

**RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
MAY 29, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hayden Barnes, Jeff Battles, Carl Brown, Willie Dickerson, Sherisse Malone, Shawn Souvenir, Latshia Stephens-Archibald, and Jay Wilkoff

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brantley Pittman

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Holli Browder, Tommy Groce, Pam Lee, Carson Revell, and Lauren Vance

A meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board was held at the Lake Oliver Marina, Chairman Hayden Barnes was present and called the May 29, 2019 meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

The board minutes from October 31, 2018, January 30, 2019, and March 27, 2019 meetings were approved.

The board also voted and approved to have a meeting on November 20, 2019, at Memorial Stadium.

I. Director/Staff Update:

○ **Holli Browder (Director):**

Tillis Recreation Center is in need of repairs. Bids have gone out to try and repair the roof. Other repairs are needed, and we will do as much as possible with what funding will be available. The long term goal is to make this center a fully functional recreation center again.

Holli discussed the results of the budget review meeting and what was approved versus what was not approved.

Outdoor pool season has started, and we have implemented Passport to Columbus, which used to be known as the Summer Fun Pass.

29th Street playground is officially open.

Money has been raised for Theo McGee park. The group that raised the money will have a check dropped off next week. They are also looking for another project to work on next.

There have been four or five organizations interested in a minor league team coming back to Golden Park.

The department is receiving an award for the Therapeutics Removing Barriers program. The award will be presented at a NACPRO conference next week.

○ **Tommy Groce (Park Services):**

We are beginning our summer months and are very busy with cutting grass.

Right now, we have 13 Correctional Officers and are five officers short. We are running behind due to being short staffed, however, the guys are handling it well and they are still doing an excellent job even with the lack of manpower.

Jay Wilkoff is familiar with programs that help former military find jobs. This information will be passed on.

○ **Pam Lee (Community Schools):**

Summer Camp started May 28 and we are full at all sites. There are 450 students enrolled in the program.

Carson Revell (Athletics):

Little League is over and the post-season has started.

Registration and Evaluations have started for Night Ballers Basketball League. This league will play from June 14 through August 3. Games will be played at Frank Chester and Shirley Winston.

The Ultimate Frisbee Season has started and will be played at Kinnett Stadium beginning June 10.

The International Cup will be held at South Commons July 1-7.

Jay Wilkoff asked for an update on pickleball. Carson stated that the donation is not enough to build the pickleball courts needed at Cooper Creek. They have looked at other locations, but right now, there are no official plans.

○ **Lauren Vance (Finance Manager):**

N/A

II. Board Updates:

○ **Jeff Battles:**

The School District is introducing flag football to high school girls at all of the high schools starting in the next school year.

There is a lot of interest in a kid's summer basketball league. Director Browder responded and said that is something that we want to bring back for the summer camp for Community Schools.

○ **Carl Brown:**

The city lost the State Cup soccer tournament to Atlanta last year. We're hoping to make some improvements to the complex to win back that tournament.

○ **Willie Dickerson:**

Mr. Dickerson spent a lot of time at Shirley Winston and has enjoyed it. The fields look great.

○ **Shawn Souvenir:**

Mr. Souvenir took his kids to the 29th Street playground and they love it.

- **Latshia Stephens-Archibald:**

An idea for the pickleball courts would be the courts behind Baker Middle School. There is not a lot of use on them and it's at least a thought of somewhere to go.

- **Jay Wilkoff:**

Mr. Wilkoff asked for support of the proposed Interstate 14 amendment that could possibly run through Columbus.

With no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 1:00 pm.

Minutes recorded by the Board Secretary, Lauren Vance.