

**Harris County Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2018**

- Board Members Present:** Rob Grant, Sondra Moss, Thomas Vowell, Steve Felt, Lee Starling, Brad Johnson, Jairo Gay
- Others Present:** Becky Langston – Commissioner, Morgan Marlowe – Bd of Education, Stephen Waskey– Recreation Director, Ashley Marston – Assistant Recreation Director
- Board Members Absent:** Jeff Allen – *absent due to previously scheduled meeting*

I. CALL TO ORDER / WELCOME NEW MEMBERS / NEW RECREATION DIRECTOR

The regular meeting of the Harris County Recreation Board was called to order at 7:02 PM on January 30, 2018 at the Harris County Community Center by Board Chair, Rob Grant.

Rob Grant welcomed new Board Members Jeff Allen (CYSA Rep), Sondra Moss (At-Large Member) and Lee Starling (WHYSA rep) who were all approved by the Board of Commissioners during the January 2, 2018 BOC Meeting

Rob Grant also welcomed new Recreation Director, Stephen Waskey.

II. ELECTION OF BOARD POSITIONS:

The Board elected the following to Board Positions:

CHAIR – Rob Grant

(L. Starling moved, T. Vowell seconded, passed unanimously)

VICE-CHAIR – Jairo Gay

(R. Grant moved, L. Starling seconded, passed unanimously)

SECRETARY – VACANT

TREASURER – Ashley Marston

(R. Grant moved, J. Gay seconded, passed unanimously; concern expressed by S. Waskey re: A. Marston being able to serve as Treasurer due to staff position with County and not being appointed by BOC to Board, S. Waskey will look into and report back)

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed by the board members. J. Gay made a motion to approve the agenda, L. Starling seconded and it passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of the October 25, 2017 minutes tabled due to not receiving them from Secretary Cyndee Redmond.

V. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

R. Grant reported on attending HC Soccer Association meeting due to problem with parents/coaches/officials where HC Sheriff's Dept was called in; Soccer Board was advised by R. Grant and HC Recreation Department on how to better handle discipline problems in the future by setting up and utilizing a Disciplinary Committee. T. Vowell attended the same meeting and reported that he has been voted on to the HC Soccer Association Board as an At-Large Member and would keep the Recreation Board apprised of what is going on with Soccer; T. Vowell reported that soccer reg #'s were down at the time – to date only 87 players registered, but the expectation was more were going to sign up.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Steve Felt made a motion to approve the report, Lee Starling seconded and the report was approved unanimously.

VII. RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Basketball: sending 6 teams to GRPA tournaments; 15-17 Boys going straight to State

HCLL: holding drafts next week; trying to encourage LL Board to decrease in size or split to form sub-committees, size of Board is too large; Opening Day is March 10, with plans to have the Silver Wings parachute in and present game ball; HCLL is looking into getting a POS system out at both parks

Soccer: ethical issues involving a soccer coach – S. Waskey has taken issue to County Attorney

Track & Field: last day of registration is 2/3/18; 72 registered to date – up from 59 last year; District Meet will be at Carrollton, State Meet will be at East Jackson; possible rule changes with GRPA? S. Waskey looking into and getting back with Brad Johnson, President HCYT&F

Swim Team: Will hold registration for Spring/Summer in April; June 9th – Swim Meet

Football: have not met with yet due to snow/ice storm; would like to look into flag football being community-based vs countywide; S. Waskey suggested looking into "NFL 360" program

Community Center:

- a) have converted a row of 4 lights in gymnasium on Daehon Court to LED, looking at converting all lights in gym and pool area to LED; long-term goal is to switch to LED lighting throughout the CC; cost of lights is approximately \$150/light (24 lights in gym = \$3,600) plus cost to rent lift; Health Dept. requirements for lighting in pool area has been reduced from 50 candle light to 30 candle light
- b) Pool Heater – is working at present – current pool temp is 85 degrees
- c) Treadmill/Bike down in Fitness Room – looking at getting on a maintenance schedule for equipment (approximately \$300/quarter) and also into bringing in more equipment (dumbbells/kettle bells, etc.) and newer equipment (looking at putting in \$14,000 into capital expenses for this)
- d) CC now has high-speed internet
- e) Looking at getting new TV in meeting room plus a laptop for use in meeting room

