

Town of Richlands
Recreation Commission
April 24th 2023

The Richlands Recreation Commission held a regular monthly meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present:

Frances Meadows	Tony Cordle
Freddie Elswick	Craig Earls
Corey Whited	Rocky Hill

Members Absent: Jared Horn, Mark Gillespie
Town Council: Jordan Bales
Recreation: Jessica Reynolds
Other: Frank Dorton - IT

Tony Cordle called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Craig Earls made a motion to approve agenda as presented. Freddie Elswick seconded the motion. No further comments. Motion carries 6/0.

Old Business:

Rocky Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20th, 2023, meeting. Frances Meadows seconded the motion. No further comments. Motion carries 6/0.

Public Comments: None

New Business:

Frank Dorton – Town of Richlands IT:

Frank Dorton: I was asked to look at what it takes to put cameras at Critterville. Looked at a wireless application for the cameras and we should be able to see the entire playground from the basketball court. The level of detail will dictate the number of cameras. The bathrooms need coverage due to vandalism. It can be the same vendor and as the ones we have at the recreation park. There is fiber connection at the wastewater treatment plant, and we can use wireless cameras with antennas put on the press boxes. Having coverage for bathrooms, parking and fields is important. The group discussed the benefits of the system. The proposed hardware costs are \$8,169.99, but we may be able to reduce it. If we want to proceed, we will need this to be added to the budget, or possibly from a grant. For the recreation park internet, we do have an option to run our own fiber from Dalton Street down to the recreation park to save the cost from Spectrum. Jessica will pursue a grant, possibly matching, and will work to get these into the budget.

Frances Meadows make motion for Jessica to pursue funding by grant, or in the 2023-2024 budget, for the wireless camera system for Critterville. Corey Whited seconded the motion. No further comments. Motion carries 6/0.

ARPA Request:

Jordan Bales: The town is planning on putting in the garage door with ARPA money. We have some other repairs here that were covered under existing budget money. We also looked at getting a rec park vehicle to help, as the existing one is not reliable, or safe. The recreation park is also paying to replace the fence with a black chain link coating. The group discussed and we also need 2 desktop computers, and a laptop. The computers we have are very old and need replaced. They currently use a computer from 7/8 years ago, and we need more computers here. The existing ones are old ones from the town hall.

Rocky Hill (God's Rockstars):

Rocky Hill: We will be postponing God's Rockstar games due to personal illness. For Lake Park, I would like to go back to the plan to replace some items and update it for the handicap swings. I would like to proceed to turn the field into a new tee ball field.

Jordan Bales: We need to make sure we have Appalachian Agency approval that they are no longer pursuing their project.

Rocky Hill: Yes, I will talk to Brian Beck. We just want to scope out the sand and want permission from the council to proceed with the project. We want to put a couple of the 5-point harness swings as well. I will attend the next council meeting to discuss with Council.

Tony Cordle (Tennis Court):

Tony Cordle: We are continuing to look at ways to help pay for the repairs to the Tennis courts.

Jessica Reynolds: The council approved naming the court after Bob Nassif and to be replaced through private funds. I did apply for the Skewes Family Foundation grant.

New Business:

Council Appointment:

Tony Cordle: We do need to have some options for appointments.

JB: I can take back names to council when you have someone in mind.

Tony Cordle: Let's come back next month with some names.

Miscellaneous:

The group discussed the field usage agreement for Little League and the baseball field at Critterville. There was a discussion about the possibility of a high school agreement for that baseball field, but we have not seen the actual agreement yet. No action taken.

Jessica Reynolds: Project graduation has requested to use the gym again and we would like approval. Corey Whited made a motion to approve the request for Project Graduation. Rocky Hill seconded the motion. No further comments. Motion carries 6/0.

Very thankful for Jordan and Gary for getting some things fixed here at the recreation park. The catwalk was very rusty, and it was repaired. We have the floors fixed and other things. Tiny tots went very well, we had a great turnout. We also had an excellent turnout for our Basketball season. The pool is being filled now and we are working on getting the concrete cleaned. Would like to have probationers here in the first week of May to help get that cleaned. The slides were dangerous, and we are working towards new ones, but the old ones were removed. The pool has a maximum of 2-3 years before major concrete repairs are needed.

Tony Cordle: To have more things, and to fix things here, it may be that we need to increase fees for adults.

Jessica Reynolds: After May 1st we are no longer allowing credit cards due to fees. We are getting an ATM to help people who do not have cash.

Craig Earls: I know we talked about this before, but from a budgeting perspective, can we use the accrued league fees for maintenance. This would be additive to the budget and not become part of the existing budget. We should use these funds and put them back into the maintenance of the parks and buildings. The group discussed and this will be something discussed during the Town Council budget sessions.

No further discussions, meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: May 15th at 7:00 P.M at the Richlands Recreation Park.