

**RIFLE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
PARKS MAINTENANCE FACILITY
FEBRUARY 25, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

YES

NO

Sara Brainard	X	
Chris Bornholdt	X	
Michael Churchill	X	
Vanessa Ivy	X	
Trudy Lowery	X	
Wilma Paddock	X	

Meeting called to order by Michael at 6:01 pm.

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Whitmore

PUBLIC PRESENT: Emily Hisel, Ryan Hoffman

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC: Continued conversation about the request from Little League to move soccer from Taughenbaugh field so Little League can use it for softball. Tom stated that at this time staff can't say which age group and how many fields will be needed after talking to staff. After this season there will be another soccer field available for use but at this time we will continue to use Taughenbaugh field for soccer from 5-7 pm and Little League can use the field after that time with the goals being moved off by the two user groups. Little League could use the lights if needed. Staff thought this option could work. This is good option to start the season and when the numbers are in for soccer after the 18th, it may not even be an issue and need to be used for soccer. At this point no scheduling has been done. Tom doesn't want to tell any user group yes or no on the usage of that field. This option seems to make sense and Little League will have to pay for use of the lights. Staff still does not know which fields would need to be split or where they would be put. There will also be an extra cost for the extra fields that soccer would be moved to. Staff does not want to split up age groups for soccer, but unfortunately there is not a soccer representative to answer some questions. The lights would only need to be used for the beginning of the season. Michael asked if soccer would be taken off of Taughenbaugh field for Little League to use after they were done. Tom said they would be off of the field and the two user groups would move the goals to use the field. Staff would re-anchor the goals the next day to ensure safety. It would be more work for staff but staff would already be working at the complex on a daily basis. He also stated that on game day's soccer could play their games in the morning and Little League could play games later in the day. Michael asked if Little League had games on Saturday's. Emily let him know that they did but most of those games are out of town. Tom stated that the goals will need to be monitored by staff to check the anchors regularly. This option is more feasible for the time slots that Little League had requested. Michael stated that if Little League had the later practice they could technically practice longer because no one else was scheduled after them. Soccer would need to be sure to be off the field in time for the next group. This option would get Little League through their crunch until the 18th when we have our soccer numbers in and could move soccer up to Graham Mesa if needed. This is a good option for Little League if soccer does grow. Tom said groups are going to have to start capping their programs; there are just not enough facilities. RUS will

have to cap their numbers as well as Little League. RE-2 has a cap right now, that cap is March 18th and after that there will be no more registrations taken. This is the best solution for now. Wilma asked when soccer started. Tom said it started after Spring Break. Wilma asked if the goals wouldn't need to be put out on Taughenbaugh until soccer starts so Little League would be able to use the fields without soccer goals being moved back and forth. Tom said yes, goals wouldn't be put out until soccer started. Michael stated that Little League could have the 5-7 pm practice time until soccer started without moving the goals. Emily asked of soccer paid to use the fields. Tom let her know that soccer did pay to use the fields. RUS pays 20% of their fees for field usage. Staff registers the participants and retains that portion for usage. Emily asked why Little League had to pay to use the lights but other groups didn't. Tom stated that because Little League is the group that wants another group to leave a facility to accommodate them to use the field. He stated that user fees are going to be adjusted now because of special requests being made. Michael stated that there won't be a lump sum fee in the future; it will be a higher cost for usage of the fields. Tom stated that Little League has had an 80% discount for usage of the fields the first year, 60% the next year and 50% years following. This deduction included field prep and lights. Emily asked about having neutral fields. With Graham Mesa and Wamsley, it would be positive for fields and not neutral. Michael stated that soccer will be able to use the expansion of Wamsley but Little League will be using most of the facilities. There may not always be the option to have use of all of those facilities. Tom stated the fields don't get much daytime use and we need to start limiting things. The word "League" log jams things with the softball expansion. One given field doesn't mean to continue growing without a facility. Michael stated that this does not give permission to continue to grow a program with a facility. Emily asked when she could chime in with her measurements she took. Chris stated that he had a real issue with that because staff went out of the way to measure and you went out and re-measured. He said he had a problem with that because we told staff to find and measure for a solution. That didn't change and we have gone out of our way to help you guys. Staff measured and brought back solutions so why did you measure again. Emily stated that she didn't know what the solution was as of last night when she heard about the meeting. She let the board know that everyone that came last time didn't come again because it was really bad timing with all of our boys playing basketball tonight. The support is still there it was just really bad timing. Michael stated that the scheduling of this meeting the same time as basketball was not intentional. Emily stated again that she didn't know that solutions. She wanted to know what the options are and assist to help. She wants everyone to win. Chris stated that it doesn't seem like it. It seems that if you don't get your way you are not going to be happy. Staff did what you asked and did measurements and we are still going in circles. Even if Little League gets all the fields, they are not going to be happy. Emily asked if the board did not want to hear her measurements. Chris stated that at the last meeting Damon wouldn't let staff finish their statements; no matter what we do it isn't going to be good enough. Emily stated that there are better options. She stated that Graham Mesa has room for 2 additional soccer fields and Highland has room for 1 to 2 more fields, 3 large fields plus a Kindergarten field. That would be a gain of 2 fields there. Metro could have 3-4 of 1st and 2nd grade fields and it could be used for practice only and still have all the games at Davidson. She said it would be more effort for staff. There is also a less desirable smaller place for a soccer field in Cottonwood trailer park. It would give you a new population base. She stated that these are good options for what staff would like without staff taking goals up and down. Michael stated that he still has the concern as to what soccer will actually do with numbers. Tom stated that staff will not know until March 18th when all of the numbers are in. Emily said she is not just making assumption and that her daughter has played soccer and there are multiple fields being used. Michael stated that all the information needs taken into Wayne and see what will work. He stated the reason we had this special meeting was to give you an answer with your league expanding without the expansion of facilities. He would like to go forward with a motion to decide something. Then there could be a possibility of looking at other options. He does not want this

