

## PONCHATOULA AREA RECREATION DISTRICT #1

### CHAIRMAN AND BOARD

The PARD # 1 held a regular meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2017. Rocquin called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m. and the roll was called.

Present: Byers, Fletcher, Kennedy, Palmer, Rocquin

Absent: None

Guest: Lawrence Pierson, PYBS Commissioner

Ronnie Rocquin requested guest Pierson, Commissioner of Ponchatoula Youth Baseball Softball Association, be allowed to address the board to discuss Saturday April 22, open day for the 2017 baseball season and dedication ceremony of the softball complex to Julian Dufreche. Plans were a collaboration between PARD and PYBS to recognize Julian Dufreche for his dedication to the Ponchatoula Area Recreation District and the baseball and softball programs. The original PARD baseball complex will be dedicated to his name and memory. Bill Wheat will speak on behalf of the Ponchatoula Youth Baseball Softball Association about Dufreche and his dedication to PARD. Rocquin will follow with the unveiling of the bronze plaque and sign. The board was in agreement with the program for the day. Ceremony will begin at 9:00 a.m. and in the event of rain the ceremony will be moved to gym. Rocquin suggested all score board display 4:22 to represent the date of the ceremony. Teams will gather on the Ponchatoula Field for opening ceremony and the dedication.

After review of the March 9, 2017 regular meeting minutes, Fletcher made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Palmer seconded the motion. There being no discussion, all board members present were in favor and the motion passed.

After a review of the financials provided by Martin, Fletcher made motion to accept the financial review report. Kennedy seconded the motion and all board members present were in favor and the motion passed.

Under the mangers report Stevens discussed off site properties for expansion of the park. Property on east side of the district on Happy Wood Rd. was quote over \$380,000. and would require additional money for fencing. Rocquin state a grant would be needed to purchase. Byers suggest to find another piece of property in the area for less money. Byers also told board he is working on donation of approximately 15 acres with a building in Bedico area. Fletcher asked for a meeting with both parties for preliminary plans for the acreage plus the building.

Stevens reported backstops project is complete, except for additional netting for French Corner, Lee landing and Manchac and will be a minimum cost to reinstall.

Pond is progressing well and plans for fishing rodeo is being studied at this time. Generator for gym is underway with transfer switch already installed. Generator will be sized for the switch already in place and diesel generator was recommended for efficiency since PARD already has a diesel storage tank. Generator will supply offices and data room of the gym. PARD will have two standalone generators, one for offices and data room and one in maintenance shop.

Stevens obtaining quotes for a surface mount equipment lift for oil changes, hoses, and belts on equipment. Board agrees it would be a good investment that would pay for itself. Stevens discussed new LA public bid law for purchase of generator and equipment lift. Rocquin call for a motion to purchase if equipment can be purchased for under 10,000. Fletcher made a motion to purchase both the equipment lift and generator within the rules of the bid law. Byers seconded the motion. All board present were in agreement and the motion passed.

Rocquin explained the contract for use of the event building for community concert is equal to community service for people of the district. Contract is in place and the community concert will be Saturday, May 20, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Music would be free to community and PARD would provide the building.

PYBS registration closed on March 5 with a total enrollment of 992. The enrollment for t-ball was down due to the age requirement date changing to age 5 by September 1. There was a total of 207 families out of the Ponchatoula District that signed their children up to participate. Games begin on April 10.

Ponchatoula Adult Basketball will begin Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Ponchatoula High Lady Wave will host a basketball camp at the PARD gym on June 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> and a volleyball camp July 10<sup>th</sup> –13<sup>th</sup>. Summer high school basketball league will be held every Tuesday & Thursday beginning June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Reminder of Crawfish boil at Carter Plantation. Board secretary will remind the board.

Palmer, discuss Football Scholarship Breakfast Benefit on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Events Building. Nicky Hall will be conducting the camp with some LSU players. Stevens will advertise on the LED sign.

Fletcher is working on wireless upgrade to big complex and will be pushed out to the entire park in the future. Stevens discussed cameras will be installed at front gate in a few weeks.

Rocquin discussed vandalism in the park. Several places were spray painted through out the park. Byers reported seeing two guys throwing bikes over the fence, when gate is opened. Rocquin call for property survey and install of fence to deter vandalism.

Byers discussed the purchase of property on east and west side of Ponchatoula to expanding the reach of PARD into the district. The areas of Pumpkin Center and Bedico areas were discussed. Byers reported Bedico Community Center would like to work with PARD on the sale of approx. 12-13 acres and a building. Board agreed.

Byers made a motion to adjourn. Palmer seconded the motion. There being no discussion, all board members present were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p. m.

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Ronnie Rocquin, Chairman

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Charlotte Martin, Secretary