

The Richlands Recreation Commission held a regular meeting at the Richlands Recreation Park on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at 7:30PM with the following present:

**Recreation Department:** Jessica Reynolds, Fred Phillips

**Other Attendees:** Brad Ward, Chad Vance, Rick Burks

**Richlands Town Council Members:** Mary Ann Strong

**Recreation Commission Members Present:** Craig Earls, Joe McCall, Tony Cordle, Frances Meadows, Ronnie Cordle, LaRhonda Lindsey (Phone in)

**Recreation Commission Members Not Present:** Anthony Cox, Brannon Breeding, Jeff Hurst

Ronnie Cordle opened the Richlands Recreation Commission meeting and welcomed everyone to the January Meeting.

**Public Comments:**

Ronnie Cordle: We have a few members of the community that are here to discuss some items with us.

Brad Ward: We are coming tonight to request use of the softball field here at the recreation park. At the end of February we are going to hold tryouts for the Middle School softball. We would also like to use it through the week.

Craig Earls: We are looking to get lights for the high school field, probably this year. So, we should not have this issue next year.

Ronnie Cordle: How long will it last?

Brad Ward: Until the end of May.

Ronnie Cordle: We voted that soccer gets first use of the field, so we will need to work it with them as well.

Fred Phillips: They will want to use it after school.

Ronnie Cordle: We don't think this will be an issue, but it will be best to work it out with the Soccer team to make sure we do not have any conflicts.

Fred Phillips: Rick Vencil, LaRhonda Lindsey and Mike Bandy will probably use it. Who will be in charge? We have already seen people ask to use the field down here for co-ed. We are going to charge them \$100/Saturday or \$150/Weekend (no lights).

Jessica Reynolds: We had someone ask today as well.

Brad Ward: Can we use the lights.

Fred Phillips: Yes.

Ronnie Cordle: As long as it doesn't interfere with soccer we should be ok. The field is still there until we move forward with the soccer field project.

Brad Ward: Yes, we will work with the on the schedule. We wanted to work it out with Little League to use Critterville, but they are not having General Membership meetings any longer, so we could not ask them.

Mary Ann Strong: Really? That seems surprising.

Craig Earls: That is how I understand it as well. I think they are still having board meetings, just not membership meetings. I'm sure if you need to discuss something you can ask to get on the agenda, but they are not having regular meetings

Brad Ward: Yes, we are pretty disappointed for the girls about it.

Ronnie Cordle: Thank you for coming to the meeting and let us know if you need anything.

## **Old Business:**

### **November Meeting Minutes Approval**

Ronnie Cordle: Does anyone have any corrections, additions, or deletions to the November meeting minutes? We did not have a quorum for the December meeting. Tony Cordle made a motion to approve the November minutes. Joe McCall seconded the motion. No further comments, motion carries 6/0.

## **New Business:**

### **Recreation Membership Updates**

Jessica Reynolds: We are getting a lot of questions about when we can start offering membership rates for the gym.

LaRhonda Lindsey: I think the membership is good for corporate membership, but I am concerned that we won't get a lot sign up for regular memberships.

Fred Phillips: A lot want to try, but I am afraid it won't pay for the software to implement it. We are getting the new equipment next week and people will want memberships.

Tony Cordle: I have the same concerns as well.

LaRhonda Lindsey: How are you going to monitor it etc?

Tony Cordle: I will give my opinion on it. I think corporations, etc. may take advantage, but I just don't think I could come out with it for my family.

Mary Ann Strong: Should we delay until we find the minimal system and costs? It will cost between \$2-10K for the investment.

Fred Phillips: The estimate is over at the town hall.

Jessica Reynolds: We just don't know how much it will be used and if it will pay to have it. I do think it is the right movement.

Ronnie Cordle: There are a lot more people coming to the gym. If you pay \$2 per day, for some of these people it gets expensive. My family is coming a lot, and would like to get the memberships to help with costs. There are more people coming in and it is getting busy.

Mary Ann Strong: So how do we market to corporations? We can decide if they have "X" amount they will get a discount. It could also be taken right out of their pay check.

LaRhonda Lindsey: Can we contact someone at the hospital to see if they would be interested?

Fred Phillips: For the pool, we did a pool pass, but it was not non-resident vs resident pricing.

Mary Ann Strong: This is something council will like to see. Assuming we can split the costs out.

Fred Phillips: Even if we have a membership, we need a flat rate. Do we also need split fee for regular membership? Keep it at 2\$ or more for non-residents?

Jessica Reynolds: At other gyms they pay \$5 per day to use the gym.

Ronnie Cordle: A lot of people will speak up about issues if we have memberships.

Craig Earls: Do we have the money appropriated in the budget for the expenses?

Fred Phillips: No, but I think we can do this in a notebook to start with.

Jessica Reynolds: First Sentinel Bank is interested for sure. They have done this in the past.

Tony Cordle: I think we should get the ball rolling.

