

The Richlands Recreation Commission held a regular meeting at the Richlands Recreation Park on December 16th, 2019 at 7:30PM with the following present:

Recreation Department: Fred Phillips

Other Attendees:

Richlands Town Council Members:

Recreation Commission Members Present: Craig Earls, Jeff Hurst, Joe McCall, LaRhonda Lindsey, Corey Whited, Tony Cordle

Recreation Commission Members Not Present: Mary Ann Strong, Frances Meadows, Mike Webb, Joel Horn

Jeff Hurst opened the Richlands Recreation Commission meeting and welcomed everyone to the December Meeting.

Old Business:

October Meeting Minutes Approval

Jeff Hurst: For old business, we need to approve the October Meeting minutes. We did not have a quorum in November. Does anyone have any corrections, additions, or deletions to the October meeting minutes? Tony Cordle made a motion to approve the October Meeting minutes. Joe McCall seconded the motion. No further comments, motion carries 6/0.

New Business:

Recreation Department Volunteer of the Year Award Nominations (Jeff Hurst)

Jeff Hurst: It is that time of the year for us to nominate a person for Volunteer of the Year award. We can do it this month or wait a month, but we normally do this in December.

Tony Cordle: I think we should do it this month. And I would like to nominate Larry Meadows. He has not had any kids in the baseball program for a long time and he still gives a lot of his time for baseball and all-stars.

Jeff Hurst: He officiates a lot for us and does a lot.

Craig Earls: He works a lot with the baseball kids even outside of Little League.

Tony Cordle: I know that Nikki Crigger was nominated last year and did a lot for the cheerleading.

Jeff Hurst: I know Dave Ascue has always did a lot for the community and he works with basketball. He is always willing to help and has helped a lot over the years.

Fred Phillips: There is a lot of people that are giving of time and Mark Gillespie has did a lot for the baseball and softball fields.

Jeff Hurst: Anyone else?

Fred Phillips: Ronnie Cordle has helped out a lot with the weight room and getting the equipment and really helping out. He helped a lot of with the bathroom remodeling and did a great job in making sure they were coming along as expected.

Jeff Hurst: It looks like we have Ronnie Cordle, Larry Meadows, Dave Ascue, Mark Gillespie. After a group discussion, LaRhonda Lindsey put a motion forward for Larry Meadows to be the 2019 Richlands Recreation Volunteer of the Year, Tony Cordle seconded the motion. No further comments, motion carries 6/0.

Recreation Facility Usage Form (Jeff Hurst)

Jeff Hurst: We have talked about this in the past and coming up with a form for when groups want to use the gyms. With the form, should we look at a fee for using the gym if groups use them?

Tony Cordle: Yes, we talked about looking at scheduling half the gym for a day etc.

Jeff Hurst: If we have situations where groups are using them, and shutting the gym down, we would like to use a form to cover it. For RYBL, we use it 6 nights a week during basketball season. We had issues with Tennis etc. and others that want to use the facility. RYBL puts the money back into the facility. Should we have a charge for usage of the gym for groups?

Fred Phillips: It is a touchy situation sometimes. Are we charging the Project Grad for usage? For example, if I try to put a pickle ball league around it. The wrestling for example we were down for 3 days. So, that is kind of the things we run into.

Tony Cordle: How is the Volley Ball doing?

Fred Phillips: We are not making any money on it except for concession, they take the door money. It was put together quick, but a ton of kids are coming to it.

Tony Cordle: I think next year maybe we should get together and look at when are the best times and work out the revenue sharing etc.

Jeff Hurst: If you are using it for a number of days per week then we run into situation for set fees for a league. The issue we run into is that we will run groups all the time and not let the public in.

LaRhonda Lindsey: Has anyone approached Cedar Bluff about paying towards it and also the County?

Fred Phillips: I have talked to them. My suggestion is to go to the RDA meeting and ask them. We did surveys to show how many are using it that are living outside of Richlands.

Joe McCall: It is important to keep it fair and I can see where it can get tricky.

Tony Cordle: It is great and Fred has it looking great. We don't want to push them a way.

LaRhonda Lindsey: We were told that we are covered under insurance through the Town.

Jeff Hurst: Do we do a usage form for a day vs long term usage?

Corey Whited: What if we do a minimal fee for leagues, and then a minimal fee for daily use.

Fred Phillips: We are just not able to run all of the leagues ourselves based on staffing.

Tony Cordle: I don't have an answer, but I think it is good that we have some groups running it.

Fred Phillips: We need it consistent and we need it fair. We may need to form a sub-committee.

Jeff Hurst: I think we do need a form and continue to discuss it. No action taken.

Recreation Updates (Fred Phillips)

Fred Phillips: The Volleyball a big success this season and they will be wrapping up here in a few weeks. I do have a few meetings with the Shott Foundation and Skewes Family Foundation for our next phase of work here at the Recreation Park. Basketball is starting up, and membership is going strong as well. The next phase is to put a new building where the tennis courts is.

Joe McCall: It would be good to have a golf simulator.

Fred Phillips: With the building we can do a lot of things with community support. I would also like to find someone to build a big executive table with wood for this room, so that it is more formal here.

Other Topics:

None

No further comments.

Next meeting – January 20th, 2020 at 7:30 PM at the Richlands Recreation Park

Jeff Hurst - Adjourned meeting.