

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Regular Meeting – May 5, 2022

Meeting Location: Barn – Lincoln Park

Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Phil Pe'a

City Staff Present: Ken Sherbenou, Director of Parks and Recreation
Emily Krause, Recreation Superintendent
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist
Tanya Marchun, Senior Administrative Assistant - Marketing

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

Ken Sherbenou introduced two guests to the meeting. Tanya Marchun the department's new Senior Administrative Assistant. She will have a large focus on marketing as well as other administrative tasks. Emily Krause will be regularly joining the meeting as the Recreation Superintendent.

Approve Minutes from the April 7, 2022 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Austin Solko made a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting. The motion was seconded by Byron Wiehe and carried unanimously.

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

Community Recreation Center Survey Results

Ken Sherbenou talked with board members about the results from the Community Recreation Center which were shared via email. This survey was intentionally kept separate from any kind of master planning process. Colorado Mesa University partnered with the City to provide statisticians with no intentional Parks and Recreation bias (which you might have from a company which was also completing a master plan). City Council has directed staff to pursue a future community recreation center anticipating and April 2023 ballot measure.

Major takeaways from the survey include an impression that overall the City Facilities are good, but indoor facilities are lacking. Across the board all three funding alternatives (sales tax, nicotine tax, and property tax) received support. Part of the work in the coming months is to determine what might be funded by the existing tax on cannabis versus an alternate source of funding. City Council anticipates

this being a ballot initiative in April of 2023. The survey indicated a strong preference for Matchett as the preferred location. Developing there would require at least a \$4 million difference in the cost to build (because all the infrastructure work that Matchett requires). Over the coming months, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, functioning as a mechanism for community and staff feedback, will be working through details such as location, building size, operating costs, and accessibility for underserved areas and demographics. Ken Sherbenou suggested the board plan to have a second monthly meeting specifically for working through the Community Recreation Center planning process. This meeting would include other City staff as well as consulting staff. Lisa Whalin made a motion that the board meet two times per month as needed. The motion was seconded by Michele Vion and carried unanimously.

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

Orchard Mesa Pool Renovation

Ken Sherbenou shared with the Board that City Council would like to pursue some design and renovation of the Orchard Mesa Pool in 2022. An RFP will be opened a week from Friday to solicit proposals from designers. Emily Krause shared that this improvement would include large improvements/upgrades on electrical, HVAC, pool pump, locker rooms, refurbishment of the deck and pool plaster, hot tub improvements, and repairs and upgrades to the solar heating system. Board members wondered if the gymnasium would be able to be opened and operated by the city. That hasn't been worked out yet. Since the school district decommissioned the building, the floor has sustained some damage.

Fireworks Special Event

Ken Sherbenou advised the Board that the Parks and Recreation Department is working on a Fourth of July fireworks special event. Last year's Rockies game ran long and the fireworks shot off very late. New controls are in place to prevent that from happening again which will create a gap between the end of the game and the beginning of the fireworks. Staff are working with the Rockies to come up with some entertainment for folks in the stands during that time.

Dos Rios Playground

Ken Sherbenou shared with the Board that five proposals were received for the Dos Rios Playground. Three concepts were provided by each proposer. All options include areas for younger and older kids. Board members wondered about the impact of sun on the proposed elements, how to make the final structures less attractive to the unhoused population, how water from the splash pad area would impact the play elements, if parents would be able to watch kids playing in both the playground and the splash areas at the same time, and if kids would be able to go between the two areas bare footed. Ken Sherbenou reminded the board that improvements to the riverfront area are also funded this year which should keep a bit of a beach area, remove invasive species and replace them with native vegetation.

For the Good of the Community

Austin Solko shared with the about an update on the proposed scale solar system model at Las Colonias. The astronomer who works with Eureka has helped with details. The plan includes a four-foot diameter sun at the east end of Las Colonias which puts Neptune in Riverside Park and Pluto (if included) 2 miles down the trail. The sun would be an actual 3-D structure and the rest of the planets would be indicated

by flat signage that shows the size of the planet and has information about each one. Additionally, there could be some wayfinding signage (Jupiter one more mile to the west).

Adjourn

The board adjourned by acclamation at 1:41pm

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be June 9, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison Little
Administrative Specialist