

**Minutes  
Recreation Committee  
June 1, 2015  
6:00 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> committee meeting**

**Members present were Chairman Terry Merritt, Committee members Taft Matney and Bob Cook. Recreation Director Van Brannon and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.**

1. Call to order.- Chairman Merritt

2. Public comment.

Dean Kirkland: If it is cool downstairs, why can't we move?

Chairman Merritt: I am comfortable.

Councilman Matney: The Committee rules were changed to meet up here.

3. Reading and approval of minutes.- Councilman Matney made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

4. Reports or communications from city officers.

Van reported starting Monday, the Trevor Booker basketball camp would start. A wheelchair softball tournament is upcoming. This year, Live Well and Park Hop partnered with Eye on Greenville. It is an app that has beacons at Springfield Park and Sunset Park. Things pop up in the app welcoming you to Mauldin and letting you know what activities are going on. It also links to our website.

Trey spoke about the meeting regarding county-wide needs assessment. In August, the study should be completed. Mauldin should receive our assessment in the next few weeks.

George McLeer reported that \$1200 has been received for the capital campaign. That does not include pledges.

Chairman Merritt said under the recreation budget, there were flags bought under the supply line. Van said all the new flags are bought through the recreation department.

There is also a charge for \$600 to Greer. Van said that was probably for the All-star tournament participation.

5. Unfinished business.

Chairman Merritt said the rear playground area at Sunset needs to come down. It is still up. Trey said it should come down. Councilman Cook said we can put some yellow tape up until the equipment is taken down completely. Chairman Merritt stated the restrooms near the Miracle League area, the light still has no bulb or lens.

6. New business

a. Usage of Recreation property- This is the new property adjacent to Sunset Park. Trey and Van met with Nima Buva and others regarding Cricket, which is a popular sport. They have a proposal to share with committee. Insurance documentation has already been provided. They are aware of the possibility that this will not be permanent, if the City needs the property for another use, it remains our property.

The Cricket Group presented presentation stating:

150 or more players should participate in each of 6-8 Cricket tournaments. This will bring in revenue to the City of Mauldin. \$30,000-45,000 from the tournaments is expected as GROSS revenue. All net profit after expenditures will be given to the City of Mauldin.

Up to \$25,000 will be spent to prepare the ground to a professional grade and put in a concrete pitch. If the City needs the property for another purpose, the concrete pitch will be removed within a week, but the Cricket group would like first right of refusal.

Councilman Cook said this is a win win situation. He likes the way this has been presented. Councilman Cook said he thinks that giving them first right of refusal is the right thing to do, but that Cricket should be included in the future plans.

Councilman Matney said this is a great way to meet a recreation need that is not being met at all. He participated in a Cricket tournament at the old Braves stadium. This is what hospitality and accommodations taxes are for. This is a partner that helps fill a need in the community and he wholeheartedly supports it. He also agreed with Councilman Cook on integrating this into future plans.

Chairman Merritt said he doesn't understand the right of first refusal since we don't have a plan. The representative said he would just like some notice of what the plan would be and to see if they are interested in doing something with it. A contract is in front of the City Attorney and should be available before the council meeting. Chairman Merritt said he would like to see the contract at least 7 calendar days before the meeting and would need to be part of the motion to move to full council for discussion. If contract was not available by 7 days advance notice the item would remain in committee.

Councilman Matney made a motion to send this to the council meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (3-0). Chairman Merritt said there is a gate and he would like the pitch moved a little more over to allow for parking and not potentially get cars parked on the pitch. Trey said we could just mark off the field so that cars will not park on it. The round would be 10'x90'.

7. Public comment.

Dean Kirkland: Christ said to love your neighbors and I do. That money to buy that 17 acres came from low and middle income people. I think we should sell it and give the money to the needy. I don't believe in special interest groups, but it does happen.

Chairman Merritt: Address your comments to the committee. It is not a discussion with the audience. Talk to us.

Dean Kirkland: If there is a regime change in fall, RC Jones said he has never seen a council out of control like this. He was on council 8 years. Do you know how many people played Cricket?

Chairman Merritt: I will get an answer from them. Don't ask them directly.

Dean Kirkland: When?

Chairman Merritt: When I can get it, Dean.

Dean Kirkland: What is the most popular sport? Soccer is popular.

Chairman Merritt: What country are you talking about?

Dean Kirkland: Worldwide.

Chairman Merritt: Soccer probably would be. Cricket?

Dean Kirkland: Worldwide, soccer. The other thing I want to know, I want none of this daggum crap about all of this, I want it to be about fun.

Chairman Merritt: You only have three minutes.

Dean Kirkland: God can do what he wants. Elections are coming up.

Leo Joyce: While you are at it on how many players or fields, how about number of riots at soccer games versus Cricket?

Chairman Merritt: Do you want me to check Boston and California when their teams won the basketball championship?

Leo Joyce: They don't riot at Cricket games. Those fellows carry bats.

8. Committee concerns.

9. Adjournment.- Chairman Merritt adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk