

**Recreation Advisory Board
November 9, 2016
Minutes**

Members Present:

Loren Anthony
Kenny Eaton
Brett Remsberg
Bill Young
Susie Carson

Members Absent:

Brandi Parks Lane
Russ McCaig
Miles Harvey
Tony Heilman

Commission Representative:

Commissioner Kendra Wilkinson

Youth Commission Representative:

Staff Present:

Brian Urton Don Argo Tabitha Sharp

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman, Loren Anthony.

Loren commented that Kevin Wishart is the one that mentioned the Rotary funds at the last meeting.

Susie Carson moved to approve the October 19, 2016 Minutes.

Brett Remsberg seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Brett Remsberg nominated Loren Anthony for chair and Bill Young for vice-chair.

Bill Young motioned to approve the nomination.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Baseball/Softball Coaches Meetings

- Don Argo reviewed the proposal from the previous meeting. He stated that he, Kevin and Brian had reviewed all of the options and felt this was the best way to serve all of the students.
- Brian stated that they felt this was a good option to keep the Heights league teams going as well as making sure that the rec league kids did not get left behind.
- Bill asked if teams who lost players would have to add through draft.
- Brian stated that they would, but he didn't think it would affect any of the current teams.
- Bill confirmed that if there were 12 last year on a roster and two were not returning, the two would have to be picked through the draft.
- Brian stated that he was correct, but new teams would only be able to protect 7.
- Susie stated that it would be tough to cut kids.
- Don stated that each coach gets to protect the first ten.
- Brian stated that the only exception was the older baseball teams because of the requirements in that league.
- Bill stated that he felt this was a good option to keep the league competitive.

- Susie commended staff for their work and thought we should try it for a year and see what happens. She stated that it might put everyone on a more level playing field.
- Bill stated that he liked the protected number at 7, it makes the coaches work with the other kids.
- Brian clarified that this does not affect what each team does on the weekend during tournament play. He stated that staff hope that those kids will become better players and get to play on the weekends.
- Kenny asked if the Heights League had seen the proposal yet.
- Don stated that each district gets to make their own rules. He stated that this will actually level the playing field between our district and others.
- Susie asked if staff thought the traveling would affect the number of coaches.
- Don stated that we are struggling to find coaches now.
- Kenny stated that this might attract a higher level of coach because it raises the level of competitiveness.
- Brian stated that staff will make sure that there are coaches for every team. He stated that there will be conversations with the parents explaining that they will have to coach because staff can't do it anymore.
- Don stated that letters will be sent to all parents.
- Brian stated that typically there are only five away games each season.
- Don stated that any out of town teams that play through El Dorado will be subject to the same rules.
- Susie confirmed that everyone will be held to that standard.
- Don stated that they will not be able to use their location as an argument for team formation.
- Brian stated that all of the kids from each different city will be on the same board for the draw.
- Bill moved to accept the staff proposal for 2017 Baseball and Softball in El Dorado.
- Kenny seconded the motion.
- Bill asked if Heights only goes to U15.
- Don stated U15 for softball and U14 for baseball.
- Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Don stated that staff will take this proposal to the City Commission for approval.

Basketball Registration Information

- Don stated that basketball registration ended last Friday, but staff extended it to this Thursday. He stated that the YMCA is offering PreK and Kindergarten. Rec will be doing 1st – 5th. He stated that numbers are lower than the previous year for the older kids.
- Loren asked if they were going to extend to get a certain number of kids.
- Don stated that staff felt that because soccer finished last weekend, parents might not have signed up yet.
- Susie asked how many kids per team.
- Brian stated that they try for 8 kids on each team.
- Don stated that 1st and 2nd grades only have about five to six kids on each team.
- Bill asked how the three on three went last year.

- Brian stated that it was overwhelmingly positive because they have fewer kids to handle and the kids get to touch the ball more often. He stated that staff think the skill development is better because there is more time spent with the kids.
- Don stated that he likes the use of the modified full court.

New Business

- Bill asked about the turf discussion at McDonald stadium, he asked what the issues were.
 - Loren stated that he thought that heat and cost were two of the issues.
 - Bill stated that heat was an issue, but it would be worth it to help the drainage issue.
 - Commissioner Wilkinson stated that she has been told that staff have done all they could do and that the issues are due to the excessive amounts of rain.
 - Bill stated that obviously the money is an issue, but he hoped that if there was nothing else staff could do about the drainage issue then the Commission would consider turf.
 - Loren asked if the people who did the work at McDonald stadium are the same people saying there is not a drainage problem. He stated that if he was the one doing the work, he would not want to say he did it wrong.
 - Commissioner Wilkinson stated that she would bring it up with Scott Rickard and see if he feels differently.
 - Bill stated that he knows staff work hard to make things better, but he did not want to continue throwing time and money at this issue if it wasn't working. He stated he would not ask about the issue again if they could come back with an answer next meeting.
 - Loren stated that it is a concern because it causes injuries.
 - Bill stated that all three entities that use the facility have had injuries.
- Bill asked if work on the sales tax project had begun yet.
 - Commissioner Wilkinson stated that it won't begin until next year.
 - Bill asked if they could take into consideration that play begins in February.
- Brett thanked Brian and Don for attending the soccer coach's meeting and listening to his and the other coach's concerns.
- Susie said that volleyball went well.
- Susie asked about the sales tax task force.
 - Tabitha stated that the group is currently five members short. She stated that typically the task force meets two or three times and then goes out to market the issue.
 - Susie asked what the timeline for projects and implementation would be.
 - Tabitha stated that the group would make recommendations to the Commission and we would go from there.
 - Loren asked for a list of the projects from the master plan.
 - Tabitha stated that the projects decided on at the work session were:
 - Aquatic Center - \$7 million
 - Ball Fields - \$1.5 million which adds 4 fields and a restroom
 - Tennis Courts - \$800,000 6 courts
 - Activity Center - \$3 million for 2 courts, lockers, restrooms and concessions
 - R.I.O. Park – Tabled until the first two items are decided upon.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.