

**Parks Improvement Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2005**

Meeting Called to Order by Vice Chair Tillie Bishop at 7:50 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Tillie Bishop, Vice Chair
Andy Rodriguez

Board Members Absent:

Dan Cummings, Chair
Cindy Enos-Martinez
Steve Phillips
Lou Grasso
Sue Gormley (Ex-Officio)

Parks & Recreation Staff:

Joe Stevens, Director
Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
René Heinrich, Admin. Assistant
Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner

Item 1: Approval of Minutes

Tillie Bishop stated that, due to there not being a quorum, the approval of the April 20, 2005 minutes will have to be carried over to the next Parks Improvement Advisory Board meeting.

Item 2: Stadium Master Plan Update

Tillie Bishop said that Andy Rodriguez had some questions about the April minutes, regarding the suggestion that each entity/partner (JUCO, Mesa State College, School District #51, etc.) contribute \$1 million over time towards the Stadium Master Plan. Joe Stevens reported that Dan Cummings had wanted to follow-up with funding options for the Lincoln Park Stadium Plan at today's meeting, unfortunately, he was not able to attend. Mr. Stevens reported Mayor Hill recently said the City is happy to assist in the stadium funding; however, there is no way the City can fund the entire \$10 million project. Discussion ensued regarding the recommended \$1 million contributions from each of the partners. Mr. Stevens stated the City currently has other priorities and would need to know whether or not the partners are willing to help financially support the stadium improvements before moving forward.

Joe Stevens distributed information on the Sink Combs, Dethlefs study (See attached), stating the sound system was recently replaced, which was one of the issues on the study's priority list. Mr. Stevens reported the new sound system is working very well, with the only problems so far being due to human error. Joe Stevens stated there are many other issues that the user groups would like to see resolved, unfortunately, it takes money to make any improvements. Mr. Stevens stated the Parks & Recreation Department is committed to maintaining the finest facility in the state, particularly when it comes to athletic programs for the high schools. Joe Stevens reported Mesa State College has said they would like to see a more "appealing" facility for the college events. Mr. Stevens stated the other issue that will need to be addressed down the line is the School District's plans to build another high school in the Grand Valley. In addition, Mesa State College intends to add more women's sports programs in the near future, including track and field. Joe Stevens stated the current stadium facility can accommodate the Grand Valley today, but may not be able to ten years from now; therefore, some long term improvement plans will eventually have to be pursued. Tillie Bishop asked if there have been any recent conversations with Tim Mills as to how they intend to provide a new stadium facility for their ever-growing high school baseball and football programs. Joe Stevens responded the School District would love to build their own facility; however, the reality is the cost is just too high. Mr. Stevens said the School District's preference is to work with the Parks & Recreation Department to continue using the current stadium facility. Shawn Cooper reported the School District recently said they do not mind having just one stadium in the valley and they are willing to use it two nights a week versus just one night a week. The School District recently said they do not have an objection to playing their Varsity games on Thursday and Friday nights, similar to what the Front Range is doing. Tillie Bishop asked about how the School District plans to handle the growing demand for more indoor sports, such as volleyball, basketball, etc. Joe Stevens reported the plans are to double the size of the gymnasiums at Pear Park and Bookcliff Middle School, as the Parks & Recreation Department is working on an agreement to partner with School District #51 for expanding gymnasium space. Mr. Stevens stated the Parks & Recreation Department is working with School District #51 as much as possible from an indoor athletics perspective; however, the Parks & Recreation facilities remain the "sole" provider for outdoor events. Joe Stevens reported the gymnasium at Bookcliff Middle School is scheduled to open in the fall of 2006.

