



Oconee County Parks & Recreation

Lisa Davol, Director

Board of Commissioners

John Daniell, Chairman
Mark Thomas, Post 1
Chuck Horton, Post 2
Amrey Harden, Post 3
Mark Saxon, Post 4

Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2023

Members Present: Richard Ashmore, Jason Hewell, Leslie Hunsinger, Amanda McCoy Ledford, Dan Moore, Giles Moree

Members Absent: Craig Moses, Wesley Scott, Kimberly Thomas

Staff: Lisa Davol, Whitney Sperlik

Guest: None

BOC: None

Press: Caitlin Farmer (Oconee Enterprise)

Minutes:

1. Call to Order – The Recreation Committee convened the regular meeting at Oconee County Senior Center – Oconee Veterans Park. Leslie Hunsinger called the meeting to order.
2. Tour Senior Center expansion. Davol led a tour through the Senior Center new facility expansion.
3. Approve the agenda. Richard Ashmore made a motion to approve the agenda. Giles Moree seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Approve January 17 Meeting Minutes. Richard Ashmore made a motion to approve the minutes and Giles Moree seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
5. Review Town Hall March 21 meeting minutes and notes.
 - Hunsinger was surprised that the topic of a county pool resurfaced.
 - Moree asked for an update on the LAS site decommissioning. Davol informed Moree Calls Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades have to be completed prior to the Land Application System being decommissioned. Current estimate for decommission is a minimum of 2 years out, with the any LAS buildings at least 3 years out.
 - Ashmore stated the priority for LAS development was Road Department/Water Resources/Fleet.
 - Hewell stated that the City of Watkinsville purchased 100 acres for a passive park.
 - Davol stated that the OVP tennis expansion is targeted for 2025 and the HCM pickleball conversion would occur once that project is completed, potentially in 2026.
 - Ashmore suggested that the swim community seeking a county pool contact the high schools since 70% of property taxes goes to the BOE. Ashmore added that the operating expenses and required staffing would not be supported by SPLOST and would need to be funded.



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- Moree said the typically only private schools have pools. Moree asked what the estimated cost to build an aquatic facility and Davol responded \$10M-\$15M, plus operational costs.
 - Ashmore stated that indoor gym spaces is needed over a county pool.
 - Hunsinger mentioned the request for concrete tee pads on the HCM Disc Golf course.
 - Davol provided an update on the Heritage Park master plan process.
 - Ashmore reiterated a comprehensive master plan be developed.
 - Barsanti commented that the Oconee Parks Foundation (OPF) received several contributions after the last Town Hall meeting after she encouraged citizens to support the foundation.
6. Other business if needed.
- Moree said there was a good turnout at the S. Main Brewery event, stating it was good exposure for OPF along with the foundation members volunteering for Touch a Truck and the Bike Rodeo.
 - Davol suggested OPF develop a signature event for annual fundraising to cover administrative costs. Davol added that some of the feedback received was the hesitancy to donate to OPF knowing 10% of donation would go toward admin fees.
 - McCoy informed the group that there would be a Trails and Rails fundraiser at Heritage Park on June 4.
 - Hunsinger asked for clarification on the tennis court reservation processes.
 - Davol requested additional agenda items for future meetings.
7. Public comments.
8. Motion to adjourn made by Giles Moree. Seconded by Richard Ashmore. Motion approved unanimously.

Next RAC Meeting scheduled for July 18 at 5 pm at Oconee Veterans Park