

Minutes of the Fairhope Recreation Board

The Fairhope Recreation Board met Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. in the Rec Center at 803 North Greeno Road.

Present: Bob Keyser (arrived at 5:19 p.m.), Michelle Smith, Cathy Hudson, Tom Kuhl, Jay Robinson, Jack Burrell, Vann Saltz and Charlie Langham. Absent: Corey Martin and Derek Thomas. Gayle Fogarty took minutes at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Vann Saltz at 5:15 p.m. The minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting minutes were considered and approved on a motion by Cathy Hudson, seconded by Michelle Smith, none opposed.

There was general discussion of the 5-year plan among the board member and Councilmembers Jack Burrell and Jay Robinson.

Jay Robinson commented that the Fairhope Baseball board is willing to donate \$30,000 to the City of Fairhope for two additional baseball fields. Jay added that T-Ball had nearly 20 teams this year. Bob Keyser commented that a T-Ball field next to the City pool may be an option to temporarily accommodate additional baseball fields at Volanta. He added that parking on a T-Ball field will not harm the field. There was general discussion among the board members regarding parking/baseball and the layout of the volanta complex.

Councilmember Jack Burrell gave an update on the property at the intersection of Hwy 13/32, he indicated that a letter of intent has been given to the owner of the property. He added that an appraisal has been ordered for the property and things are moving quickly. There was general discussion among the board members regarding the location of the ball fields and potential redesign of Volanta. Tom Kuhl said, let's wait and see how the negotiations and discussions work out, then come to a decision. Tom added that the land/park at the intersection of Hwy 13/44 would be an ideal location for a 9-hole disc golf course, walking trail and parking area, if the council approves funding.

Old Business: Tom Kuhl stated that the bid for the Pickle Ball courts are now open. Charlie Langham inquired about the stadium becoming ADA compliant, Tom responded that he has not received any plans from the architect at this time.

Cathy Hudson stated that 225 swimmers are signed up for the summer, and the City Meet will be held at the end of July.

Michelle Smith inquired about the semi-pro football team, Tom Kuhl stated that it is going well, and the season begins next Spring.

Bob Keyser stated that the Fairhope Soccer club is concerned about another soccer league in Fairhope.

Charlie Langham stated that he is excited about Recreation in Fairhope. He stated that Spring football went well and that several Fairhope High School students have been offered Division 1 scholarships.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.