**Harris County Recreation Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 25, 2017**

**Board Members Present:** Rob Grant, Cyndee Redmond, Mark Parsley, Kristi LaFortune, Thomas Vowell

**Others Present:** Morgan Marlowe - School Board Member, Becky Langston – Commissioner, John Magazu – Recreation Director, Ashley Marston – Assistant Recreation Director

**Board Members Absent:** Jairo Gay & Purvis Chapman – notice not provided, Troy Lundquist – provided notice

1. **CALL TO ORDER / WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

The regular meeting of the Harris County Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 25, 2017 at the Harris County Community Center by Board Chair, Rob Grant. Rob introduced the new members to the board

1. Thomas Vowell – At-Large Member
2. Troy Lundquist – MHAA Community Rep
3. Morgan Marlowe – School Board Liaison
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was reviewed by the board members. Mark Parsley made a motion to approve the agenda, Kristi LaFortune seconded and it passed unanimously.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The October 26, 2016 minutes were reviewed by the board members. Kristi LaFortune made a motion to approve the minutes with the above corrections, Mark Parsley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

1. **ELECTION OF BOARD POSITIONS**

**Chair** – Rob Grant opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Mark Parsley nominated Rob Grant to serve as Chair, Kristi LaFortune seconded the nomination. No other members were nominated and Rob Grant closed the nomination. All members voted in favor of the nomination.

**Vice-Chair** – Rob Grant opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair. Kristi LaFortune nominated Mark Parsley to serve as Vice-Chair, Rob Grant seconded the nomination. No other members were nominated and Rob Grant closed the nomination. All members voted in favor of the nomination.

**Secretary** – Rob Grant opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Rob Grant nominated Cyndee Redmond to serve as Secretary, Kristi LaFortune seconded the nomination. No other members were nominated and Rob Grant closed the nomination. All members voted in favor of the nomination.

**Treasurer** – Rob Grant opened the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Mark Parsley nominated Ashley Marston to serve as Treasurer, Kristi LaFortune seconded the nomination. No other members were nominated and Rob Grant closed the nomination. All members voted in favor of the nomination.

1. **CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

Rob again welcomed the new board members and stressed attendance.

1. **TREASURER REPORT**

The Treasurer’s report was reviewed. Ashley Marston provided an update on outstanding invoices and new invoices. Cyndee Redmond made a motion to approve the report, Mark Parsley seconded and the report was approved unanimously.

1. **RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT**

Basketball make ups are being worked into the schedule as the season wraps up. So it’s been very busy.

Little League Spring registration is underway and the last night is tomorrow, Thursday. They are down about 350 players. Other leagues are down in other counties. Tomorrow night is the last registration from 5 – 8 at the Community Center.

Soccer registration ends February 3rd. The numbers are significantly lower which may be due to the new registration process and rules around the assigning of teams.

Track & Field registration is underway. An expo is scheduled for this Saturday, January 28, 2017 from 2:30 to 4:30 at the high school track. April 8th is the home meet at the high school.

Swimming – the youth swim team is registered and parent meeting is being held tomorrow. The school has sent a letter requesting the county pay ½, approximately $10,000, of a new scoreboard for the swim meets. The community youth swim team would be able to use the board for their youth meets. John has asked for specifications on the board to do more review on this request.

Football – spring flag football board is being established.

Community Center – we have approximately 2800 members and this includes the family memberships. Little league is now requiring a new nationally recognized background check for every coach and volunteer and we currently do our background checks locally.

Ellerslie Park – the new county manager is working to open the park by June 2017. The land was all donated. It’s at the corner of Hwy 315 and Hwy 85.

Pate Park – specs are in for a playground. 2 new batting cages are up on Field 1 and 3L. Field preparation is underway for the spring season.

Amendment update to the Recreation Board bylaws has been approved by the Board of Commissioners.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**
2. President meeting
   1. All community and sports boards’ Presidents, with the exception of Wrestling, attended the meeting. Items discussed were waivers and releases, hardships, volunteer requirements, contact information, registration information for all sports and seasons and locations.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. Request for update on MH practice fields – Heather Hajek
      1. Becky Langston provided an update from the BOC. The Board met in executive session and a unanimous decision was made that the county will not go back to court to have the injunction reversed. Becky has had numerous phone calls on a location that would provide temporary practice locations for football and some baseball but it will not be ready for this year. The long-term plan is to have a sports complex located in Mountain Hill. Becky asked the Rec Board to provide buy in and support since there is no other Commissioner pulling for this so she needs to know if the community wants her to move forward with this. Becky can’t answer any questions as to the cost or the zoning on the new property. The board’s response surrounded the need for more recreation director resources to maintain new facilities. It was pointed out that the county wouldn’t have to maintain the fields that are offered to be donated. Morgan Marlowe reminded the board that the fields would be donated by Mountain Hill to the School Board.
   2. MH practice requests/update on Board of Commissioners meeting – Troy Lundquist
      1. Mountain Hill would like the Rec Board to make a recommendation to the BOC that practice fields be made available to their community in 2017. Rob Grant said that would be hard to do without also recommending that other sports and other communities receive facilities. Consideration and discussion would need to be had around this topic.
      2. Mountain Hill requested information on Pine Mountain funds. It was explained that those funds are city tax funds for Pine Mountain only.
      3. Becky Langston offered valuable high level information on how our tax dollars are allocated to the county.
   3. Rec Fest – Discussion / Set Date
      1. Table this for next month.
   4. Hamilton Baseball discussion
      1. Discussion around the need for a baseball commissioner and the baseball teams going to other communities.
   5. Cataula Youth Sports Association tornado damage to practice fields
      1. Cyndee Redmond provided update on the damage and were the community board was in fundraising and plans to rebuild.
      2. Rob Grant discussed the Rec Board perhaps helping with a donation. Mark Parsley made a recommendation to donate $1,500.00 to CYSA, Kristi LaFortune seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.
4. **NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 7:00 PM @ HC Community Center.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

Rob Grant adjourned the meeting at 8:12 PM.