

Recreation Advisory Meeting  
January 15, 2009  
6:00 p.m.  
North Heights Recreation Center

RAC Members Present: Otistene Smith, Cedric Black, Bernadette Sheppard, Terry James, Justin Lindsey, Rhonda Hines, Sylvia Jones.

Excused Absent Members: Charles Jones, Artist Boykin and Sherry Pettit.

Unexcused: Margo Tenner, Trinity Johnson and James Lawson

Staff Present: Tina Worrell, Renee Henson, Katrina Wilson, Tamara Douglas, Jeff Caplinger, Tony Pate and Janie Horn

Otistene welcomed everyone.

Janie called roll.

Otistene went over the written center reports. She asked about the broken glass and ceiling tile at Sherman Park if it has been replaced. Tina said they are working on it. Otistene also asked about the ventilation for the restrooms. Tina said she just heard about that through her report. She said they will contact Hydco.

Otistene said that she saw where we did not get the full time positions that we wanted due to the budget. She said that maybe we can shuffle some employees to the centers that have high volume. She asked Jeff for how many Programmers did he have on staff. He stated that he had five and four Program Aides. They work at all the centers. He said the Aides come in after school from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Jeff said the Programmers are in and out of the centers. The Programmers are helping with the After School Programs, Basketball Programs, Cheerleading. Otistene said she just wants to make sure there is staff to cover the children for liability reasons and that North Heights has a bigger volume of children. Tina said we are looking at giving North Heights School a key in the future and letting them use our facility. Rhonda asked would that not be a liability. Tina said we use their facility. Tina also said we have Senior Citizen Programs in our centers. Otistene wanted to make sure an employee is in the building when our facilities are being utilized due to the liability.

Open position for Finland was discussed. Otistene asked if it was in the budget. Tina said yes.

Otistene asked about Basketball Program at Glenview. Katrina said we have a drop in the number due to competition. Other leagues' do not have to pay as much as we charge. We charge \$250.00 per team. There are other leagues that just pay \$100.00. Jeff said our

cost covers the expense of uniforms, basketball nets, etc. Jeff said next year we are looking at Recreational and Advanced Basketball Leagues. Tina said we need funding to help with these programs. Otistene said they have got to have a list for 2009 from the centers on funding to the Foundation. She said they need to know what you want so they can take that back to the commission. Tina said what is brought in on programs goes back into Recreation

Katrina said that we have air conditioned gyms and that organizations would use our gyms at no cost. We do the concession.

Otistene discussed marketing and told them to move forward with it. Tina said they can get on the TV station and advertise. Blenda and Tony are doing this for the Fitness Facility at the Community Center.

Tina said Mr. Rhoads is going to help find \$5,000.00 for Fitness Equipment for Glenview. Katrina has already purchased Free Weights from her Adult Fitness Program.

Membership for Fitness Facility was discussed. The goal for Fitness Memberships is \$5,000.00 per month and \$60,000.00 throughout the year.

Tony went over the new rates for the Fitness Facility. Otistene said she would like the package with the new rates sent to the RAC Members.

The Foundation was discussed: Rhonda said the Foundation is on its way that we got a check from the grant writing class that Hays Miller taught. She said it was a really good class. They are going to have another class. There were 17 in this class. Mr. Hays said it takes about three to six months to get the grants.

Otistene asked if we have a North Little Rock Representative. Tina said we had one apply but he was not a North Little Rock resident. Tony said he is still working on it and that he has maybe two different guys. Otistene said she would like to have someone by next meeting.

Roof at Sherman Park is completed. Frame work is up at Glenview.

AED Defibrillators were discussed: Tina said she is still working on this and the Health Department is also.

Otistene asked what Invest in North Little Rock is about and Tina said they are encouraging patrons to eat in North Little Rock to help our Hamburger Tax. She asked the directors to come up with something to Invest in North Little Rock to advertise. We can put it in our Newsletter. Tina said we can also put it our e-mails. Justin said he can put one of the flyers in his uncle's restaurant.

Open Play Policy: Tina said after 6:00 p.m. Youth 13 yrs and older. Youth 5 to 12 yrs old with adult supervision or 13 yr old or older sibling may stay until the community

center close. Tina said we do not supervise on the outside just the inside. We are not liable for the kids on the outside, that we are not a daycare center. The parents are aware of this. We tell them all the time.

Tina introduced Sarah Hiatt as the intern from Arkansas Tech. She will be working with us for the next 13 weeks.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Janie Horn