

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

## **Regular Meeting – December 2, 2021**

Meeting Location: Hospitality Suite – Lincoln Park

### **Roll Call**

Board Members Present: William Findlay  
Kyle Gardner  
Phil Pe'a  
Gary Schroen  
Austin Solko  
Nancy Strippel  
Michele Vion  
Lisa Whalin  
Byron Wiehe

City Staff Present: Ken Sherbenou, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

**Meeting called to order by William Findlay at 12:02 p.m.**

### **Approve Minutes from the November 4, 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

Gary Schroen made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 4 meeting noting that the Mesa Concept includes an irrigation pond, not a detention pond. The motion to approve the minutes as amended was seconded by Austin Solko and carried unanimously.

Motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 8 No 0

### **Lincoln Park Stadium Construction Update**

Ken Sherbenou updated the board about the Stadium construction project. A guaranteed maximum price (GMP) has come in at \$9.3 million, bringing the total project cost to about \$11 million. The DOLA grant hearing is on Wednesday, December 8. The City has applied for a grant to convert the existing lighting at the complex to LED. This is a very competitive grant cycle for DOLA. Staff have calculated about 42% energy savings if the conversion is made. Sound upgrades are included in the project which should alleviate all current audio issues. Outfield turf replacement is not part of the project, but the City is pursuing a GOCO grant to help fund that improvement. The stadium project is still on track to meet the deadline of the first Colorado Mesa Baseball game on February 17, 2022. Additionally, the City and CMU are partnering on a 5,000 square foot multi-purpose building south of the football field. It will be occupied by CMU during football season, and includes multi-purpose areas for the city to utilize during the off-season.

### **Dos Rios Splash Park and Playground Updates**

Ken Sherbenou reminded the board of plans for both a destination playground and destination splash pad in the Dos Rios area. This is a public/private partnership that was negotiated during the initial sale of the land. These amenities will have a higher end finish than you might expect at other public

playground facilities. Board members wondered about play areas for smaller (younger than 5) kids, and how higher end/natural play materials will last and feel to play on in the Grand Junction heat.

### **Phase II of the Monument Connect Trail**

Ken advised the board of the plans for Phase II of the Monument Connect Trail. This link completes the thirteen mile connection from the trail at Lunch Loops, around South Camp, to Redlands Parkway, to the Audubon section of the Riverfront Trail and back to the Phase I trail; making a loop. City staff are pursuing a grant to help with funding this project. Kyle Gardner made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board submit a letter to Great Outdoors Colorado in support of the project and grant proposal. The motion was seconded by Byron Wiehe and carried unanimously.

Motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:        Yes 8   No 0

### **Community Center Survey**

Ken Sherbenou updated the Board on the progress on a community center survey. The draft is being edited and there should be an updated version for review which will be circulated to board members. This version reflects the concerns the board has offered. Ken shared with the board that once the random sample is selected, they will be mailed a letter inviting participation online. If they choose not to respond online, then they will be called. The survey is on track for February execution.

### **City of Grand Junction Child Care Grant Proposal Update**

Ken Sherbenou talked with the board about a grant proposal, which came together on a short timeline, for the City to operate an employer provided day care. The City is under contract, pending successful grant application, to purchase the former daycare located north of the Tennis Bubble on 25 ½ Road. The facility does need renovation both inside and outside, but would provide 3 classrooms for 3 age groups and allow for 40 spots daily. Currently, the City plans on market driven pricing and 100% cost recovery. Staffing and operation will fall under Parks and Recreation. Parks and Recreation already operates licensed day care during the summer so it makes sense to use our department to expand that operation. This will hopefully help address the overall childcare shortage in the valley and help with retention of City employees, while requiring no tax payer subsidy.

### **For the Good of the Community**

Ken Sherbenou advised the board that the intergovernmental agreement between the City and the developer of Redlands 360 is almost complete. Once it is finalized they'll attend a board meeting for an update (likely the January meeting). Board members are interested in a spring tour once the weather is a little warmer.

Board members complimented the Parks division on the downtown Christmas lights.

### **Future Agenda Topics**

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Allison Little  
Administrative Specialist