Mary Ann Strong: Can we do this by February or is that too aggressive? We could get some donations to cover the software.

Tony Cordle: I make a motion to move forward with membership with a manual (or with an app that is cheap) process. Frances Meadows seconded the motion.

Frances Meadows: We can talk to the bank and go ahead and get their input.

Joe McCall: You have some that will wait until April, for the pool etc.

Tony Cordle: I think need to get the ball rolling for sure, even if it is on paper.

Ronnie Cordle: Fred will need to get with Tim/Adriane to see if we have money.

Fred Phillips: Will the council need to vote on it?

Joe McCall: We can cap the amount for example at \$2,000.

Mary Ann Strong: No, this will be something to be handled by the commission.

Craig Earls: We have a motion on the floor with a second. Tony, do you want to change your motion?

Tony Cordle: Yes, I make a motion to move forward with rec park membership plan with a manual, cheap application, and/or software if the monetary resources are found.

LaRhonda Lindsey: One more question, it is my concern is that are we doing any good to spend the money? Will it help the rec park?

Fred Phillips: I feel good about it and we have backing of the town to proceed and to get the software. If not, we will use the notebooks to start with. We are also putting in more cameras.

Ronnie Cordle: Tony has a motion on the floor, do we have a second? Frances Meadows seconded the motion. No further comments, motion carries 6/0.

#### **Recreation Commission Attendance:**

Mary Ann Strong: Brannon Breeding notified me today that he will not have time going forward to continue on the commission. He sent me a very thoughtful message and we appreciate his service to the commission. Members can be removed if they miss 5 meetings in calendar year, or 3 meetings in a row without notification. Craig Earls has provided the commission with the attendance from last year. Based on the attendance records, Anthony Cox is also removed due to the rules.

Craig Earls: The only meeting I do not have attendance is the May meeting. I was not in attendance for that meeting and from my understanding we did not have a quorum. If you see any issues with the attendance please let me know.

Mary Ann Strong: Joel Horn has been mentioned as a replacement, and Mike Webb is also interested. It will be good if we can mention a replacement for our February council meeting. Can someone make a motion for both?

Ronnie Cordle: Do we have a motion?

LaRhonda Lindsey: I make a motion to approve Mike Webb and Joel Horn to join the Recreation Commission and for Mary Ann to take them to the council for approval. Joe McCall seconded the motion.

Ronnie Cordle: Mary Ann will you make a recommendation?

Mary Ann Strong: Yes.

Fred Phillips: Joel Horn is in town and Mike Webb is out of town limits.

Ronnie Cordle: Do we have any other comments? No further comments, motion carries 6/0. Also, we are not clear if phone call in is considered present. I will call Tim to ask if that can be allowed.

#### **Tile Update (Mary Ann Strong):**

Ronnie Cordle: We have had a lot of questions about donating money for the tile and if it is a tax deduction. My wife said it is not a tax deduction that can be claimed. We are actively selling these. Do we want to set a deadline?

Mary Ann Strong: How are we doing so far?

Jessica Reynolds: Bring what you have in February and we can see how a date lines out.

Tony Cordle: Can we promote that?

Ronnie Cordle: It is not tax deductible, we need to put all the details out when we promote it. Our goal is to sell 150.

Fred Phillips: We could possibly use this money to fund the membership software.

### **Recreation Updates (Fred Phillips)**

Fred Phillips: We had a guy come out for the outdoor water park spray ground. This project is estimated at \$130K for the expansion project. We also purchased all of the new gym equipment and Friday it will all be in. We got a great deal and they are going to throw in a treadmill for us. RYBL is going on now and we have only had a few complaints. Overall it is going well.

Mary Ann Strong: How are concessions?

Jessica Reynolds: Concession is going good. Some days it is slow, but popcorn etc. is selling great. It is going well overall, and Alice does a great job.

Mary Ann Strong: When will be applying for another grant?

Jessica Reynolds: We applied and won another grant for \$10K from the Skewes Foundation for this equipment.

Fred Phillips: We are going to have a dedication and have them down and see what they have gave towards. We want to give them something.

Mary Ann Strong: Young Life is so appreciative to be able to use the large room for meetings.

Jessica Reynolds: We have some home school family's that want to meet and have lunch. It will be really good to get them in the doors.

Ronnie Cordle: The people that were here about starting a basketball league, have we heard anything?

Tony Cordle: In December they told me that they did not get enough teams.

Ronnie Cordle: For future reference, we did work it out with RYBL to setup a 6-7<sup>th</sup> grade girls to do some travel basketball. We can do that for other groups as well. We play tournaments on the weekends and we also have some that choose to play league ball.

Frances Meadows: I am really excited and so proud of the work that everyone has done over here. So proud of the facility and it looks awesome. I tell everyone to come and look at it and what all is offered.

No further comments.

Next meeting – February 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM at the Richlands Recreation Park

Ronnie Cordle - Adjourned meeting.