

Minutes of the Fairhope Recreation Board

November 15, 2017

The Fairhope Recreation Board met Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. in the Rec Center at 803 North Greeno Road.

Present were Michelle Smith, Tom Kuhl, Charlie Langham, Cathy Hudson and Vann Saltz. Absent: Mary Gammer, Bob Keyser, Jay Robinson, Sherry-Lea Bloodworth Botoy, and Derek Thomas. Gayle Fogarty took minutes at the meeting. Guests: David Wyatt and Mike Hinson

The meeting was called to order by Vann Saltz at 5:25 p.m. The minutes of the October 18, 2017 meeting minutes were considered and approved on a motion by Charlie Langham, seconded by Cathy Hudson, none opposed.

Guest: David Wyatt informed the board that he would like to teach private softball lessons and submitted a franchise agreement application to the board. Vann asked that he provide the application to Tom and he would be back in touch with him. There was general discussion among the board members, the board agreed to vote on David's application at the January meeting.

New Business: Vann Saltz asked if Tom Kuhl found out what the Recreation Board's responsibility was on the Marina, Tom responded that the Harbor Board will be over the Marina. Tom added that youth baseball wants to make an investment to redo the batting cage, and the City would provide some assistance with expanding asphalt, etc. and the tennis program has 100 youth playing tennis this weekend. Tom stated that he feels the Recreation Board needs to have a mission statement, and suggested bringing ideas to the January meeting. Tom and Charlie added that they would like the City to consider purchasing additional land, Tom feels that relieving pressure from Volanta park is greatly needed. He suggested slowing down on developing the Volanta Master Plan, and request that the City Council purchase more land, such as 35-40 acres. He said, it would be great, if the City Council wanted to continue to develop the master plan, as well as purchase land. There was general discussion among the board members, everyone agreed that planning for the future of recreation was important, especially since our community is continuing to grow. A motion was made to request that the City Council approve the Recreation Board to inquire about potential property that is for sale, and could be used for expanding the City of Fairhope recreation program, approved on a motion by Charlie Langham, seconded by Cathy Hudson, none opposed. Gayle Fogarty was asked to send the motion to the City Clerk, so it would be added to the next City Council work session set for November 27, 2018.

Updates: Kathy Hudson stated that there was a county meet last week, girls won, boys placed second, pool was a great temperature, and everything went smooth. She added that sectionals are this week and state is the first week of December in Auburn, AL. Charlie informed the group that football is over, 8 and 3. He added that wrestling and basketball are going on now, he mentioned that the football stadium still needs to be ADA accessible. Tom Kuhl added that he feels confident this is in the budget, although the budget has not been approved yet. He also mentioned that he would like to get a visitor's press box this year, and hopes that impact fee funds can be used for this, as this is a new project, impact funds cannot be used to repair or replace items/projects.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.