

INDEPENDENCE USD #446 RECREATION COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting August 18, 2021

Ash Youth Center

1501 N. 10th

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christy Mavers
Ron Goins
Tony Turner
Joe Cooley
Moises Rivera

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brent Julian
Lori Bromley
Nick McBride
Jim Butts
Galen Palmer
Lacey Lies

Christy Mavers opened the commission meeting at 11:31 a.m.

ROUTINE

Agenda

The agenda was amended to add E. Extra Ash Center Hours under III. Business/Finance. Tony Turner moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ron Goins seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes

Ron Goins moved to approve the board minutes for the July 21, 2021 board meeting. Joe Cooley seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Bills

Joe Cooley moved to approve the August 2021 invoices and checks for payment in the amount of \$7,828.60 as well as the bills and employee benefits paid since the last meeting in the amount of \$23,513.14. Tony Turner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report

Galen Palmer reported the following bank balances as of July 31, 2021: First Oak Bank – Checking: \$155,898.85; First Oak Bank – Petty Cash: \$500.00; and Equity Bank – Savings: \$183,894.25. Joe Cooley moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Ron Goins seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

PROGRAM/OPERATIONS

Maintenance Report

Jim Butts reviewed the maintenance report with the board members and answered any questions. Jim informed the board that he had recently power washed the building. Ron Goins asked about the army worms and if it has been a problem this summer, however Jim stated that luckily they have not been too bad thus far. Jim stated he is beginning the process of shutting down and winterizing Riverside Beach.

Programs Report

Nick McBride answered any questions the board had on the programs report. Joe Cooley asked about football participation numbers for fall and Nick stated that with the summer hours and kids not in school yet, they decided to extend the deadline a few more weeks. Nick stated the flag football numbers are looking pretty good but tackle football not so much. Nick stated flyers will go out to the schools later this week which will inform parents, and the numbers in soccer and volleyball are pretty comparable to previous years. Nick informed the commission that IRC will play tackle football this year in the Caney/Dewey league and if for any reason tackle does not make then the kids that are signed up are welcome to go to Caney and play tackle football with their league or IRC now has the option of playing flag football 1st thru 6th grades. Tony Turner asked about the injury rate for the IRC tackle football program and Brent stated that there have been minor injuries in the past but luckily nothing serious. Tony stated that he likes the flag football for the younger kids, however feels tackle football is the way to go once they are older. Christy stated that she would like to see an end of the season All-star tournament for tackle football and Nick agreed that was something that could probably be arranged. Joe asked about the football equipment and Brent stated that Coffeyville Rec gave IRC all of their new equipment when they left the tackle program and IRC had already purchased helmets, so equipment is all good to go.

Director's Report

Brent Julian answered any questions the board had on the director/aquatics report. Brent discussed the upcoming Bubby Ball season, lead by supervisor, Gloria Price and ICC softball. Brent stated that the season should begin sometime in September.

BUSINESS/FINANCE

RBFAC Closing

Brent informed the board members that Riverside Beach closed for the season on August 15th. Brent stated that he and the city staff will have their walk-thru next week and they are in the process of cleaning and shutting everything down. Brent stated that he, Christy Mavers and manager, Shawn O'Kane will meet with city officials in the next few weeks to discuss pool maintenance and finances. Brent informed the commission that he hopes to have the financial documents ready to go by the October board meeting once all invoices are paid. Tony Turner recommended lowering the price of admission in order to reach more people and Lacey Lies agreed that we are the highest in the area. Brent stated that we are a water park, not a pool and he is fine with lowering the price, however it needs to be realized that it may also mean losing more revenue.

Central Park Sports Complex

Brent informed the commission that they are still in the developmental stages with the new Central Park Sports Complex and are moving forward with the capital campaign committee in order to reach out to the bigger corporations and donors. Brent stated they are also waiting on a final decision from IHS to determine if they would like the high school complex down there as well. Lacey stated that she feels it's a good possibility USD #446 will join in. Brent stated that they are still planning to break ground in November and right now they are trying to decide between grass or turf fields. Moises Rivera asked if pickle ball courts will be included and Brent stated yes; Ron Goins asked about batting cages for the high school and Brent stated the plan is to have bullpens at the high school fields as well as coin operated and the regular warm-up cages.

Ash Pool Hours for Kids

Brent stated that he has been in contact with city and school officials and they are recommending IRC once again offer open swim hours for children. Brent stated that he spoke to IRC attorney, Dan Reynolds, and as long as it is posted that you must be 18 years and over, or with an adult 18 years or over, you may swim without a lifeguard. Brent stated he would like to begin with limited hours, a requirement that you must be a member of the Ash Center as well as show proof of age upon request. Dan recommended having all swimmers sign a waiver to release IRC from any liability. Brent stated IRC will take the usual precautions, but it is basically the same as swimming at a hotel with no lifeguard on duty. Joe Cooley recommended putting cameras in the pool area as a precaution; Brent stated that he would look into it, however the Wi-Fi in there isn't great which is another reason he wants to get a fiber-optic network like the school has. Brent stated his plan to open the pool would be to start on weekends only from 1:00 -6:00 p.m. after Labor Day. Ron Goins moved to approve Brent finalizing pool hours and waiver through IRC attorney, Dan Reynolds and setting a plan in motion to begin opening the Ash Center pool on weekends. Tony Turner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Project Requests for Funding through Montgomery County

Brent stated that the county has received extra funding this year due to the Covid pandemic so he has put in for a recreational grant that will benefit the children at the Ash Center. Brent informed the board that the three things he requested were a donation of \$250,000 to put towards the Central Park Sports Complex, a new outdoor LED sign for the Ash Youth Center, similar to the one at the high school for approximately \$40,000 and lastly a \$10,000 grant to pay for fiber-optic Wi-Fi at the Ash Youth Center for the kids and members so they may have access to the Wi-Fi which they do not have at this time. Tony Turner moved to approve Brent's project requests made to the Montgomery County Commission. Joe Cooley seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Extra Ash Center Hours

Brent informed the board members that he is going to go ahead and extend the Ash Youth Center hours beginning next week until 9:00 p.m. Brent stated that the Ash Center's normal fall hours do not start until after Labor Day but he feels like it helps out the parents and students if the Ash remains open until 9:00 p.m. for practices, homework, as well as IRC registrations etc...

Executive Session

The board moved into executive session at 12:33 p.m. for approximately ten minutes. The meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Items from the Commission

There were no items from the Commission.

Agreement for Action on Items from the Commission

There was no agreement for action on items.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tony Turner, Secretary