Item 3: Parks Improvement Advisory Board Member Recognition Update

Tillie Bishop briefly discussed his desire to coordinate the recognitions, both for JUCO's recognitions, along with the recognitions the Parks Improvement Advisory Board intends to make. Joe Stevens asked Don Hobbs to work with Don Carlson, who did the stone work at Canyon View Park, in hopes of him to coming up with some ideas and representations for the recognition plaques. Mr. Stevens expressed the importance of tying the recognition plaques in with the Stadium Master Plan. Tillie Bishop reported he recently met with Dan Cummings, Dale Hollingsworth, and Jim Eisenhower. Mr. Bishop stated that during the meeting they came up with the following list of recognition criteria:

- Significant/Exemplary Contributions
- Longevity
- Contribution in Sports, Parks, and/or Recreation.
- Individual Efforts
- Volunteer and/ or Paid Employee
- Possibly Coaches
- County Resident

Tillie Bishop suggested carrying this item over for further discussion at the next Parks Improvement Advisory Board meeting, in hopes of discussing when the Board has a quorum.

Item 4: Other Business

Joe Stevens provided a brief update on the concession operations at JUCO, stating Two Rivers Convention Center generated more revenue in the first three days than the ballpark concessionaire reported during the entire 2004 tournament. Mr. Stevens stated the staff worked hard to prepare for the JUCO season, and may have even "over planned". Joe Stevens said the difficulty for the concession stand is that it desperately needs replaced, as the design is not accommodating for servicing large crowds in a quick and productive manner. Tillie Bishop asked Joe Stevens to thank Donna Redd and Traci Altergott for a job well done!

Andy Rodriguez asked whether or not there is an opportunity for Mesa State College to run the concessions themselves during their games. Joe Stevens responded the Parks & Recreation Department could certainly entertain the idea; however, it really is a policy issue. Andy Rodriguez stated he knew the college would be interested in pursuing the concession options further. Joe Stevens stated the Parks & Recreation Department does something similar for the Avalon Theatre, in which Cinema at the Avalon pays for the product and keeps the revenue. Mr. Stevens stated the difficulty in making this type of arrangement with the college is that it gets more complicated as the Parks & Recreation Department would want to provide the same opportunity to School District #51, making operations, inventories, etc. problematic. Joe Stevens stated he would be more than willing to discuss the issue further and review any proposals that Mesa State or others might want to present.

Andy Rodriguez reported on the 2006 Mesa State College graduation dates, which is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, May 21, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. However, Mr. Rodriguez stated they would also like to discuss the possibility of using the baseball side of the facility on May 20, 2006. Andy Rodriguez said the tentative graduation date for 2007 is May 20, 2007 in the evening, and also the possibility of the May 19, 2007, on the baseball side. Don Hobbs stated he was concerned those dates may conflict with either the Tiger Invitational or the Regional Track Meet. Andy Rodriguez said their concern is, if the weather is bad, it can be very difficult to reschedule evening graduation ceremonies. Mr. Rodriguez asked what the cost was for the college to use the facility for graduation ceremonies. Rene' Heinrich responded the flat rate is \$175.00. Don Hobbs expressed his concern regarding the graduation ceremonies taking place at the same time as the track meets, as this would cause major parking issues. Don Hobbs said the benefit of overflow parking would not be available if both events were taking place at the same time. Tillie Bishop recommended bringing together the School District, Mesa State College and the Parks & Recreation Department to review the calendars and discuss any conflicts. Shawn Cooper asked if there was a time frame for Mesa State College's women's athletics, as that could present another conflict. Andy Rodriguez responded he has not yet been notified of the time frame, but that he will find out.

Tillie Bishop expressed the importance of getting together and agreeing on scheduling for 2006 and 2007. Joe Stevens stated the key on the scheduling will be coordinating with the Athletic Directors for School District #51 and Mesa State College. Mr. Stevens said both Athletic Directors have done a great job working out who plays when, allowing Parks & Recreation to avoid getting caught up in having to make that determination. Joe Stevens said the only discussion that has taken place internally, is regarding School District #51's baseball being

played at Canyon View Park. Tillie Bishop asked for a meeting to bring everyone together and review the schedules. Joe Stevens said he will set up a meeting, inviting both School District #51 and Mesa State College. Joe Stevens said the Parks & Recreation Department would be happy to put together a master calendar for all parties, once the dates have been confirmed.

Item 6: Next Meeting

Parks Improvement Advisory Board Member Recognition Update

Item 7: Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist