

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

Regular Meeting – August 7, 2025

Meeting Location: Hospitality Suite

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Cindy Enos-Martinez
William Findlay
Kyle Gardner
Josh Travers
Nancy Strippel
Lisa Whalin
Byron Wiehe

Board Members Absent: Chandler Smith
Anna Stout

Guests Present Melissa Kin, Barker Rinker Seacat

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

Meeting called to order by Nancy Strippel at 12:03 p.m.

Approve minutes from the July 2025 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Bill offered the correction that the Riverfront trail does not yet go all the way to Palisade, but there is a portion once you get to Palisade. Cindy Enos Martinez made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Lisa Whalin and carried unanimously.

Yes - 7

No – 0

CRC Room Names

Ken introduced Nicole Reeves, CRC Manager, who joined the team around Memorial Day and has hit the ground running. Nicole brings a wealth of recreation center experience to the team. Ken reminded the board that we have brought a few facilities to the Board for input on naming. Today staff are looking for names for a number of locations.

Emily Krause shared with the board that the center has been divided into zones which may help with determining names. The activity corridor includes building circulation, the aquatics zone includes 2 party rooms, the gathering space includes the 3 community rooms, and the athletic zone which includes 3 group fitness rooms.

The aquatic zone includes two party rooms which need names and suggestions include rivers or endangered fish. The three group fitness rooms have views of canyons and trails and could also be named after local trees. These suggestions would also work for the three community rooms.

Board members suggested Grand and Gunnison for the two aquatic party rooms, trails for the group fitness rooms (Tabaguache, Kokopelli, and Ribbon). After much discussion, the board settled on trees for the community rooms noting that you could call the rooms when opened up into one large space the canopy or forest rooms and when divided into three smaller rooms the Catalpa, Mulberry, and Sycamore rooms.

Ken Sherbenou advised the board that the pro forma has been updated to extend open hours until 9pm Monday through Thursday with the Aquatics area closing at 8:30. Ken advised the board that the current revenue projections do not include offering Silver Sneakers or RenewActive. The reimbursement rate is incredibly low, maxing out at \$24 per month regardless of the number of visits. Silver Sneakers has offered to increase the reimbursement up to a \$35 per month maximum and staff are hopeful this will encourage Renew Active to increase their reimbursement rate as well.

Main Street Improvement Update

Ken shared with the board that the current design repurposes the existing below ground storage area (that was in place for the splash pad) would house the propane tank for the fire pit. The smaller play areas would include a permanently painted checker/chess board as well as tables with shade. Ken reminded the board that the hope is this area will be an attraction, but not over-activated as was the experience with the previous splash pad element.

Outdoor Facilities Design

Melissa King, Design Manager joined the board to talk about the outdoor facilities design. The turf field is the highest priority followed by the seating/promenade/connection back to the building. The playground and food truck areas are planned for future install along with formal pathways. Staff are also looking at modifications to the berm, as well as adding some tip and roll bleacher seatings on a concrete pad. Sleeves will be installed under the fire lane so that it will be easy to pull wiring when future areas are ready to build out.

Staff are working on grant requests and alternate funding sources to add other outdoor amenities (outdoor fitness turf, maintenance building, the irrigation lateral move). Board members wondered how the contingency is holding out? The second water slide has used the owner's contingency. The contractor contingency is still about \$650,000 and there are items that FCI is anticipating using that funding to cover. Overall, the budget is in a good place.

Officer Elections

Cindy Enos Martinez nominated Nancey Strippel to continue in her role as Chair. Lisa Whalin seconded the nomination. Lisa Whalin nominated Kyle Gardner to continue in his role as Vice

Chair, Byron Wiehe seconded the nomination. Board members voted on both motions simultaneously. Nancy and Kyle were elected unanimously.

Yes - 7

No – 0

For the Good of the Community

Bill Findlay wondered if there are concerns about the driving range impacting trail users of Kindred Reserve. So far Parks Recreation has not received complaints from trail users.

Board members were curious about the status of Lilac Park. Ken shared that staff have submitted a grant request to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for a proposal to refine the use of the turf and convert it to a more native, less manicured grass space.

Board members wondered about a recent closure at Hawthorne. Ken shared that staff completed the replacement of the engineered wood chip fall protection. Revitalization of the playground is in the ten-year capital improvement plan. Staff are working on the replacement of Westlake playground right now. The new pedestrian lighting at Hawthorne (and Columbine) is a big success. Columbine will have a few improvements coming online shortly including new netting, and volleyball courts.

Board members are reminded of the Topping Out Ceremony at CRC, on August 8 at 9am.

Adjourn by acclamation at 1:35

Next Meeting – September 4, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
Ali Little, Administrative Specialist