



St. Tammany Parish
Recreation District #4
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Pat Brister, Parish President
Jake Groby, Councilman

Board Members
Jacki Schneider, Chair
Michelle Cusimano, Antoinette Wright,
Gerrin Narcisse, Lenny Schmidt,
Al Hamauei

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

August 16th, 2017

- 1. Call to order: 7:08pm**
- 2. Opening prayer & Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag**
- 3. Roll Call: Jacki Schneider-present**
Gerrin Narcisse-present
Al Hamauei-present
Lenny Schmidt-present
Antoinette Wright-present
Michelle Cusimano-present
- 4. Approval of July 19th, 2017 meeting minutes: Gerrin moves the motion to approve the July 19th, 2017 meeting minutes. Lenny seconds the motion. All board members are in favor. Motion passes.**
- 5. Financial Report: The public was given a check register of the written checks from June until present. Sherry is still updating and entering all the missing information that was wiped out from the computer crash. LaPorte has come out for a few hours to assist with this project. A few questions were asked about some checks written, all questions were answered thoroughly. The operating account has a balance of**

\$79,844.40. In the Whitney checking account (former FNBC checking account) the balance is \$34,302.05. Money Market account has a balance of \$186,373.62. Beth L. asked about 3 checks that were not listed on the check register. Motion to accept the financial report. Jordan read an e-mail that was sent from LaPorte stating the process it is taking to get all the financials put back into Quick Books since the computer crash. Antoinette makes a motion to approve the financial report. Lenny seconds the motion. All board members are in favor. Motion Passes.

6. Director's Report: The Back to School Bash was a huge success! We had several companies donate school supplies around Lacombe. The Booster Club donated 100 plus school bags for the children in Lacombe. Back to school Sock Hop was a success, kids came out to the rec center and had a great time! We are looking to put a dance team together for the basketball season, this will bring more opportunities for the young ladies in Lacombe. The baseball banquet had a great turnout. All the baseball players received their trophies and ate dinner with their team and families. In the future we would like to have one BIG banquet for all sports throughout the year. This will help with saving money for the recreation center. Sept. 16, 2017 will be the free self defense class for women only. The self defense class will be held at the rec center 1-4pm. Jacki stated that we should go out for more bids liability, sports, and property insurance for the recreation center.

Old Business:

1. Lawnmower purchased: Rec 4 purchased a new lawnmower. The new lawnmower has a larger deck compared to the old lawnmower. This allows the maintenance supervisor to cut grass in half the time it took with the previous lawnmower.
2. Basketball goals addition for gym proposals: Currently getting bids to install new basketball goals from different companies
3. Lighting ordered for redo in gym: We purchased LED lights for the gym. Now we are going out for bids for an electrician to install the lights.
4. AG's letter regarding boundary redistricting: Jacki wrote a letter to the AG. A representative at the AG office stated, because this was a St. Tammany Parish council action that the AG will not rule on something like this. She said we and go back to the council to plead with them to give us the areas back to our recreation district. Al moves that we write to the AG and have Rec Dist. 4 added to the agenda. Gerrin seconds the motion. All board members are in favor. Motion passes.

New Business:

1. Medical Insurance for staff: A representative from Blue Cross & Blue Shield went through some of the plans that are eligible for the employees at Rec Dist #4. Board members decided to get more quotes from different companies.
2. Used Storage Container needed: Jordan stated, "We are in need of another storage container to store the lawn equipment. We need a dry safe place to store the new lawnmower, along with the safety and security of the rec centers equipment'. Jordan presented the board with proposals for new and used storage containers. The board members decided to post pone the decision to the next board meeting.
 - Jacki mention, that Laurie Pennison will be donating her time to be on the policy and procedure committee. We will also be redoing the by-laws for the recreation center. Jacki asked if one other person would like to step up to be on the committee. The LLA insists that we get the policy and procedures done, hopefully within the next couple of weeks.
 - Move to open the agenda. Gerrin moves to open the agenda. Antionette seconds the motion. All board members are in favor.
 - Payroll: Jacki asked Laurie, do we have to have a payroll company? Laurie suggested that it would be easier to have a payroll company for tax concerns. Beth L. stated that it is worth it especially if they take care of the 1099 forms.
3. Discussion of Mr. Groby's facebook posts: Discussion about the Face Book findings that were found on social media. Many of the post were upsetting to the current board members. Mr. Groby's post stated, "I'm appalled as the amount of stolen public funds that Mr. Andre was charged of, he is sick and tired of public funds being stolen. For the most part we never gotten the public funds back. The LLA officials fully explained, that Mr. Andre used the districts credit card to make cash advances, had car repairs done on his personal car. The chair of the recreation district as well as the board were explained these abuses in June 2016. In July 2016 current board members decided to provide Mr. Andre with a fair well party after they had reviewed the audit report and knew about what Mr. Andre has stolen. This in itself disgust me, he should have been fired without hesitation. Former board members wanted to review the checking accounts and other fiscal matters but were ignored to the point of

frustration. Mr. Leary was told by the chairmen of the board if he wanted to see the books he would have to put in a public records request. Both Don & Evelyn tried several times to review the books but was ignored. I have nothing but respect for Don, Evelyn, Dan, Paul, and Brian who did their very best for the district. The citizens of Rec. District #4 are now paying 10 plus mils. The district will come before the public in 2022 for a renewal again, and my fear is that the theft of public funds will be the cause of the public to not want to support the recreation district any longer, I don't blame them." Jacki stated, that the board members did not throw Mr. Andre a fair well party, that is incorrect. Mr. Andre was accused of theft not indicted and not charged with theft. Additionally, the current board members did not hire Mr. Andre nor were we responsible to fire Mr. Andre. We have video that the former athletic director was assaulted by Dan F. a former board member. The day after the assault he resigned. It is said that we have a councilman that can't support the recreation district in his own district. We are asking Mr. Groby to support the district and to help us move forward. We are not responsible for the things that happened in the past.

Public Comment:

Jimmy Laurent spoke about the Mr. Groby Face Book post discussion. He stated, he is appalled by our councilman by what he and Steve S. did to this recreation district. He feels that he needs to do his job, the job he was elected to do. The current board members did not throw Mr. Andre a fair well party, he had one but the board members did not give it. Jimmy said he was a part of the party and was proud to be a part of the fair well party. Why has Mr. Groby not appointed another member to this current board. Mr. Groby has nothing but negative things to say about Recreation District #4. Show up to some of these meetings so that people can tell you what you should be doing. Mr. Groby wants to keep putting down the current board members, I think they are doing a fantastic job.

AL stated, "He doesn't feel that it is necessary for Mr. Groby to make the comments about the previous board. It seems like he is trying to defend something by making those comments. The past board members had nothing to do with keeping the records, reviewing the financial information, and they had lots of issues over the 4 year they were on the board. None of Mr. Groby's comments has nothing to do with the current board. Al feels like Mr. Groby should come to the

board meetings and talk about it, and putting those comments on Face Book is not the right way to go about it”.

Gerrin stated, “The one thing that concerns him is, the guy that is supposed to be representing us and fighting for us as a community is threatening to take away the milage that supports the recreation in our community. And it hurts very much that he would do something like this”.

Sandy Cry stated, “We were supposed to start Special Olympics, but after the Face Book post came out I was very disappointed. Tony is not guilty until a judge states he is guilty. So, as of right now we will hold off on the Special Olympic program. I want to clarify, I’m not holding off on the Special Olympic program because of Tony. I’m doing this because the way Mr. Groby is making the rec center look. I think all of ya’ll are doing a great job”.

Adjournment: 8:34pm

