

**Recreation District #1
Board of Commissioners Meeting
March 16, 2022**

Board present: Nixon Adams
Rick Danielson
John Neill
deShea Richardson

Board absent: Majure Savell
William Matthews
Shearn Lemoine

Staff present: Margie Lewis – Executive Director
Kia Knight – Assistant Director
Doug McLemore – Assistant Director
Cindy Jackson – Business Manager
Louisette Scott – Environmental Educator

Visitors: Karen Reisch and Rue McNeill – Northlake Nature Center

The meeting was called to order by Chairman N. Adams at 6:30pm. Executive Director, Margie Lewis called the roll. Four board members were present with, Majure Savell, William Matthews and Shearn Lemoine being absent. There was a quorum.

Chairman N. Adams asked if there was anyone wanting to open the agenda for new items. Motion by R. Danielson to open the agenda to add opportunities for the bond issues and discuss them during the Strategic Planning Committee Update. Second by John Neil. Vote 4-0 in favor. Motion passes.

Approval of the Previous Month's Minutes.

There are no changes to the minutes.

Motion by J. Neill to accept the minutes. Second by d. Richardson. Vote 4-0 in favor. Motion passes.

Financials

Chairman N. Adams discussed the current monthly summaries. He added that the inflation rate has gone up from the 2.5% that we originally budgeted, he has asked the Personnel Committee to set up a meeting to look at the salaries and make any necessary adjustments for the rest of the year.

- N. Adams reviewed the bank statements and all of the balances are accurate with no discrepancies.
- M. Savell is absent, so we will have to defer the credit card statements until the next month's meeting.

Motion by R. Danielson to accept the financials as presented. Second by J. Neill. Vote 4-0. Motion passes.

Resolutions:

None

Reports in Brief:

- Request for Exception to the Castine Center Cancellation Policy

The Castine Staff is asking for a one-time cancelation policy exception for the Coastal Conservation Association. They have been a loyal customer for years, but due to an unexpected loss of 25% of their staff, they will not be able to hold their annual fundraiser on the scheduled date of May 12th. They would like to reschedule the fundraiser event for August 25th, 2022 when they have time to hire new staff.

Motion by R. Danielson to accept this one-time cancelation exception policy for Coastal Conservation Association. Second by d. Richardson. Vote 4-0. Motion passes.

- Bidy National Tournament Report and Budget-(Informational Report no voting-Budget is in the official minutes)

Executive Director, Margie Lewis reported on the Pelican Park Bidy Nationals Basketball Tournament that will be at Pelican Park from March 18-23, 2022. The staff has projected about 55 teams and 3,500 people that will travel here from all over Louisiana and the furthest team that will be coming from Kansas City. Louisiana Office of Tourism sponsored the National Tournament for \$10,000 and the local Northshore Office of Tourism sponsored and hosted the hotel rooms for the officials. The opening ceremony will start at 7:00PM this Friday with food trucks, concessions and music. No Voting.

Updates:**• Castine Center Renovations and Office Expansion Job**

- Executive Director, Margie Lewis informed the Board about the new changes at the front of the Castine Center, where the steel has been erected on the office side. Once all of the steel and walls are completed, they will remove the glass, from old outside windows and start transforming the offices.
- Victory Athletics was a rental that used the Castine Center last week. The bathrooms were not completely finished. The soap and paper towel dispensers had not been delivered and one stall was not working yet, the rest was usable for the rental.
- The contractors will be presenting the concrete paint colors tomorrow, so the decision can be made and supplies be ordered.

• Youth Sports Committee Update:

- The committee met and had a long discussion about Fast-pitch vs Slow-pitch softball. The committee is talking about having both slow and fast pitch softball in the fall and possibly playing against other local recreation districts.
- Question was asked, about obtaining enough score keepers for the tournament this week? Yes, at this time, all time slots are full thanks to the local high schools and the use of coaches from the teams.

• Legal Committee Update:

- Louissette Scott reported on the conversation regarding the pipeline with attorney Paul Mayronne with Jones Fussell, LLP. Mr. Mayronne found there were two leases, the first one was completed on October of 1998 with a 20-year term for \$12,000. That agreement was granted and sold to Parkway Pipeline. In May of 2013 St Tammany owned the property and entered into a perpetual servitude agreement with Parkway Pipeline for a \$63,227 consideration that went to the Parish. Paul Mayronne suggested that the District will need to contact Parkway Pipeline and make sure that the District is listed as the new owner of Parcel 2B and the District is listed on their insurance policy.

- **Strategic Planning Committee Update: (Full report in Official Minutes)**
 - R. Danielson reported the update for the last meeting where there is an opportunity to extend our GO Bond mils. This will help with all of the great plans that the District has for future expansions such as the Nature Center and show fields. The election date will be December 10th for fall elections and the kick-off will be in June.

- **Northshore Nature Center Update:**
 - There have been a lot of great discussions over the last few months with the District, Paul Mayronne and the Northlake Nature Center board and staff members. The partnership aspect of the Northlake Nature Center and the staff/board is great. The committee will start meeting more often to discuss the future growth of the Park and Nature Center and legally work out the cooperative endeavor agreement, etc. They will keep the Board updated on the progress.

Division Reports:

- **Parks**- (Report included in official minutes on green paper)
- **Recreation**- (Report included in official minutes on blue paper)
 - Rick commented on the Castine Campout pictures that he saw online were awesome to see and excited to see all of the great families and activities that were involved.
- **Castine Center**- (Report included in official minutes on pink paper)
- **Environmental Education**- (Report included in official minutes on yellow paper)

New Business

R. Danielson would like to look at the District's memorial policy for Larry Rase, who was the owner of Ripple Resources, our sponsorship company, that recently passed away. He was very active 25-30 years ago when the Park first opened, as well as coaching and participating in the Parks events over the years.

Old Business

None

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:04PM by J. Neill. Second by d. Richardson. Vote 4-0 in favor. Motion passes