

Lamar County Sports Complex (LCSC) Visionary Board

Multi-Purpose Building Conference Room

Dec. 12, 2018

Agenda/Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 1:20 PM by Sid Gonsoulin, Chair
2. Acceptance of minutes from Nov. 28, 2018 meeting held at Canebrake Country Club – minutes accepted.
3. Voting procedure-consensus, voice/hand votes, registered in minutes. All agreed to utilize consensus building. Voting would only occur should there be an impasse but names would not be recorded since the LCSC Visionary Board is an advisory board and not incorporated.
4. Acceptance of “Consent Agenda” for all meetings. All agreed. The use of a Consent agenda is to give board members a chance to create the agenda in advance of the actual meeting. A consent agenda is an agreed upon agenda. Changes can be accepted the day of the meeting but these items are secondary to the Consent Agenda and may get tabled until the next scheduled Board meeting. Agenda accepted.
5. Questions regarding review of the 2018 Lamar County Comprehensive Plan was addressed with no significant discussion.
6. Definition of the concept of a Sportsplex as understood by citizens when completing the survey for the comprehensive plan. Addressed and generally understood by citizens. As planning evolves there will be a clear understanding of all components of the master plan.
7. List of all facilities either managed or maintained by Lamar County Parks and Recreation Department. List provided by Heath Sellers.
8. Mission and Vision for the LCSC Visionary Board. In progress-as

presented in draft form to Board members on Dec. 18, 2018.

9. Goals/Objectives for the LCSC Visionary Board. In progress as presented to board members on Dec. 18, 2018. Thank you Heath and Grant for staying after the meeting to assist with the Mission and Goal.
10. Develop a list of activities/sports that should be facilitated by the Sports Complex (initially utilize the survey results from the comprehensive plan based on highest number of responses-sportsplex, playground equipment, walking/bike trails, soccer fields, football fields, enclosed shelter for restrooms, tennis courts, baseball fields, volleyball courts – see chart 2-2: Recreation (pg. 11)

Initial phase should include the following: soccer, football fields, tennis courts, walking/recreation/bike trails, playgrounds, senior age opportunities (TBD) and covered shelters for restrooms and concessions. This list is to be provided to the LC Board of Supervisors in preparation for contracting an engineering firm.

11. Prioritize based on short, medium, and long range a list of facilities that facilitate activities/sports within a sportsplex. In progress– see initial phase listed in #10.
12. What is criteria for location of the sportsplex? i.e., central to reaching most citizens, ease of access to space, size of space required, availability of space, suitability of space, cost to secure space, contiguous infrastructure (roads, utilities, etc.), ability to create access from different directions, wet land mitigation requirements, entrepreneurship opportunities, economic development opportunities, ability to obtain grants, legislative support, sponsorships and partnerships etc. Discussion was to add “the ability to phase the comprehensive master plan.” Other criteria to be included would be the normally accepted practices followed by the LC Board of Supervisors.
13. Review aerial maps provided by Lamar County Planning Office – Rank best locations. The Board reviewed two sites, the LC Industrial Park and the 16th section land located on HWY 98 West. The Vision Board determined the Industrial Park is not large

enough to accommodate a comprehensive Sports Complex. The board recommends that the LC Board of Supervisors focus primarily on the 16th section land unless other sites are presented. It was mentioned that cost of the properties will be significant criteria when selecting the best site.

14. Review potential list of engineering firms as provided by the ADP: Shows, Dearman, and Waits, The Walker Associates, Neel-Schaffer Engineering, Clearpoint Engineering. A 5th firm was introduced to potentially be invited to propose: Andrews Engineering. Additionally it was mentioned that the Board would be in favor of local firms partnering with other local firms or firms not necessarily local.
15. Set in motion an interview date and list of invited firms to interview. To expedite the proposal/presentation process, an information session for interested/invited firms can be scheduled in advance of the interviews. Scope of work would have to be developed prior to an information session. A previously reviewed request was sent to the LC Board through Supervisor Steve Lampton with the intent the request be on the LC Board's Dec. 20, 2018 meeting agenda. (See below minutes)
16. Set in motion site visits to the following: Gulfport Sportsplex, Chappapeela Sports Park – Hammond, LA, Opelika Sportsplex and Parks, Opelika, AL, others (can begin as soon as engineering firm selected.) On Hold. To be scheduled.
17. Consider the development of a diverse Sports/Activities **Advisory** Team consisting of sports/activities experts-enthusiasts to include a social media guru. To be completed at a further date. It was suggested that either 1 or 2 Board members take leadership in recruiting and leading this Advisory Team.
18. Determine next meeting date and tentative location. TBD – next meeting date will be determined once the LC Board sets in motion progression of action that would ultimately lead to contracting an Engineering firm to advance the Sports Complex Master Plan.
19. Other – Suggested by Grant, Mike, and Heath that the Board considers getting the work of the Board placed on LC website. Members agreed this to be a good idea. Sid will reach out to Jody Waites to determine how this can be done.

20. The Board appreciates the involvement of the Area Development Partnership , especially Todd Jackson's attendance at meetings and providing valuable input along with statistical maps.
21. Having talked to Philip, Sid reported that Philip indicated his hip replacement surgery procedure went well and his recovery is progressing very well All good news!

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM?