

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022

Meeting Location: Barn – Lincoln Park

Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent:

Guests Present: Lilian Grisafi

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

Meeting called to order by William Findlay at 12:01 p.m.

Approve Minutes from the February 3, 2022 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Austin Solko made a motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Michele Vion and carried unanimously.

Motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 9 No 0

Ken Sherbenou introduced Lilian who is visiting the board today. She is interested in getting involved.

Redlands Roundabout

Ken Sherbenou talked with the Board about the Redlands Roundabout project. In 2019 there was a public meeting attended by around 100 people to present ideas for art in the round about. The theme that rose to the top at that meeting was Big Horn Sheep. There is \$100,000 in the City budget for this project. Those funds will cover site development, lighting, and the sculptures of the mama and baby and the sparring sheep. There is a fundraising effort, donations being collected by the Grand Valley Parks and Recreation Foundation, to add the large ram on the rock formation.

Board members voiced concerns about natural looking stone being fabricated from stucco, and its durability, and who would be responsible for maintenance once the project is complete. Board members mentioned they have seen people and items in that round about and are concerned people might try to climb on the sculptures for a photo op.

Ken Sherbenou advised the board that the funded two-thirds of the project will be built this year and the remaining third (the ram on the large rock) will be built when funds are available.

Dos Rios Splash Pad

Ken Sherbenou reminded the Board that the sale of the land in the Dos Rios area included the requirement that \$1M be put back into public improvements including the splash pad and the destination playground. The Splash Pad will be situated slightly west of the Bicycle Park and be about 2400 square feet. Ken Sherbenou shared with the board that the proposals didn't really fit with the vision for the project. Staff were looking for more of a fountain with artistic, aesthetic, and play value. The artistic and aesthetic aspects were largely ignored in the proposals. The review committee would like this to be a creative and unique feature with a splash element. Staff will better define the qualities they are looking for and put the RFP back out. Since the RFP will be reopened later, staff has decided to pursue a DOLA grant for splash and riverfront improvements. The grant awards will be made in June, so there could not be a contract for construction until after that time.

Private Ash Treatment Program

Ken Sherbenou talked with the Board about the Private Ash Treatment Program. An article came out in today's Daily Sentinel. During the budget workshop Council tasked staff with coming up with a way to incentivize treatment of private trees. T4 Tree Service has been selected as the partner for this project. The City will cover half the treatment cost for private trees meeting certain criteria. If a tree does not meet the treatment criteria they can qualify for a rebate program. The program is launching on April 23. Staff are working on materials to help with tree identification and we have a new logo and mascot for the program.

For the Good of the Community

Ken Sherbenou shared that there were no bidders on the tennis/pickleball project. It seems that staffing shortages caused interested contractors to be unable to bid the project at this time.

Board members inquired about the progress on the Stadium renovation project. Great progress has been made on the grandstands and the soft goods area. Staff are working on upgrades, painting locker rooms, repainting existing stands, and freshening up the Hospitality Suite. The first event at the Stadium is Palisade High School Graduation on May 9. Though, track events are being held throughout the construction. Staff are hopeful that the LED conversion will be completed by the time JUCO begins.

The Survey responses are being tabulated. There were 1300 responses received which is double the engagement Staff were hoping to obtain.

Byron Wiehe shared some concerns about youth baseball teams not being able to get enough field practice space. Ken Sherbenou reminded the Board that there are some projects, most notably the irrigation renovation at Pomona combined with the construction of Fire Station 3, that are impacting field availability. Staff are working to get the fields open as quickly as possible.

Austin Solko talked with the Board about the idea of installing a scale model of the solar system along the Riverfront Trail. It's so hard to understand the actual size and scale of the solar system. For example, if you start with a 6' sun, the earth would be .65" in diameter and 214 yards away. Mars would be 3.34' in diameter and 227 yards away. Neptune would be 2.7 miles away from the sun. The Math and Science Center would be willing to help with a project like this.

Cindy Enos-Martinez reminded the board that the American Rescue Plan committee has 3 folks from PRAB appointed to serve on it. The committee is looking for ideas for projects to use these funds, so please share ideas if you have them.

Future Agenda Topics

Construction Tour next month

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison Little
Administrative Specialist