ST. MARY PARISH

RECREATION DISTRICT NO. 3

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The Board of Commissioners of St. Mary Parish Recreation District No. 3 met on Monday, July

24,2023, in the meeting room at the Bayou Vista Community Center, 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Brian Head-Chairman, Lane Boudreaux, Javon Charles, Dr. Jeffrey Fitter, Calvin Johnson, Rachel Kidder

Sec-Treas-Monica Lestage

Manager-Mark Richard

Guests- Gwen Hidalgo-Dist. 10-At Large Council Member, Carl Blum, AIA

The meeting was called to order and all stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Guests were welcomed.

Dr. Fitter made a motion to approve the June minutes as dispensed. Javon Charles stated that the five minute limitations on discussing a topic was not in line with Roberts Rules of Law, needing a 2/3 vote

approval. Calvin Johnson offered a second to the motion. With Javon Charles opposing and all other

members voting in favor, motion passed.

Accounts payable was circulated. Dr. Fitter questioned if an allocation is usually made to Dixie Youth.

After a yes answer, Javon Charles made a motion to accept the payables. With a second from Dr. Fitter, and all in favor, motion passed.

Mark Richard reported rentals for the month. Meeting room- 4 golf course-4, gym-1, spray park parties-4, girl scouts-2, batting cage-4, ball practice-3, baseball field-2 and Sheriff’s Dept. hosted movie night in the gym, resulting in a great turnout. The All Stars tournament was a success.

The Agin Cajun program brought in 160 participants in the 11 days thus far, this month, to engage in a wide variety of games. Fairview and Claire House are participating. The maintenance guys have been assisting Calley in setting up and dismantling chairs, tables and games.

Mr. Richard reported that the bridge at hole 13, at Noah’s Ark, has rotted. It is being repaired. Due to the extreme heat and dryness, watering is being done every other day. Mower maintenance and repairs, including ball joints, has been done. Splash pad is repaired. The spray park will be closing July 29th, just

prior to the new school year. Private spray park parties will continue on weekends. Miracle Equipment

will be scheduling for installation of the new playground equipment.

Activities Director job description was tabled until printouts can be made available for all members.

Javon Charles offered the motion to table, Rachel Kidder offered a second. With all in favor, motion carried.

Carl Blum distributed bid results for roof replacement. The job will consist of tearing down to the original deck and inspecting. Two base layers of 2” insulation with the final layer being sloped and tapered to avoid standing water. It will have a white reflective coating. It has a 140 mph wind rating and the upgraded insulation should help with lower energy charges. Bids were received and Mr. Blum’s recommendation was Grizzly Roofing LLC. Javon Charles asked Mrs. Hidalgo if the capital outlay monies had been received by the council? She will verify. Javon Charles made the motion to accept the bid submitted by Grizzly Roofing, LLC. With a second motion from Dr. Fitter, and all in favor, motion passed.

Mr. Blum spoke about exercise stations for the elderly and the possibility of a covering for the pickleball courts at central park. The choices are 4 pickle ball courts, leaving ½ of the tennis court for multi purpose use, or encompassing the entire court as 8 pickleball courts. Funding, such as grants will be looked into.

Brady Borel with KQKI provided prices for advertising for the rec district. The prices are 20 ads a month for 30 seconds @ $270.00, 30 ads for 30 seconds @ $450.00 or 30 ads for 40 seconds @ $600.00. Javon felt that digital advertising, having grown 13% in 2022, was the route to go. Other board members felt the older population listened to the radio more than using advanced technology. Rachel Kidder made a motion to try 20 ads a month, for 30 seconds, for a term of three months. With a second from Lane Boudreaux, and all in favor, motion passed.

At the June meeting, it was approved to hire Angie Guillotte as the office manager. Since her spouse was a previous board member, ADA Eric Duplantis assessed that his position must be filled before she could be hired. Javon Charles made the motion to rescind last month’s vote. After Dr. Fitter offered a second, motion passed, with all in favor.

Javon Charles stated it was not normal to interview 3 out of 35 applicants. Mr. Head said 5 were called to interview, but only 3 were still interested. One had taken another job and one was a no-show. The

manager reviewed the applications and chose the most qualified. Mr. Charles felt that the board members, or at least management level, should review all applications. He said he did not use his power, when he was Chairman, to hire on his own. Mr. Head felt all members should be involved. Lane Boudreaux’s opinion was the manager should be allowed to do the job he was hired to do, including vetting applications. Rachel Kidder said she appreciated being offered the opportunity to sit in on interviews, but felt the manager should do that and then make a recommendation to the board. Dr. Fitter stated reviewing 35 applicants is quite time consuming. With a motion from Dr. Fitter, it was decided that the manager will purge the applications, interview the best qualified and make a recommendation to the board. Javon Charles offered a second, and with all in favor, motion passed.

A date of August 7, 2023 was agreed upon for a special meeting. The parish council is appointing a new member to the board. An office manager needs to be hired so Jackie may retire.

Javon Charles stated that he wanted to make the first move for better communication and transparency

between the board members.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Lane Boudreaux. With a second from Javon Charles, and all in favor, motion passed.

(s) Brian Head (s) Monica Lestage

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Brian Head, Chairman Monica Lestage, Secretary