel Robinson

Motion to adopt the minutes of the 2-13-23 meeting as mailed with no public comment by J.Mallett seconded by R.Harris. Vote passed Yeas-J.Dyason-Norris, J.Mallett, R.Harris, S.Elliott, K.Anderson. Nays-none Absent-Jeffrey Wale, Ray Riley Jr.

A financial report was provided for the February period of operations and budget line item comparisons for the year were noted by the Administrative Treasurer.

Motion to approve the financial report for February, 2023, with no public comment by S.Elliott seconded by K.Anderson Vote passed Yeas-J.Dyason-Norris, R.Harris, J.Mallett, S.Elliott, K.Anderson Nays-none Absent-Jeffrey Wale, Ray Riley Jr.

Superintendent reported that the financial audit will begin around April 3, 2023. He noted that the improvements on the softball complex are almost fully complete. He shared that the A/C controller system needs replacement for an estimated \$31,395 by Watson Mechanical. Board discussed the expense and the Superintendent will bring quotes for this repair to the board.

Director, John Arbor reported on 2023 registrations, noting that the 3-4 year age season will be moved earlier in the late spring. He noted that soccer games will be completed through the month of April.

He summarized the basketball season and reported on a violent fan incident for the 9 year old group which involved various fans in the stands and an assistant coach. A recap of the fight was given noting that a detective was called to investigate and that charges from one citizen upon another will be in the near future. Director suspended both teams for the last game of the season. Karen Anderson commented on her review of a video and recommended that the Assistant Coach involved to be banned from coaching at the Park per the ban policy. She also noted that the policy should be strengthened for behavior of all coaches. She also recommended that security be hired in the future which will add cost to the program. Board discussed elements of the incident and Karen Anderson stated that policy for a mandatory coach meeting be held before the season with the Director for understanding of all the rules of play and behavior expectation.

Superintendent stated that the program committee meeting will be held soon.

Director noted that 268 participants are registered so far for Summer Camp and that state restrictions have been lifted as compared to the last two years of operation. He stated that the golf fund raising event for the soccer fund went well (\$7000 raised).

Zach Miller reported that tryouts for the fall soccer club will be held in April and May. He requested an update on the request for irrigation issues and a timer that was needed. Superintendent stated that the cost will around \$4000 for the back fields and that the work is being planned for.

Mr. Miller expressed his opinion on the urgency on this upgrade and for the proposal made last month to the board on the field use for soccer club.

Superintendent reported that this item will be on the agenda for the Planning Committee which will meet in October.

Paige Frederick reported on FAQ activity, noting that the public is using the center at night in larger numbers. She stated that new promotions will be held in spring. She noted that Aquatics staff are working on summer staff training.

Stephanie Morris reported on upcoming golf season and covered planned events. She noted that high school athletes are holding matches on the course and that a 44 player glow ball tournament was held recently.

Rod Vulgamore stated that South Park maintenance is running smoothly and that several trees will be taken down (estimate of \$3500) due to safety issues.

L M Lockhart Advisory Committee (Drexel Robinson) provided the 2023 listing of recommended members for board consideration. Mr. Landry noted that no minutes were available from past committee meeting was available at this time. District Board took the proposed membership listing under advisement for future action.

It was noted that there were no committee reports.

Chairman noted that she has noticed that maintenance season has begun for all programs by the staff.

Karen Anderson recommended that the program committee meet in the next 30 days and board agreed.

Under public comment, various soccer club parents questioned when the board will act on irrigation concerns presented and the proposal of field use. Chairman explained the current procedures for all maintenance issue requests and the staff communication. Multiple parents commented on the need for specific help on filling holes and other maintenance issues. Concerns were expressed regarding their views on improvement needs for this important park program. Comments were made on the quick growth. Superintendent recommended for the Program Committee to host parents and the ideas expressed with board members and staff (at the committee meeting). He noted that public feedback will be welcomed and discussed.

Zack Miller, Director, stated that he has been encouraged and excited for the parent's expression of support for the Soccer Club and knows that changes will take time.

Superintendent shared the history of the Soccer Club's growth in the past few years.

Parents continued various comments that they want to support this growing program at North Park and wishes for a fast track of actions to help the Soccer Club.

Chairman summarized that the program committee's purpose is to assist in addressing comments like those made this evening and she noted the need for parent feedback to formulate ideas, concerns, improvements and final proposals to the full board for consideration.

Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by J.Mallett seconded by K.Anderson Vote passed Yeas-J.Dyason-Norris, J.Mallett, S.Elliott, R.Harris, K.Anderson Nays -none Absent-Jeffrey Wale, Ray Riley Jr.



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Randall Smith Administrative Treasurer

**Next meeting will be held at 6PM on Monday, April 10, 2023**