

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Regular Meeting – June 4, 2020

Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting Via GoTo Meeting

Roll Call

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

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 April 23, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Gary Schroen made a motion to approve the minutes, with a change in the number of votes to approve the April 23 minutes from 5 to 6. The motion was seconded by Nick Allen and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 7 No 0

Item 3: Correction to the February 6, 2020 Minutes.

The minutes in Item 3 contain a typographical error listing the Founders Colony development as 390 acres. The correct number is 39 acres. Gary Schroen made a motion to correct the minutes as indicated. The motion was seconded by Byron Wiehe and carried unanimously.

Motion approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 7 No 0

Item 4: Reopening Plan for Parks and Recreation

Ken Sherbenou talked with the Board about the reopening plan for Parks and Recreation. The goal of the plan is to balance the best way to serve the citizens and preventing the spread of COVID-19. Drinking fountains are on, playgrounds reopened on May 28, camps are in the process of registration and trainings for a first day June 15. Teams are allowed to book space on sports fields for practices and drills but not games. Teams must be local grand valley teams. Softball is preparing to begin the week of July 6. Internally staff continues to wear masks and observe social distancing guidelines. Board members inquired about rule changes for softball. First and third base coach boxes will be moved, and leagues will employ a two-base system. One for runners, and a separate one for fielders. Teams will have no more than 3 players in the dugout at one time and bleachers will be taped off in six foot sections to further encourage social distancing. Staff will be sanitizing high touch items and teams will be required to wear masks on the bench as part of their uniform.

Item 5: River Park at Las Colonias

Ken Sherbenou shared with the Board that staff continues to work to educate the community around use and safety in the River Park including proper channels to float with tubes and wearing personal floatation devices. The board discussed dogs in and around the River Park. There was a strong desire to support both dogs having access to the river and also keeping the river channel free of animal waste. Board members suggested locating a specific off-leash area with river access, perhaps downstream of the River Park area.

Item 6: Dos Rios Park Design Development

Ken Sherbenou advised the board that the Dos Rios Park design is out for bid now.

Item 7: Dos Rios Bicycle Playground

The bicycle playground continues to see a lot of use by people of all ages. Staff is working on rules and other signage.

Item 8: Project Updates

Ken Sherbenou advised the Board that staff has a kickoff meeting with the Master Plan consultants, GreenPlay, next week. As the process moves forward the Board will have a meeting with the consultants to provide their feedback.

Board Members inquired about the construction behind the Amphitheater. This was a planned project to improve the green room area for the amphitheater (to help draw more and better acts) and also provide additional restrooms that will be accessible to the public from the river trail.

Item 8: For the Good of the Community

Nick Allen called attention to the protest outside the City Council meeting on June 3. He shared that there was good conversation and suggested watching the video of the first thirty minutes of the council meeting. Mr. Allen suggested everyone should be a part of the conversation and solution.

The Board decided to have the July meeting in Las Colonias Park.

Item 8: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:03 pm.

The next meeting will be July 9, 2020. When the schedule was adopted in January the Board decided to have the July meeting after the July 4th holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Little
Administrative Specialist