- f) 2 cameras down in security system – working on getting fixed or new to replace and looking into upgrading monitoring system from analog to HighDef (approximate cost of \$2,700 for camera system)

Ellerslie Place: County Manager has had a company do a concept plan, waiting to see plan

Other:

- a) Tennis Courts: have met with a tennis court company re: resurfacing tennis courts at Pate and PMV park; there are issues with PMV park – too far gone to resurface; approximate cost to resurface of \$35,000; suggested putting in a synthetic court surface over; Pate Park courts – waiting to hear back on plan; approximate cost to resurface would be \$45,000; meeting next week with another tennis court company; looking into possible UTA grant – not sure if a good fit, may cost more in long run to get
- b) Playground at Pate Park: putting in over off Field #1 Right side off of batting cage; being paid for out of 2009 SPLOST (\$100,000); meeting with 3 different playground companies next week, then putting out for RFP; SPLOST \$ left at Pate 0-0 \$145,000; goal is to have playgrounds and tennis courts done by end of fiscal year 2017/2018
- c) Fencing at ball parks: getting estimates on re-fencing (raising fences to 6 feet) and enclosing/reconfiguring dug-outs at both Pate and Moultrie parks
- d) Plans to convert to portable mounds at both Pate and Moultrie; concrete areas around bleachers; looking at putting up shade screens and covers over bleachers at both parks; planning to ask HCLL to help out financially
- e) Relay for Life – to be held at Pate Park on April 27th

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

*No old business discussed/addressed

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Appeal of Release Request – Shane Grimsley (Request to be released from Hamilton to Cataula):** Shane Grimsley appeared before the Board to appeal the decision of Hamilton YSA not to release his family to play in Cataula; reasons given for request to be released included travel to practices would be difficult if not impossible given the work schedules of parents if made to play in Hamilton; it was noted that travel time to both parks was approximately the same, putting the location of the family's home about midway between Pate and Moultrie; Questions and discussion followed T. Vowell moved to send the decision to release or not to the HC Little League Board, J. Gay seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.
- b. **John Magazu Scholarship Fund** – Discussion re: the purpose of the John Magazu Scholarship Fund; A. Marston reported that to date \$725 had been donated to the Fund; the Board discussed setting up a separate Board to run/administer the Fund; R. Grant to appoint a committee to look into setting up a process for administering funds and obtaining legal status to be a non-profit, allowing donors to write off donations; R. Grant asked the Board to think of ways to make this work and come back to February meeting with a game plan
- c. **Naming of Pate Park Entrance (in honor of John Magazu):** After discussion, the Board decided they would like to name the entrances to both Pate and Moultrie in honor of John.
J. Gay moved to "Rename the entrances into Moultrie and Pate Parks in John Magazu's honor with the entrance to Moultrie Park being named "John Magazu Way" and the entrance to Pate Park being named "John Magazu Circle" L. Starling seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

B. Langston to check with the other members of the BOC to let them know of request to name both entrances in honor of John.

*Note to this: B. Langston reported back the next day (2/1/18) to the Rec Dept/Rec Board that she heard back from Commissioners Lange, Andrews and Chewing – all agreed that naming only Pate Park entrance in honor of John Magazu is appropriate. Rec Department to secure appropriate signage.

- d. **First Responder Training – Steve Felt** – Discussion re: offering/requiring First Responder Training for recreation volunteers/coaches was facilitated by S. Felt. HC EMS is willing to train volunteers/coaches and better prepare them to handle situations at games/practices. Cost for class would be between \$100-\$200/person. The Board suggested that S. Felt contact community and sports board and let them know about this opportunity. Rec Dept will look into setting up/offering CPR & First Aid courses for volunteers/coaches.

- e. **Other:**

R. Grant announced and invited everyone to attend the HCHS Soccer Team Fundraiser – Daddy/Daughter Dance on Saturday, 2/3/18 at the High School

X. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 7:00 PM @ HC Community Center.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

R. Grant adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM.

R. Grant, Chair

Attest:

A. Marston, Assistant Director

Harris County Recreation Department