

RICHLAND PARK

Mayor Fred White was in office when the old Junior High property was purchased from the Sumner County Board of Education and the Portland Community Club in 1970 for \$17,000.00. Since work had already begun on Meadowbrook as Park Site I, the Junior High property would be considered and referred to as Park Site II. The deed to Park Site II was signed over to the City of Portland on April 22, 1971. The park would later be renamed as Richland.

By March 15, 1972, the City Council had approved negotiating a contract with Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon for the following:

1. Face the side fronting Portland Boulevard with brick.
2. Fix floor in front of wall and erect a band shell.
3. Heat for the gym.
4. Build a Public Swimming Pool:
 - A. Pool would be within 100 feet of gym.
 - B. Pool would be between Gymnasium and Community Center.
 - C. Under federal program, the City would ask for a \$25,000.00 grant, matching it with \$25,000.00 of the City's funds.

On this date they also discussed a rental fee for the Community Center. It was suggested by Mayor White that \$12.00 would be sufficient but most members considered that to be too high so no concrete price was set.

On June 30, 1972, the Park Board discussed a contest to name Park Site II. Mr. Utley made a motion that the money from the sale of the old gate and old posts on the park property be used as a prize for the person supplying the most suitable name for the park. The motion carried. Mr. Utley then suggested that rather than a cash prize, the Board might give 4 tickets to Opryland as a reward. Everyone agreed.

The contest to name Park Site I was won by Rusty Wright and Carrie Mazonac. The name they chose was Meadowbrook Park. Mr. Tony Utley named Park Site II, Richland Park in 1972.¹

***All information in this report comes from either the deed to the land or the Park Board Minutes.

¹This information was provided by Councilwoman Bettye Glover.