

Minutes of the Fairhope Recreation Board

The Fairhope Recreation Board met Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 5:15 p.m. in the Rec Center at 803 North Greeno Road.

Present were, Mary Gammer, Michelle Smith, Bob Keyser, Derek Thomas, Charlie Langham and Tom Kuhl. Absent: Jay Robinson, Cathy Hudson and Vann Saltz. Gayle Fogarty took minutes at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Charlie Langham at 5:15 p.m. The minutes of the May 16, 2018 meeting minutes were considered and approved on a motion by Bob Keyser, seconded by Mary Gammer, none opposed.

Old Business: Michelle Smith asked if the AED that was donated to the City by Eastern Shore Masters Swimming had been mounted yet? Tom Kuhl stated that he is having trouble getting a mount that works properly. Mary Gammer inquired where the AED at the Tennis Center came from – Tom added that Eleanor Mortenson donated it, Michelle stated that she would like a plaque added after the AED is installed. Mary asked if a plaque could be made to recognize the Tennis Center donation too.

New Business: Tom informed the group that the Fairhope Rotary Club would like to make a donation to the City of Fairhope for playground equipment to be installed at the Fairhope Soccer Complex. There was general discussion among the board members regarding the location of where the playground equipment will be placed. Tom added that professional installation would be required, and that the Rotary Club will install rubber curbing and mulch. The City will purchase these supplies.

Motion: A motion was made by the Fairhope Recreation Board to recommend to the Fairhope City Council to expend up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for acquisition and installation of a playground set at the Fairhope Soccer Complex, with the stipulation that the Fairhope Rotary Club will reimburse the City of Fairhope for the cost of the equipment itself, the motion was considered and approved by Bob Keyser, and seconded by Charlie Langham, none opposed. Tom asked that Gayle Fogarty send the motion to the City Clerk's office for consideration to be placed on the next City Council agenda.

Updates: Tom informed the board that the concrete slab at the tennis courts will be done in August sometime. Also, the slab has been poured at the soccer complex for the maintenance building. Bids were opened yesterday for the swimming pool building, the City only received one bid, it will be taken to the City Council for consideration. There was general discussion among the board members regarding the pool building materials. Tom added that requests were made in the FY2018-2019 budget to redo the indoor pool, if that is approved then the pool would need to be closed for a couple of months - estimated to be January and February 2019, if approved. He informed the board that St. Michael's Catholic School will host a swim tournament in September at the City pool. Tom also mentioned that youth baseball would like another field by the shop, he had an engineer look at the location and said water is coming into this area. Tom said, to install a field in that location would be expensive. He also informed the board that an eagle scout project is underway, the scout made benches and laid ten pallets of sod, the scout is doing a great job. Tom mentioned that he would like to get a photo of the Fairhope High School Softball Team that won state for the Rec Center lobby.

Bob Keyser stated that the indoor field at Fairhope High School will be replaced, as there are health concerns with the current material on the field. FHS has been selected as a pilot program to install this new field material, the company will pullout the infill and reset it. Mary Gammer stated that at the FTA meeting it was discussed to have signs installed on Morphy Avenue for residents to locate the tennis courts. FTA also requested that the City enhance the tennis area with landscaping and trees to provide shade. She also requested that the tennis center add a channel to the tennis center t.v. to view tennis tournaments such as ESPN. Tom commented that he would check with Tomas on the channel request and suggested the possibility of a shade sail rather than planting trees. Tom informed the board that the City has discussed using some of the tennis center land for a substation. Tom and other board members expressed concern that if that is done, then the long-term plan for tennis expansion would not be available near the current courts. Michelle Smith commented that maybe Sunset Rotary would like to donate a playground to the Tennis Center. She added that October 13 is a Master's Swim Meet.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.