

CHAPTER 18

PARKS AND RECREATION*

Sub-Chapter A -- In General

Sub-Chapter B -- Parks, Generally

Sub-Chapter A

In General

SECTION 18:1. CREATION OF LAFOURCHE PARISH RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

There is hereby created an advisory board to assist the Lafourche Parish Police Jury in its public recreation program for the parish. (Ord. No. 929,12/11/57)

Comment -- See LRS 33:4552, et seq., for authority of parish governments regarding local public recreation facilities. Ordinance No. 929 repealed several earlier ordinances dealing with re-creation in the parish, specifically Ordinance Nos 805 and 840.

SECTION 18:2. LAFOURCHE PARISH RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: MEMBERSHIP; COMPENSATION; OFFICERS; VACANCIES

A. The board herein created shall be known as the Lafourche Parish Recreation Advisory Board and shall be composed of eleven (11) members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Board of Committee Appointments with the approval of the Lafourche Parish Council as follows: One member from each of the following: Lafourche Parish Recreation District No. 1; Lafourche Parish Recreation District No. 2; Lafourche Parish Recreation District No. 3; Lafourche Parish Recreation District No. 4; Lafourche Parish Recreation District No. 5; City of Thibodaux; and the Lafourche Parish School Board. The members from the above agencies shall be selected by the Board of Committee Appointments of the Lafourche Parish Council. One (1) member shall be appointed from that area of Lafourche Parish lying outside the aforementioned recreation districts and the City of Thibodaux; and three (3) members from the Lafourche Parish Council.

***Comment** -- For creation of recreation districts, see Section 24:500, this Code equipment, materials and supplies within the corporate limits of the parish for playgrounds, recreation centers and all other facilities and activities for the public; For creation of recreation district, see Section 24:500, this Code.

§ 18:2

B. The term of office shall be “At the Pleasure of the Council”. The members of the board shall serve without pay and shall continue in office until their successors are appointed. When a vacancy occurs on the board by reason of death, resignation, or for any other cause other than expiration of the term of office, it shall be filled by appointment by the Lafourche Parish Council for the unexpired term.

(Ord. No. 929, 12/11/57; as amended by Ord. No. 1107, 8/9/72; and Ord. No. 1830, 6/8/88)

Comment -- the 1972 amendment increased the membership of the Board from seven to nine members, and increased representation of the parish governing body from one to three. Ordinance No. 1515 further increased the size of the Board from nine to eleven members.

SECTION 18:3. LAFOURCHE PARISH RECREATION BOARD, POWERS AND DUTIES

A. The Lafourche Parish Recreation Advisory Board shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To advise and assist the Police Jury in providing, establishing, conducting and supervising recreation areas, facilities, services and programs for public recreation in its broadest sense, including playgrounds, parks, play fields, swimming pools, indoor recreation centers, and any and all other recreation facilities and activities.

2. To advise and assist the Police Jury in the purchase, lease, acquisition by donation or otherwise, construction and equipment of lands, grounds, buildings, facilities, provided, that the title to all lands and buildings shall be vested in the public.

3. To advise and assist in the selection of a trained and qualified superintendent of recreation and such other assistants, supervisors, directors, play leaders, caretakers and other employees as may be necessary for the efficient administration, conduct and development of the public recreation system, and to advise and assist in promulgating the duties and fixing the compensation of all employees.

4. To hold at least one (1) regular meeting each month; to adopt by-laws for the administration of its affairs and conduct of its meetings, and to appoint such committees as it may deem advisable; to recommend to the Police Jury rules and regulations for the use of playgrounds, recreation centers and all other recreational facilities and equipment belonging to the public, including recommendations concerning the reasonable charges and fees for the use thereof as deemed necessary.

5. To advise and assist the Police Jury by formulating a budget for the recreation program with the funds derived from the parishwide two-mill recreation tax, with recommendations to the Police Jury for the amounts to be allocated to the various incorporated and unincorporated recreation districts of the Parish and for such other purposes as required in the general recreation program of the Parish.

6. For the purpose of acquiring lands needed for recreation purposes the Lafourche Parish Recreation Advisory Board, acting as the duly authorized agent of the Police Jury, shall have the power to execute contracts to acquire by purchase, gift or lease property and servitudes necessary or incidental to recreation purposes, provided however, that any such obligation undertaken by the

Recreation Advisory Board shall not in any manner commit the Lafourche Parish Police Jury to the expenditure of funds, and further, said undertakings of said Recreation Advisory Board shall be financed exclusively with revenues available to said Recreation Advisory Board.

(Ord. No. 929, 12/11/57; as amended by Ord. 1119, 6/13/73)

Comment -- The 1973 amendment added the provisions in sub-paragraph 6 as an additional power of the Recreation Board.

**SECTION 18:4. LAFOURCHE PARISH RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD,
EMPLOYMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS PROHIBITED**

Effective January 1, 1969, the Lafourche Parish Advisory Board shall not employ any of its board members for any remuneration. (Ord. No. 1051, 10/9/68)

**SECTION 18:5. PARISH TREASURER DIRECTED TO DEPOSIT RECREATION
FUNDS TO ACCOUNT OF RECREATION BOARD; WITHDRAWAL
OF FUNDS; BONDING OF BOARD TREASURER AND ASSISTANT
TREASURER**

A. The Treasurer of the Lafourche Parish Police Jury is hereby authorized and instructed to deposit all receipts of taxes, and proceeds of loans made in anticipation of tax revenue receipts, pertaining to the parishwide recreation program, and all withdrawals against these taxes and proceeds of loans so deposited will be made by the Lafourche Parish Recreation Advisory Board for legal recreation purposes only by check under the signature of the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer of that Board and countersigned by the President or Vice-President of that Board.

