

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Regular Meeting – September 19, 2024

Meeting Location: Emerson Park

Roll Call

Board Members Present: William Findlay
Kyle Gardner
Austin Solko
Nancy Strippel
Chandler Smith
Lilly Simonds
Lisa Whalin

Board Members Absent: Abe Herman
Cindy Enos-Martinez
Byron Wiehe

Guests Present: Cody Kennedy, City Council
Trent Prall, Director of Engineering and Transportation
Amanda Decker, President, Ford Construction
Sam Wilson, Ford Construction – Project Superintendent
Miriam Macias, Ford Construction – Project Engineer

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

Meeting called to order by Lisa Whalin at 12:06 p.m.

Approve Minutes from the August 15, 2024 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes accepted by acclamation

Rosevale Transportation

Trent Prall talked with the board about a City-owned 40 acre piece of property, containing the Holy Buckets trailhead, in the area of the Rosevale Detention Basin and the larger 100 year flood plain that runs throughout Rosevale. This property is a popular access point for the Lunch Loop Trail System. Transportation and Engineering is working with Mesa County at options for mitigating flood risk and to control water by building a dam. This County project is a preventative measure to reduce the risk of flooding, though many of these homes are still in the Colorado River floodplain. The dam would be intended to collect water in larger rain events (usually once or twice a year). Water would be engineered to drain out through a low flow exit (or evaporation) in 72 hours. This project is not intended to create wetlands.

One option is a 23ft dam and detention basin that contains the water fully on the City property. The second option would utilize the Haynes property for a 21ft dam and detention with overflow onto the City-owned property. Both options are projected to cost \$6.92M and will require some sections of trail to be relocated. The County has had preliminary discussions with the Haynes family. Likely any solution will require an easement onto their property for access, for trail relocation, or for water detention.

Bill Findlay made a motion the Board support the option which builds the dam on the Haynes property with overflow onto City property. The motion was seconded by Chandler Smith and carried unanimously.

Motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 7 No 0

Election of Officers

Ken Sherbenou noted that, according to the minutes of the 2023 September meeting, both Lilly and Lisa were elected for their second term. Per the bylaws neither would be able to serve in the same office this year. Lilly declines to accept the nomination for Chair of the PRAB.

Bill Findlay made a motion that that Nancy Strippel be elected Chair and Kyle Garner be elected Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Lisa Whalin and carried unanimously.

Motion by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 7 No 0

Tour of Emerson Park.

Ken Sherbenou introduced the Ford Construction staff. The team has one more concrete pour and is turning their focus to landscaping which is critical to the feel of the park and the finished product. They are working towards completion in November.

Ken Sherbenou reminded the board that efforts were made to keep the tree canopy as intact as possible designing around the existing trees. One already failing cottonwood was removed for the placement of the skate park. Some smaller, more recently planted trees were relocated.

Board members wondered if this park would be considered a “sports park” to be open one hour later than other parks. Currently the sports determination is made by active programming (such as scheduled games or tournaments) and this would be passive programming, but changes could be considered for the future based on demand. Board members walked around the park for a closer look at the amenities. Board members wondered about parking. Creating diagonal parking was considered but it would have necessitated the removal of all the trees along the east side of the park for the net gain of two spaces. There is a lot of on-street parking adjacent the park, and often skateboarders will skate to a park rather than drive.

Adjourn by acclamation – 1:08

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Little
Administrative Specialist