



**OAK RIDGE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JUNE 25, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.
OAK RIDGE TOWN HALL
(Meeting held electronically via Zoom)**

MINUTES

Members Present

Tracy Street, Chair
Phyllis Anders, Vice Chair
Kyle Anders
John Browning
John Garrett
Kelly Riddle, ORYA Representative-joined at 7:03 p.m.

Staff Present

Terry Lannon, Parks & Recreation Director
Ashley Royal, Deputy Clerk

Members Absent

Brady Young
Mike Kimel, Alternate
Maureena Shepherd, Alternate
CJ Annunziato, Teen Advisor

Note: This meeting was conducted remotely under N. C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.24 by use of simultaneous communication using the Zoom online platform and in which the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members participated by simultaneous communication. Committee members were joined and participated in the entire meeting, unless otherwise noted.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tracy Street called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

John Browning made a motion to amend the agenda. Phyllis Anders seconded the motion, and the amended agenda was passed unanimously (5-0).

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Introduction and Review of the Working Drafts of the Oak Ridge Youth Association Usage Agreements (Councilman Jim Kinneman and Councilwoman Martha Pittman).** Councilwoman Pittman thanked the Board for meeting so that they could review the working draft of the Oak Ridge Youth Association 2020 Usage Agreement. Pittman reminded the Board that Mayor Schneider had formed a Youth Athletics Subcommittee in January of 2020 in order to take a fresh look at youth athletics by gathering input, reviewing best practices, and making a recommendation to Council. Pittman provided an overview to the Board regarding the process the

subcommittee went through where they talked with key stakeholders and citizen regarding youth athletics in Oak Ridge. Pittman said that the following themes and patterns resulted from their stakeholders and citizen meetings:

- There is often a disconnect with communication between ORYA and the Town of Oak Ridge.
- ORYA has great programming and have been working hard to strengthen their internal organizational structure.
- Oak Ridge Town Park has first class facilities and are offered to ORYA at a great value, but ORYA does not recognize the value they are receiving from the Town.
- There is broad support to help ORYA build more robust baseball and softball programs.

Pittman said that the Town of Oak Ridge and ORYA have a mutual goal where both groups want to provide excellent, organized youth sports opportunities for our local youth.

Pittman said that there is a commitment for improved communication between ORYA and the Town. As a result of that commitment, Kelly Riddle is a voting member of the Parks & Recreation Board and the Town will have a non-voting position on the ORYA Board.

Pittman said that ORYA's Board met Monday, June 22, 2020 to discuss the draft Usage Agreement and Council hopes to approve it at their July 9th meeting. Pittman said that the current ORYA Usage Agreement ends on June 30, 2020, but if this Board does not feel comfortable approving it tonight that Council will extend the current agreement until August 2020.

Councilman Kinneman provided the Board with an overview of the financial model that is included in the Usage Agreement. He noted that up until this year, ORYA had been subsidized by the Town for roughly \$20,000 per year. Instead of charging ORYA for field use, the Town had been allowing it at no charge. Kinneman said that if the new Usage Agreement is adopted that the Town will provide ORYA with a spending allowance along with a fee schedule so that they can decide how they would like to spend their money. Kinneman said that a detailed monthly invoice would be shared with ORYA and at each Town Council meeting.

Pittman told the Board that the Town will absorb \$7,000 in direct ORYA costs and around \$8,000 will be lost in revenue due to not being able to schedule tournaments. Kinneman said that the Usage Agreement requires that ORYA provide distinct acknowledgement of the Town's support in their promotional and marketing media as well as Town sponsorship signs at the Park. The Town will also share ORYA activities on their website and social media sites.

Riddle told the Board that ORYA would like for the restriction of boys' lacrosse and football from being able to use the multi-purpose fields for practices to be reconsidered. After discussion, the Board agreed by consensus to allow youth football (10U and younger) and boys' lacrosse (until 2nd Friday in August) to use the multi-purpose fields for practices.

John Garrett made a motion to approve the 2020 Oak Ridge Youth Association Usage Agreement with the amended section on page 8, section 9 that allows youth football(10U and younger) and boys' lacrosse (until 2nd Friday in August) to use the multi-purpose fields for practices. Kyle Anders seconded the motion, and the amended agreement was approved unanimously (6-0).

B. Update on Landscape Architect Selection for Veterans Memorial (Patti Dmuchowski, Special Events Chair). Dmuchowski told the Board that the Special Events Committee had received two landscape architect proposals for the Oak Ridge Veterans Memorial. The committee reviewed proposals from McGill Associates and Revington Reaves and selected Revington Reaves as the design architect for the Veterans Memorial. Dmuchowski said that a Community Open House was still being planned for November 12, 2020.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Schneider thanked the Board for their time and dedication to the Town.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Tracy Street made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. Phyllis Anders seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (6-0).

Respectfully submitted:

Ashley Royal
Deputy Clerk

Tracy Street
Chair