

Recreation Advisory Meeting
September 11, 2008
Sherman Park Recreation Center

RAC Members Present: Rhonda Hines, Sylvia Jones, Bernadette Sheppard, Artist Boykin, Cedric Black, Margo Tenner.

Excused Absent Members: James Lawson, Otistene Smith, Charles Jones, Trinity Johnson, Terry Larry, Sherry Pettit and Justin Lindsey. Justin had to work.

Staff Present: Tina Worrell, Janie Horn, Blend Wilson, Katrina Wilson, Tammarrah Douglas, Tunya Dokes, Jennie Cunningham, Renee Henson, Kars ton Bradford, Janisha Crawford, Jeff Caplinger, Tony Pate.

Guest Mrs. Richard Lindsey.

Sylvia called the meeting. She welcomed everyone.

Janie called the roll.

Jennie discussed the invitation for Lights on After-school. It will be at North Heights. She said she would like for one or two committee members to come and be a guest speaker, October 16th at 5:00 p.m. Sylvia volunteered to be one of the speakers.

Tina went over reports with everyone and asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Cedric went over foundation with everyone. He presented that they are looking for a sponsor to help with application fee and looking at getting a bigger board.

Capital Improvements. Tina said roofs have been started at Sherman Park at the end of July and should be through in sixty days and then go to Glenview. She said Sherman Park had a lot of leaks due to contractor, but it will be fixed at no cost to us. Glenview is having plumbing problems, but it should be fixed. The Splash Park/Pool at Glenview was budgeted at \$150,000.00, but the lowest bid came in at \$326,000.00. Tina said bids are so high because there is not that many Splash Parks. She said we can put the bid out again and redo specs. Tina and Katrina have discussed two options: a Splash Park or fixing the pool up and opening it as a pool. Katrina said her staff would like to keep the pool. Bernadette said pool did not open this year and will not open next year because of needed repairs. Tina said it would take about four months for the Splash Park or repairs on the pool and that she would like to have a decision by January. Bernadette asked if Parks and Recreation will fund the money for repairs to the pool and Tina said yes. Tina said we have the money in the budget to do this and that she loves pools and would love to see it come back as a pool. Margo agreed.

Tina told everyone we have hired an Aquatic Supervisor this year to train for Water Safety Instructor and Life Guard.

Margo said Mitchells got a grant to help the kids that could not afford to pay for swim lessons.

They agreed to put it out for bids again to renovate the pool and add new equipment.

Tina told everyone Louie Coning resigned his position on the committee. She asked if they know anyone to represent NLR Community Center. Blenda and Tony said they would post it at NLR Community Center.

Tina went over the 2009 budget. Mr. Rhoads asked directors to put down their #1, #2 and #3. Tina said they are going to start looking at the budget Monday and they need to E-mail or call Mr. Rhoads and remind him to think about recreation. She went over the additional staff for Recreation, making facility leaders too full-time instead of part-time. But she does not know if that will happen. She said it has not been approved or disapproved. It has to go before to commission

Bernadette said we ask for more staff every year and we never get it. Rhonda said maybe we can have some of our kids at the meetings and ask for stuff they want. Bernadette said we have tried that. Tina said we have to keep asking so they don't forget us and that Charles and Otistene stand up for recreation at the commission meetings. Cedric said he would like to see Parks and Golf's budget. Bernadette asked if we could request that Bob Rhoads come to our next meeting. Tina said she will request but she would like for one of them to call him and request also.

Renee said she has been in the Sherman area for twenty eight years and she is just now seeing improvements, but had a bad two weeks of leaks from the roof. Bernadette said for years we have spent a fortune on repairs and Renee said they are putting a new roof on.

Tina said Katrina has been holding a Fitness Class and putting the money in a fund, \$10.00 per person and she should have \$2,000.00 by end of year.

Tina told members each center, Program Unit and Funland have made scrapbooks and they are welcome to look at these.

Tina asked members if they would be willing to help with grants. She asked each director to present two grants that they would like to apply for. They are to be looking for a class on Grant Writing. Finnegan and Assoc. are the grant writers for North Little Rock. Tina has asked them if they would help us on writing a grant. Tina went over the different grants available. Katrina said Hays Miller is a grant writer and would be willing to hold a class. Cedric, Margo, Rhonda, Artis and Sylvia said they would be willing to go to training for grant writing.

Jeff handed out the evaluation forms he will be using next summer for SAPLing Program.

Tina went over numbers that they would like to set a policy if child is under twelve years of age and not enrolled in program, parents need to pick them up by 6:00 p.m. Right now there are young kids hanging out at centers at 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. and they have to call their parents to come get them.

Bernadette talked about her nephew having a seizure at Glenview and that we need first aid at centers. Tina said we have requested in our capital budget wish list for Automatic External Defibrillators at the centers.

Margo said she will be able to attend four to six meetings out of the year that she is on the Historic Committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Janie Horn