

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Regular Meeting – March 7, 2019

Meeting Location: Parks and Recreation Admin Conference Room

Roll Call

Board Members Present: William Findlay
Abby Landmeier
Marc Litzen
Gary Schroen
Sam Susuras
Byron Wiehe

Board Members Absent: Bob Wiig
Duke Wortmann

City Staff Present: Rob Schoeber, Director Parks and Recreation
Traci Wieland, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

Item 1: Meeting called to order by Gary Schroen at 12:00 p.m.

Item 2: Approve minutes from the February 7, 2019 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

William Findlay made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 7 meeting. The motion was seconded by Sam Susuras and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 6 No 0

Item 3: Ordinance Updates

Rob Schoeber talked with the Board about ordinances adopted at the February 20 Council Meeting. A new state ordinance allowing the sale of full strength alcohol in grocery stores has given the manufacturers no reason to continue producing 3.2% strength alcohol. The update to the City ordinance allows wine and beer in parks. Hard liquor, and glass containers are still prohibited. This does not change the administrative ordinance prohibiting alcohol at Hawthorne and Emerson parks. That restriction was put in place at the request of the neighbors a number of years ago.

The update to the park hours ordinance has made the hours of the parks consistent across the city. All parks open at 5:00 a.m. Regional parks close at 11:00 p.m. All other parks close at 10:00 p.m.

The smoking ordinance is a city-wide ordinance, not just a park ordinance. Smoking (including marijuana and electronic smoking devices) is prohibited in all public spaces, including sidewalks.

The camping ordinance will be revisited by the Council at a future date. The past interpretation of the ordinance would prohibit a person from pulling their fifth wheel trailer into the parking lot of Lincoln Park and staying over night. The ordinance change would include people who set up a camp in the park itself. It is not intended to prohibit people from laying on a blanket with a book in the park. Enforcement of this ordinance would require responding officers to ensure there is space at a local shelter. If there is no space at a local shelter, the ordinance would not be enforced.

Item 4: Upcoming Ballot Questions

Rob Schobeber talked with the board about ballot measure 2C. This is the measure to approve a .39% sales tax increase to fund a community center building and operation, improvements at Matchett Park, and improvements at Orchard Mesa Pool. Board members asked about the inclusion of specific programs like Silver Sneakers. There are a variety of fitness programs and partnerships that would be available once a community center is built and staff will be exploring all those options if the measure is successful, though it is too early to commit to specific programs.

Ballot measure 2D is a measure to sell the undeveloped land currently designated as Burkey Park. The proceeds are dedicated to the development of Matchett Park and include specific plans to recognize and honor the Burkey family.

Ballot measure 2F is a measure to change the City Charter to allow long-term leases (up to 99 years) on City-owned property. This measure will help ensure long-term tenants of the Las Colonias Business Park.

Item 5: For the Good of the Community

Gary Schroen shared that he is a member of the City's Comprehensive Plan Committee. There is a public meeting at Two Rivers Convention Center on April 9 at 6:00 p.m.. The committee is inviting input from the community.

Board members asked about the possibility of a workshop with City staff to discuss the issue of the developers making a land donation in lieu of cash.

Board members talked with Rob Schoeber about the impact of the sale of the Brady Trucking property on the future connectivity of the Riverfront Trail as there are signs on the property that now advertise Alpine Lumber. Staff will clarify and follow up with the Board.

Item 6: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Little
Administrative Specialist