

## MINUTES

### *Recreation Advisory Board/Tree Board/Little League Board Department of Parks and Recreation*

The Recreation Advisory Board /Tree City USA Board/Little League Board met in a scheduled meeting on Thursday, December 19th, 2024, at 12:10 pm.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Bob Miller, Mary Scudder, Linda Long, Johnny Coffman and Larry Rhodes

Upon roll call the following members were absent: Ron Starr, Moises Contreras

The following guests and staff members were present:

Matt Siniard, Derek Phillips, Reya Joseph, and Shellie Stephens

The following decisions were made and ordered a part of the records of the Recreation Advisory Board/Tree City USA Board/ Little League Board.

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### MINUTES

*12:14pm-* Minutes for meetings held on October 17th, 2024, we're given to board, and we're reviewed with no changes suggested.

Motion made by Bob Miller, seconded by Larry Rhodes, to approve the minutes.

Motion Carried

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### NEW BUSINESS

#### *Basketball League- 12:15pm*

Matt Siniard discussed the league's growth from 23-24 season to 24-25 season, having the total number of players being 200. Teams ranging from Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. Teams were drafted and practice started 12/9. Practice schedule was handed out to show usage of gyms and time slots available with current availability of school gyms. Matt mentioned Westside is primarily used by the YMCA and Youth Basketball cannot enter until the YMCA has all children picked up. North City is planned to be demolished, eliminating the gym for future use. Last-minute changes have been made by the school creating changes for practices and times at different gyms over the next few weeks. Mary Scudder suggested using gyms at local churches and Matt mentioned the process and insurance needs creating a limited number of options. Multiple suggestions were made for areas of land and other venues.

#### *Athens Basketball Officials Association- 12:33pm*

Matt Siniard discussed contracting Referees this coming season for basketball games. Two Referees are now scheduled for every Saturday, splitting them for PreK/K game and 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and together for 3/4th grade and 5/6th grade. There is a total of 11 games for the season and contracting Referees would improve the quality of the program and hopefully lessen issues with parents during games.

Other Park Updates 12:40pm

Matt Siniard discussed not being awarded the Blue Cross Healthy Places Grant. The RFP (request for proposal) for Heritage Park playground has been sent to the state and is waiting for approval before the official bid. The Tree City USA forms have been started and we will need the information for any trees pruned, planted, removed or ordered through Parks & Rec, Urban Tree, and Public Works. Matt mentioned the Daddy Daughter dance tickets will be available starting January 1, 2025. Derek discussed Sports Connect, the mandatory platform needed for Little League Baseball. The Dept. had a scheduled a zoom meeting with a representative that showed a demonstration of the app earlier this week showing the highlights of the app. Discussion about planning for next season's Basketball season began with the possibility of having limited gyms next season. The process suggested/discussed was finding gyms available, insurance options and mentioning this all in the Strategic Planning and Study Sessions in 2025.

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REPORTS

No reports.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.