

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

## **Regular Meeting – October 3, 2019**

Meeting Location: Parks and Recreation Office Conference Room

### **Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Nick Allan  
Marc Litzen  
Gary Schroen  
Byron Wiehe

Board Members Absent: William Findlay  
Beau Flores  
Abby Landmeier  
Phil Pe'a

Guests Present: Caitlyn Love, Downtown Development Authority

City Staff Present: Ken Sherbenou, Director Parks and Recreation  
Dave Thornton, Planning  
Randy Coleman, Parks Supervisor  
Rob Davis, Parks Supervisor  
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

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

### **Item 2: Approve minutes from the September 5, 2019 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meetings**

Marc Litzen made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 5 meeting. The motion was seconded by Nick Allen and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:    Yes 4    No 0

### **Item 3: Comprehensive Plan Update**

Dave Thornton updated the plan on the work that has been done on the update of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan. A committee has been working since February and they expect their work to take 12 – 18 months to complete. The Board was invited to attend upcoming community meetings, and encouraged to invite others to attend as well. The meetings will include real-time results making use of voting from your smart phone. The community vision and values meeting is on October 29, at 5:30 p.m. at the Convention Center.

### **Item 4: Grant Presentation – Art in Society**

Caitlyn Love of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) spoke with the Board about the DDA's function. Grand Junction has the oldest public art collection in the nation. The community has placed a priority on keeping the downtown area an arts district and it has been designated a Certified Creative District. The DDA is currently working to connect Downtown Grand Junction to the river via 7<sup>th</sup> Street and would like to make this connection an artistic corridor with interactive art along the way. The DDA requests that the City sponsor the grant on their behalf. Gary Schroen made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board support City sponsorship of the Downtown Development

Authority for a GOCO mini-grant to help fund an interactive art corridor from Downtown Grand Junction to the Riverfront. The motion was seconded by Marc Litzen and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Ken Sherbenou talked with the board about the Local Park and Outdoor Recreation (LPOR) grant which is being applied for on behalf of the Colorado West Land Trust to acquire land on the south side of Monument Road to further the connection from the Riverfront Trail towards the South Camp paved trail. This connection would improve the connection on the south end of the Lunch Loop, to further connect the trail to the many nearby neighborhoods. Gary Schroen made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board support City sponsorship of the Colorado West Land Trust for a LPOR grant to help fund land acquisition which would enable further trail construction and connectivity. The motion was seconded by Marc Litzen and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

### **Item 5: Shelter Naming**

Ken Sherbenou talked with the board about the construction at Riverside Park. A second shelter is being added to the park, so both shelters will need names to distinguish them from each other. Staff have worked with the Riverside Education Center staff and participants to forward some shelter names for the Board's consideration. The kids who participated had very detailed and thoughtful conversations about what would make good names for shelters in this park. They have suggested the shelters be named La Familia (Spanish for The Family), and Buena Gente (Spanish for Good People). The Board also considered names for the new shelters at Las Colonias, Tranquilo (Spanish for Calm) and Teguayo (the mysterious land the Aztecs searched for). There was some discussion about the policy of naming shelters after people, and about crafting a naming policy for future use by the department.

### **Item 6: Botanical Gardens Update**

Ken Sherbenou introduced Rob Davis and Randy Coleman to the Board. Randy Coleman talked with the Board about some of the ongoing maintenance projects at the Botanical Gardens. Some larger projects are being paid for out of City contingency funds. Staff is also working with Botanical Gardens staff to implement maintenance practices and schedules to ensure the full life of the projects.

### **Item 7: Memorial Tree Program**

Ken Sherbenou informed the Board of a proposed change to the current memorial tree program. When a large number of memorial trees are placed in any one park, with a stone at the base signifying the memorial, the park could begin to resemble a cemetery. Staff suggests a change in the program moving forward, so that folks may still purchase trees in memory of their loved ones. However, instead of a stone at the base of the tree, the family would be presented with a wooden plaque which indicates the type of tree and location by GPS coordinates. No changes would be made to memorial trees already in place. These memorial tree locations would also be indicated in the City GIS system. Memorial stones would still be an option if the memorial tree was purchased in the Memorial Garden at the City Cemetery. Byron Wiehe made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board support the change in the memorial tree program. The motion was seconded by Marc Litzen and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

**Item 8: Impact Fees**

Ken Sherbenou advised the Board that the language from the minutes of the May 2 meeting of the Board would be included in his Staff Report to Council as they continue the discussion surround adoption of a change to Impact Fees.

**Item 9: Parks, Recreation and Opens Space Master Plan**

Ken Sherbenou advised the Board that the Department has been awarded a \$55,000 planning grant by GOCO to be used for an update to the Parks and Open Space Master Plan document created in 2001. Mr. Sherbenou proposes evolving the master plan to include recreation. Parks and Recreation go hand in hand and the master plan document should encompass the whole department. Marc Litzen made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board support evolving the Parks and Open Space Master Plan update to include Recreation. The motion was seconded by Byron Wiehe and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

**In the interest of time, Agenda items 10 through 12 (Friends of Parks and Recreation, Board and Commission Membership Guidelines, and For the Good of the Community) were tabled.**

**Item 11: Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Little  
Administrative Specialist