B. The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Lafourche Parish Recreation Advisory Board each shall be bonded in an amount of not less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).

(Ord. No. 933, 2/12/58)

**SECTION 18:6. LAFOURCHE PARISH RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD,
MINUTES AND RECORDS**

The Lafourche Parish Recreation Advisory Board shall keep accurate minutes of its meetings, as well as all recommendations and proposals which it shall from time to time submit to the Police Jury, which said records shall be filed with the Secretary of the Police Jury and open to the public for inspection. (Ord. No. 929, 12/11/57)

SECTION 18:7 - 18:24. RESERVED

SECTION 18:25. LAFOURCHE PARISH RECREATION COALITION CREATED

A. A Recreation Coalition is hereby created for the purpose of framing a plan for the effective administration of the Parish Recreation System subject to the terms, conditions and provisions hereinafter set forth.

§ 18:25

1. There shall be eight (8) members of the Recreation Coalition for the Parish of Lafourche. Membership shall be composed of a Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for Recreation Districts Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 11, and the Director of Recreation for the City of Thibodaux. Each appointment of a member to the Coalition shall be ratified by a majority vote of the Lafourche Parish Council.

2. Each member to the Coalition shall be an elector in the Parish of Lafourche and the State of Louisiana; shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age; and shall be a resident of the Parish of Lafourche and the State of Louisiana.

B. In the event of the death or the inability or unwillingness of a member of the Recreation Coalition of the Parish of Lafourche to serve, whether before or during the life of the Coalition, the vacancy shall be filled by nomination from the Board of Commissioners of the Recreation District lacking representation, subject to ratification by the Lafourche Parish Council. In any event, the absence from five (5) meetings is automatically cause for termination.

1. The Coalition shall have full authority to frame a plan for the overall administration of the Lafourche Parish Recreation System, which shall be submitted to the Lafourche Parish Council for their approval and subsequent implementation, or rejection.

2. The plan for the overall administration of the Lafourche Parish Recreation System shall specifically address, and contain recommendations relative to organizational structure; long range planning; staffing and personnel management; budget management and finance; public participation and coordination; and procedures for implementation.

C. The Clerk of Court of the 17th Judicial District shall administer the oath required by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana to the members of the Coalition. No member of the Coalition shall be qualified to serve as such unless and until he has taken and subscribed to said oath.

1. After the oath has been administered, the members shall proceed to effect the organization of the Coalition and shall:

a. Adopt rules of procedure for the Coalition, which rules shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this section and which rules may, in the discretion of the Coalition create and establish such committees and subcommittees as the Coalition deems appropriate;

b. Elect from among their number, a chairman, a vice-chairman and such other officers as they may deem necessary;

c. The chairman may appoint such subcommittee and chairman as necessary.

d. Take such other actions as they deem necessary to effect a permanent organizational structure of the Coalition. The rules of procedure adopted by the Coalition shall be subject to amendment provided; however, that no member shall be allowed to vote by proxy.

2. The Coalition shall have full authority to request the use of the facilities and services, of the Lafourche Parish Council or any political subdivision thereof as available and all such agencies should cooperate with the Coalition with normal services, or use of facilities, if it does not interfere. In addition, the Lafourche Parish Director of Recreation shall serve as the primary staff person in facilitation of the functions of the Coalition.

3. The Lafourche Parish Council may appropriate funds to the Coalition for necessary expenses after the request by the Coalition Chairman.

4. The Coalition shall draft and propose a Plan for the overall administration of the Lafourche Parish Recreation System for submission to the Lafourche Parish Council for subsequent implementation, and shall meet for not less than six (6) months nor more than eighteen (18) months after it has been convened. This later date may be extended by the Lafourche Parish Council, if additional time is required.

5. The Coalition shall hold a minimum of one (1) meeting a month. All meetings shall be open to the public, and the Coalition shall give notice of the purpose, time, and place of all meetings by one (1) publication in the Official Journal of the Lafourche Parish Council, at least three (3) days prior to the date of the meeting.

D. The Coalition shall submit the proposed draft of the Plan of Administration to the Lafourche Parish Council upon completion of its work. At the discretion of the Coalition it also may propose and submit at the same time, such additional provisions as it deems appropriate. The Plan of Administration as drafted by the Coalition, together with any additional provisions proposed for submission, shall be submitted to the Lafourche Parish Council for their adoption or rejection. Within ninety (90) days after submission of the proposed draft, and prior to final action on the Plan, the Lafourche Parish Council shall call a public hearing on said Plan.

1. The Plan of Administration shall become effective upon ordination by the Lafourche Parish Council.

(Ord. No. 2285, 3/8/95)

SECTIONS 18:26 - 18:99. RESERVED

[RESERVED]

Sub-Chapter B

Parks, Generally

SECTION 18:100. ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED IN PARISH PARKS

A. Glass containers, loud offensive noises, littering, horseback riding, golf, domestic animals, three and four wheelers, motor cycles, bicycles on walking trail, and the operation of motor vehicles in all recreation parks in Lafourche Parish is hereby prohibited.

B. The Sheriff of this Parish is hereby specifically requested to assist in the enforcement of the provisions of this Section.

C. Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment in the parish jail for a period of not more than thirty (30) days, or by fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00); or by both such imprisonment and fine, at the discretion of the Court.

(Ord. No. 2243, 8/10/94)

SECTION 18:101. ACCESS PROHIBITED DURING CERTAIN HOURS

No one shall, without the written consent of the Lafourche Parish Recreation District No. 11 Board of Commissioners, enter onto any park grounds except for designated hours set by the board.

(Ord. No. 2810, 11/9/99)

[RESERVED]