

Gem Lakes Recreation Association Board of Directors August 14, 2004 Meeting Minutes

The Gem Lakes Recreation Association Board of Directors met on the morning of Saturday, August 14, 8:00 a.m. at the Pavilion.

Present: Buddy Brinkley, Gary Bunker, Scott Flickinger, Gary Marozas, Dennis Saylor, Johnny Spears, and Mike Davenport.

Minutes: The minutes from the July board meeting were approved with no comments.

Annexation Issue: Mike Davenport reported on the progress of the proposed annexation for the “sewer section” of Gem Lakes. He reported that the proposal for the City of Aiken to purchase the sewer system won’t be on the ballot in November, which he considered to be a “good thing” since these types of questions usually do better in special elections. The City of Aiken is continuing to collect data on the system prior to making a bid. The rate settlement has gone through, which is the \$24.96 + \$23.00 plan that was discussed previously, though the timing of the next proposed rate increase remains unknown. A town meeting will be held regarding annexation. A recent analysis showed that approximately 75% of the residents on the sewer will save money if annexed. Even if the system is bought by the city, every annexed resident will save \$12 per month by being a city resident due to the ending of the “doubling” for county residents. The recreation area was walked down by Aiken Public Safety Chief Pete Frommer. The addition of automatic gates will allow the association property to benefit from city police patrols and city garbage service. Finally, it was noted that with annexation the City of Aiken will take over the roads.

Treasurer’s Report: The turnover to Ed Seufert remains incomplete. According to Evelyn Miano, our accountant, the balance stands at \$95,920.31, divided into \$51,197.35 in money market and \$44,722.96 in checking. It was reported that \$2,470 in back dues was received from Nate Osbon for various properties. Some past due balances owed from previous owners are to be written off the books.

Recreation Manager’s Report: Johnny Spears reported that new basketball goals were bought, the benches on the beach moved, and the replacement grill ordered. It was reported that the lifeguards will continue through Labor Day, and that no swimming should be allowed if there are no lifeguards on duty. Dennis Saylor said he’d contact the insurance company regarding liability if no lifeguards are present. The debris behind the tennis courts was removed. The next work day was scheduled for October 9, and the board agreed that it needs to be better advertised than previous work days. The shutdown of the swimming area for two days was discussed, in which Bill Busser discovered a bad smell in the stagnant water behind the standpipe by the dam. DHEC investigated, and a test by Microbac found no issues.

Updates and Status Reports: Gary Marozas informed the board that two contractors would be by later that day to discuss the proposed fishing dock. Originally set for immediately after the board meeting, the time was moved back due to a scheduling issue with the contractors. Johnny Spears reported that the boards on the bridge need to be replaced.

New Business: Gary Marozas reported on progress with setting up a web site. The board voted to award the contract to Donnie Castricone, the vendor suggested by Gary. The board approved

a measure to add additional dirt to the “new pond” forming on the terrace between the pavilion and the swimming area. The board voted to replace faulty sprinkler heads and procure additional spares as needed. A motion to obtain a general sketch of the sprinkler head configuration around the recreation area was passed. It was determined that there are no sprinkler heads in the so-called “second lot” above the pavilion. There was a brief discussion on a proposal to move the intermediate gate further down the access road towards the swimming area. The board decided to defer any decision on this issue, and instead address it with the automatic gate issue associated with annexation.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 8 a.m. at the Gem Lakes Pavillion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.