

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes Regular Meeting – November 7, 2024**

Meeting Location: FCI Trailer, CRC Construction Site

### **Roll Call**

Board Members Present: William Findlay  
Kyle Gardner  
Abe Herman  
Lilly Simonds  
Austin Solko  
Chandler Smith  
Anna Stout  
Nancy Strippel  
Byron Wiehe

Board Members Absent: Cindy Enos-Martinez  
Lisa Whalin

Guests Present: Austin, FCI  
Matthew Kryger, KKCO/KJCT

Marc Litzen, FCI  
Brady Blackmer, FCI  
Evan Walton, FCI  
Craig Bouck, BRS

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

**Meeting called to order by Nancy Strippel at 12:05 p.m.**

### **Approve Minutes from the October 23, 2024 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

Lily moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting. The motion was seconded by Byron and carried unanimously.

Yes - 9

No - 0

### **Dos Rios Splash Park Naming**

Ken talked with the board about naming of the Dos Rios Splash Park. Similar to how shelters and roads are named, there is discussion about of the Splash Park. Council member Anna Stout shared that she requested this be put on the Agenda. Director level staff and Council have been

talking about how to honor the contributions and visionary leadership of former City Manager Greg Caton. Were it not for his leadership, perhaps that area would still be a junk yard/ superfund site. City Manager Caton was quoted in the paper as saying that Dos Rios is the project he is most proud of from his time in Grand Junction. Board members wondered if it would be more appropriate to name an element like the bike park (because there are 2 of them) as opposed to a splash pad because there is only one. Anna Stout shared that the Splash Pad took an incredible amount of work to come to fruition so that is why naming this particular element came to mind. Staff shared that the splash pad at LP does have a name (The Lion's Club Splash Pad). Board members wondered if there would be any community controversy about naming an element in his honor. Anna Stout shared that she doesn't foresee any, as one of his reasons for leaving was to be closer to family, there was no controversy that caused him to resign.

Bill Findlay made a motion that the Dos Rios Splash Pad be named in honor of Greg Caton. The motion was seconded by Austin Solko and carried unanimously.

Yes - 9

No - 0

Council member Stout invited the board to attend the sister city celebration this Saturday at the CMU ballroom.

### **Community Recreation Center Construction Tour**

Ken Sherbenou updated the board on the bid package item on last night's Council agenda. The package was approved unanimously. There was a lot of excitement around the updated design, and the continuation of the funding for the project.

Kyle shared that there are a lot of questions about renewables where the CRC is concerned. Ken shared that staff and the design team looked at geothermal really diligently, but when we compared the grant potential to the cost the differential was about \$5M. Taking utility savings into consideration, the payoff was too long to justify the expense. It was very critically studied. The building will be solar ready, so it could be added, especially as renewables become more cost-effective solutions. The building is being built with high efficiency systems throughout so, sustainability is being considered throughout the construction process.

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

Lilly Simonds shared with the board that GJ PLAYs (formerly GJPARG) has obtained their own 501C3. They are hoping for a larger re-branding outreach push at the beginning of the year and are working on fundraising for outdoor amenities near the center. Recently the group also provided funding for the Monument Connect trail. Ken shared that it is really helpful to have a local group that champions the work of Parks & Recreation and the ways the community recreates.

The Board adjourned to a tour of the Community Recreation Center construction site.

Adjourn by acclamation at 1:20 pm.

### **Next Meeting – December 5, 12:00 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Ali Little, Administrative Specialist