

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

## **Regular Meeting – May 2, 2024**

Meeting Location: Hospitality Suite – Lincoln Park Stadium

### **Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Cindy Enos-Martinez  
William Findlay  
Kyle Gardner  
Lilly Grisafi  
Abe Herman  
Gary Schroen  
Austin Solko  
Nancy Strippel  
Lisa Whalin  
Byron Wiehe

Board Members Absent:

Guests Present: Carol Ward

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

### **Matchett Road Naming**

Board members discussed potential names to recommend for two streets that will be needed to access the park. Street names must be unique (not already in use in Grand Junction).

Board members suggestions include:

Matchett Place (or Drive)

GJ Plays Dr.

Recreation Way

Fitness Street

Community Blvd.

Legacy (already in use at Cemetery)

Inspiration

Cindy Enos Martinez made a motion that Matchett Parkway (if allowed) be the road that enters the park and Recreation Drive be the ‘wiggly’ road inside the Park. The motion was seconded by Austin Solko and carried unanimously.

Motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 10 No 0

### **Community Recreation Center Groundbreaking Ceremony**

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Community Recreation Center (CRC) has been scheduled for Saturday, June 1 in Matchett Park. This will be an all-day celebration with a Disc Golf Tournament and 5K fun run kicking off at 8:30 and a 10am official groundbreaking ceremony. After the ceremony we will 'open' the doors to the CRC. The building perimeter and certain hallways will be marked off. There will be QR codes posted so that attendees can use their phones for a 360 view of the area. There will be activities hosted throughout the building space.

- Lunch (sponsored) in Community Rooms
- Child Watch– face paint/balloon animals
- Pools – Intermountain Health St. Mary's activities
- Gym – bump and jumps

The event is being planned with a festival feel to help people understand the size and magnitude of the building.

### **Hawthorne Park Survey**

In an effort to increase engagement for Hawthorne Park improvements, staff went through the process of investigating a bike pump track which was not approved by Council. A survey has been sent to all the houses in a half mile of Hawthorne Park inviting their feedback and attendance at a public meeting on 5/30 at 5pm.

Staff are hoping to generate engagement for improvements at Hawthorne Park. The current playground was built in 1998 (typical life span is 20 – 25 years). If people choose playground as an improvement option on the survey they are presented additional questions to gather more information about what kind of amenities folks would like to see in a future playground.

### **Main street Improvements**

Ken Sherbenou shared with the board that staff are working with the DDA discussing improvements to the 500 block. In the interest of time further discussion on this item was tabled and more information will be shared at the next meeting.

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

Board members wondered about Desert Vista Park. It appears folks have moved people from Whitman to Emerson to Desert Vista. Ken Sherbenou shared that it is a fluid situation. Parks and Recreation has placed porta potties in the park and is regularly collecting trash. On Wednesdays the park is closed so that essential maintenance (such as irrigation and mowing) can be performed. Staff are working with PD to make sure this can be accomplished.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Board members suggested that after the recent fire mitigation along the Riverfront Trail it is much more open and wonder how the City is going to activate those spaces.

Board members also wondered about the status of Phase 2 of the Monument Connect trail. This phase is still scheduled for completion by the end of the year.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:25 p.m.

**Next Meeting**

The meetings of the Parks and Recreation Advisory board are as follows:

5/14 – Special Whitman Park Meeting

6/6 – Regular PRAB Meeting

Respectfully submitted,  
Allison Little  
Administrative Specialist