

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes Rescheduled Meeting – April 23, 2020

Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting Via GoTo Meeting

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Nick Allan
William Findlay
Marc Litzen
Phil Pe'a
Gary Schroen
Austin Solko
Byron Wiehe

Board Members Absent: Beau Flores

City Staff Present: Ken Sherbenou, Director of Parks and Recreation
Scott Peterson, Senior Planner
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 March 5, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Gary Schroen made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Bill Findlay and carried unanimously.

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

Item 3: Proposed Land Dedication

Scott Peterson talked with the Board about a proposed land dedication of 1.86 acres of property located at N 12th Street and Horizon Drive. The land is largely in the flood plan and is adjacent to current city property and a larger, currently undeveloped parcel. The City is better equipped to maintain flood drainages than private land owners. There doesn't appear to be any dumping of trash or other maintenance issues currently. Rob Davis advised the board that this appears to be a good piece of land with existing wildlife habitat and some evidence that the public is using this land as open space already. Gary Schroen made a motion that the City of Grand Junction accept the 1.86 are parcel from the land owner and designate it as open space. The motion was seconded by Byron Wiehe and carried unanimously.

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

Item 4: COVID-19 Update

Ken Sherbenou talked with the Board about the effect of COVID-19 on various Parks and Recreation functions. With the first positive case in Mesa County came the decision to cancel facility reservations through May 15. With the Governor's Stay At Home Order, playgrounds and courts were closed. Signage has been placed strategically to remind residents of the closures, which have mostly been observed. Additionally, the Summer Activity Guide has been delayed. This issue has been expanded to showcase the full department though, with the uncertainty surrounding summer program,

publication is on hold. Board members inquired about a trigger for reopening facilities. Mr. Sherbenou advised the board that the City and County are working closely and waiting on clearance from the Governor's office, but it will be a phased reopening.

Item 5: Dos Rios Park Design

Ken Sherbenou shared with the Board a design proposal for Dos Rios Park. The park would feature a plaza area that can accommodate food trucks, a playground area, a turf area with shade trees, and terraced seating similar to the bank at the Las Colonias River Recreation Area. There will also be a small shelter and a larger shelter with attached restrooms. There will be a connection to the Riverfront Trail and the Bicycle Playground area. The Bicycle Playground is an area that helps people get comfortable with features you might see on a mountain bike trail.

Item 6: Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Master Plan

Ken Sherbenou reminded the Board that the PROS Master Plan was just beginning as COVID-19 became active in the area. The applications for the Citizen Task Force were submitted to Council and were chosen electronically. The consultant, Green Play has been chosen and they are also facilitating the Fruita Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Green Play advises they are seeing a heightened level of engagement, likely because people have gotten in the habit of virtual engagement for other aspects of their daily lives. Staff still desires in-person engagement and during this master plan process and hopes to include that in future months of this process.

Item 7: Las Colonias Lease Space

Ken Sherbenou talked with the Board about a large shelter in Las Colonias that was constructed to include leaseable space. This shelter is located near the Butterfly Lake and the trail. Though there was much interest at the walk through included as part of the Request for Proposal, only one response was received. The response was very professional, well thought out, and includes a strong business plan for having rental equipment available. This proposal will be reviewed at the City Council meeting on May 6.

Item 8: For the Good of the Community

Board members inquired about the River Trail. Ken Sherbenou advised the board that the section of trail that was washed away (near the Parks Operations building) is being repaired, as is a section of trail that was damaged near Dos Rios.

Item 8: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:06 pm.

The next meeting will be June 4, 2020. This meeting will be held via GoTo Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Little
Administrative Specialist