

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

## **Regular Meeting – June 9, 2022**

Meeting Location: Barn – Lincoln Park

### **Roll Call**

Board Members Present: William Findlay  
Kyle Gardner  
Cindy Enos-Martinez  
Gary Schroen  
Nancy Strippel  
Michele Vion  
Lisa Whalin  
Byron Wiehe  
Phil Pe'a

Board Members Absent: Austin Solko

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

**Meeting called to order by William Findlay at 12:06 p.m.**

### **Approve Minutes from the May 5, 2022 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

Michele Vion made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting with one change. In the second paragraph about the Community Recreation Center Survey Results the third sentence should read, 'Part of the work in the coming months is to determine what might be funded by the existing tax on cannabis and which supplemental source of funding should be pursued.'. The motion was seconded by Byron Wiehe and carried unanimously.

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

### **Community Recreation Center Workshop Review**

Ken Sherbenou talked with the Board about the upcoming meetings related to a potential Community Recreation Center (CRC). Monday is a City Council workshop with the consultants, and Tuesday is the date of the regularly scheduled additional CRC focused PRAB meeting. There is also a public workshop from 6 – 8pm that evening for members of the community to attend and provide feedback. This meeting will primarily be focused on gathering feedback so that PRAB can make a site recommendation for Council to consider.

### **Dos Rios Playground and Splash Pad Design**

Ken updated the board on the progress that has been made on the Dos Rios destination playground design. Staff are negotiating with the winning proposer, Summit Recreation. The committee has chosen a prominent feature of a fish (as a climbing structure) which they are hoping to design to resemble a native endangered local fish, the humpback chub.

Board members expressed a strong desire to make sure the feature is vandalism resistant and that the final construction deters unintended usage. Staff are discussing all these factors with the company.

Ken talked with the board about the Dos Rios splash pad design. Previous submissions were reminiscent of swimming pool splash pads, and the intent was for more of a playable fountain style feature. Staff has been having conversations with a company that focuses on this style of design who have proposed a feature which would be a few inches deep but resemble a river with rocks and water flowing in one direction. Board members affirm this design offers an opportunity for non-swimmers to access water in a safe manner and that it has a communal feel. You could play in the water or eat your lunch on a rock next to the water and enjoy the splash pad either way. Ken advised the board that DOLA will make a decision on the City's grant request in about a week.

### **Chipeta Playground Design and Other Turf Projects**

Ken informed the board that the City is working with School District 51 to pursue a grant for playground and turf design for Chipeta Elementary which is one of the City's six intergovernmental agreement (IGA) schools. The City uses the school for summer camps and youth basketball programming. Due to the large number of kids in the relatively small playground area the turf gets unusually hard use. This plan would include artificial turf to reduce the stress on the natural grass, some new play features, and a shade structure. Cindy Enos Martinez made a motion that the Board support a grant request and collaboration with the school district for the refurbishment of Chipeta Elementary. The motion was seconded by Michele Vion and carried unanimously.

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

### **Skate Park at Emerson Park**

Ken talked with the board about Emerson Park. Even though it is one of the original four parks of Grand Junction, it is not used much currently. The PROS plan identifies this as an area where a high end skate park and pump track could be installed. Currently, Grand Junction lacks a skate park for more advanced users and this park would be designed to fill this gap and activate the park with more regular users. Board members expressed concern about the lack of sidewalks and bicycle lanes that would allow bikes and skaters to even get to this park. Ken Sherbenou shared that this concept has received really positive feedback from the skate community, and the concept could include using some of the current park footprint for parking.

### **For The Good of The Community**

Board members asked for an update on the proposed velodrome. Ken Sherbenou shared that an updated site plan for Matchett Park would be in the scope of work if that location is chosen for the CRC, recognizing that some things have changed (no school site) and that there are new opportunities (velodrome and options for affordable housing) to be explored. The construction estimates for the velodrome estimates were \$12M – \$15M so, enthusiasm has waned a bit due to the price tag.

Board members wondered if the zipline from Eagle Rim Park to Las Colonias had been delayed. Ken advised the board that Bonsai has submitted their plans, all the agreements are in place and the final alignment is approved. The plans indicated a fall completion of construction.

Board members wondered about feedback from JUCO. Ken shared with the board that ticket sales and attendance were great, there was positive feedback about the renovation, the new stands and lighting, and that staff received no negative feedback about the fireworks. Board members shared they heard great feedback on the food trucks but less positive feedback on the stadium vendor. Ken shared that the stadium vendor moved into the space and pulled together their menu on very short notice.

Ken updated the board on the GOCO grant request for Phase 2 funding for the Monument Connect trail. The project was awarded \$500,000. This will extend the trail from Lunch Loop parking area to South Camp Road. There are endangered cacti along the proposed route, so staff are working on an alignment that protects those cacti.

**Adjourn**

The board adjourned by acclimation at 1:35pm

**Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting will be July 7, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,  
Allison Little  
Administrative Specialist