dragged out to another meeting. He wants to move forward. Tom stated that this is a start and we may be doing all this for nothing until we know soccer numbers. Emily wanted to clarify that the goal for this year was to move the goals up to Graham Mesa. Tom stated, no not until we have our soccer numbers in for RE-2. Chris stated that if more age groups are apart it costs more for the City staff with field supervisors, goal storage etc. Wilma stated that we may not even need goals out on Taughenbaugh but just won't know until after the 18th. Emily asked if Little League can move the U10 soccer team to Graham Mesa if the numbers come in for RE-2 and just leave the goals there because it is easier for staff. Tom said he would not agree to that yet and still does not want to split kids up. He said that everyone will still get to do what they want just at a later date. Michael stated that he needed a motion on PRAB's justification and thinking of this solution. Considering cost of staff, etc. It needs to clearly state that PRAB supports staff decision. Tom would hope for a solution to take to Council. Michael stated he needed a motion from members. Sara stated that after hearing what was said in previous meetings we are following protocol to resolve the issue. She apologized for the short notice of the meeting with basketball being scheduled. We are back to needing to know the numbers for soccer and having to move forward without the numbers in yet. There are a lot of future options. We need to focus on this season without the numbers of soccer kids. Staff has done the work asked of them and led us to this option with others ruled out due to cost, parents, etc. Vanessa stated that it is all about the numbers. She thanked staff for all of their hard work and at this point we need to just wait on the numbers. Wilma also thanked staff for all the options that they gave but until we have numbers, we will have to wait. She said for now that goals can be moved back and forth until we have the numbers. Chris stated that soccer and softball will just have to share for now. Take what you can get and next year might be better. Michael stated that we still need to move forward with the current plan of transition of goals on and off of Taughenbaugh field until our soccer numbers come in. Groups can't come in and second guess our staff and we need to back our staff. They came up with the best solution. Wilma made a motion to accept the solution presented by staff of goals being used for soccer on Taughenbaugh from 5-7pm and moved by both user groups for Little League to use for practice at 7 pm. Little League will also be responsible for paying for use of lights if needed. Chris 2nd the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote. Tom asked Emily if she accepted the proposal or not and she said she would be at the Council meeting.

Wilma stated that she didn't think there needed to be a March 7th meeting because of the March 1st meeting.

Tom and the PRAB board drafted a memo to get to Council on the resolution made regarding Little Leagues request.