

Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2008 6:00 pm Glenview Community Center, North Little Rock, AR

Members Present: Charles Jones, Terry Larry, Bernadette Sheppard, Sherri Pettit, Cedric Black, and Rhonda Hines

Excused Absent Members: Otistene Smith, Artis Boykin

Absent Members (Unknown reason): Louie Konings, Sylvia Jones, Justin Lindsey, James Lawson, Margo Tenner and Trinity Johnson

Staff Present: Glenda Parker, Jeff Caplinger, Travis Young, Blenda Wilson, Katrina Wilson, Renee Henson, Tina Worrell, Janie Horn

Guest: PARC Commissioner Chandra Martin

Janie called the roll.

Tina told committee their packages had been mailed to them.

Mr. Charles Jones talked about the repairs on the centers. He asked who makes the decision on who makes the repairs. Tina said it passes on to her and she then passes it on to Mr. Bob Rhoads. She said directors gave her the input on what they want or need. She said it is put on a capital list and what we can do that year we do and what we do not get done goes on the next years. Tina said the restrooms at North Heights and Glenview went by code regulations. Charles asked what was more important and Renee said her bathroom came first. Bernadette asked what about Sherman Parks roof and Renee said it has been patched for now.

Tina gave a report on the roofs for the centers. She said they are to meet with Rex Morris and specs will go out next Friday. Sherman Park is first on the list and restrooms at Sherman Park and Glenview are being renovated right now.

Tina said we got additional funds for handicap parking at Sherman Park and large meeting room at Glenview. The City is working with Hydco on the remodel of Glenview Pool into a Splash Park. Charles said we need to look at how we need to do repairs, like the floor was messed up at Sherman Park from the leaking roof and that messes up the warranty. He said we need to prioritize what work needs to be done.

Foundation- Tina took care of the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation. Tina will not be able to work on foundation paperwork during work hours. Tina said she cannot do everything for the Foundation, but she can help. Bernadette suggested the Foundation meets at the Advisory Meetings. Bernadette asked do they have to consult with Mr. Rhoads or the Mayor about use of money. Tina said no they do not. She said money has to be used for North Little Rock Parks & Recreation. She said they can hire an Executive Director, secretary, etc. Cedric said we need to get the ball rolling. Charles said it is Recreation and not Parks. Tina said Legal suggested that the Foundation needs to get an Auditor and Grant Writer for itself.

Public Hearing – Tina told them they have copies of the Public Hearings in their package. Bernadette said Sherman Park is under staffed. Tina said they have an opening and have

been interviewing and that Sherman Park has the same amount of employees as North Heights and Glenview.

Tina went over hiring procedures with everyone and explained the time frame we deal with. It is usually about 5 to 6 weeks for the entire process.

Tina discussed if the solution of making positions fulltime instead of 30 hours for facility leader. Charles asked if it would help if suggestions came from the RAC instead of Tina going to Mr. Rhoads.

Tina said center employees are asked to come to Funland during center hours. Employees are not asked to leave their centers if children or events are going on at their centers.

Bernadette asked about Capital Improvements being used for funding? Charles explained Capital Improvements through the years is different money.

Charles Jones said he had never had the kind discussions before concerning hiring, he suggested the Mayor should be made aware of the length of time it takes to hire personnel. Tina explained a new Human Resource Director is in place now.

Terry suggested better vehicles should be provided at centers. Tina said 5 years ago when she came on there was 1 truck in recreation. She said she has added vehicles and is continuing to provide better vehicles as is possible. Mileage for staff was addressed.

Sherri Pettit asked the question about boxing revenue. We explained that the boxing program is breaking even. We are not losing money plus the usage of the motels and restaurants that the hamburger tax brings in to the city.

Sherri Pettit complimented Funland employees being friendly and helpful when she was at Funland the previous weekend.

Charles Jones said he would contact Mr. Rhoads and ask to be put on the commission agenda each month for an information report. He asked that a list of concerns be given to him so he could inform the commission the needs and solutions from RAC members.

The subject was discussed that Burns Park received more attention than Recreation. Charles explained that the Park received National attention. Sylvia asked if there was a way we could raise money at the centers. She suggested we sell concession. Employees are required to work concession with centers being short handed. Volunteers helping were suggested. High School students were suggested.

Charles Jones asked if centers can charge for Basketball Games. Tina explained they can charge. The money goes into parks and recreation's funds which are used to subsidize the recreation programs and facilities.

Charles Jones suggested recommendations be made to the proper people.

Next meeting will be July 10 at 6:00 pm at North Heights
Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Janie Horn