

Parks Improvement Advisory Board February 23, 2006

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Dan Cummings at 11:39 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Dan Cummings, Chair
Andy Rodriguez
Doug Thomason
Lou Grasso
Sue Gormley (Ex-Officio)

Board Members Absent: Tillie Bishop, Vice Chair
Ron Rowley

Stadium Committee: Dan Cummings, Chair
Tillie Bishop
Steve Phillips
Jamie Hamilton
Joe Stevens

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
Don Hobbs Hobbs, Assistant Director
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Lou Grasso moved to approve the November 21, 2005 Parks Improvement Advisory Board minutes. Jamie Hamilton seconded.

Motion adopted by Parks Improvement Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Item 3: Lincoln Park Stadium Master Plan

Joe Stevens reported on his February 23, 2006 memo regarding the Lincoln Park Stadium Plan funding scenario (See attached), stating the information is intended as a rough estimate of "minimum" costs and is for discussion purposes only. Mr. Stevens discussed funding options, including the possibility of the City financing the improvement project through the Grand Junction Finance Corporation.

Steve Phillips stated the project would be much more feasible for the School District if they could pay over time. Mr. Phillips also said it would be better to start the project "sooner" than later, as additional high school sites are being discussed, which will put an even larger strain on the

stadium facilities. Joe Stevens said, if the Board feels there is any merit to the idea of attempting to finance the improvements, the next step would be to request to be added to the agenda for the next Grand Junction Finance Corporation meeting, in hopes of determining what funding options are available. Andy Rodriguez expressed concern regarding the different fiscal years for the contributing organizations, stating the funds will need to be designated right away for the College, as they are already working on their next fiscal budget. Lou Grasso discussed the possibility of staggering the contributions from each organization, based on their individual fiscal years. Doug Thomason said he would support staggering the funding, as long as there is a firm commitment from everyone involved. Discussion ensued.

Lou Grasso moved for Joe Stevens to request for the Parks Improvement Advisory Board to be added to the agenda for the next Grand Junction Finance Corporation meeting. Doug Thomason seconded.

Motion adopted by Parks Improvement Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Item 4: Mesa State College Master Plan Presentation – Athletic Facilities

Mesa State College President, Tim Foster, presented information on the proposed remodel of the Mesa State College athletic facilities. Mr. Foster said that, although some areas of the campus have been remodeled, a substantial portion of the college campus is over 40 years old. Tim Foster reported some of the major concerns with their current facilities include life safety issues with the swimming pool, and some structural issues due to the weight room being located on the third floor. Mr. Foster stated Sink Combs, Dethlefs recently reviewed the project and recommended making several changes, while keeping the current structure. Recommendations included renovating Saunders Field House, relocating the fields and installing permanent seating, the reorientation of the main entrance, relocating the locker rooms, expanding the cardio space, and relocating the swimming pool South of Bergman Field. Tim Foster stated the remodeling project would be completed in phases, with the swimming pool relocation being included in the first phase.

In addition, Sink Combs, Dethlefs proposed the College build an event center, consisting of approximately 4,000 seats (with the possibility of another 1,200 seats in the upper bowl). Mr. Foster stated the College is presenting the event center concept to the School District 51 Board next week, in order to determine if the District has any interest in partnering to build the event center. Steve Phillips said an event center with a large seating capacity would provide the School District the opportunity to host state and regional tournaments. Mr. Phillips said this would save the School District thousands of dollars, as they would no longer have to bus the athletes to Denver. The estimated cost for the event center is \$49 Million. Dan Cummings asked if the College intends to attempt recovering some of the costs of the event center by allowing concerts, public events, etc. Tim Foster replied the College does not anticipate generating any revenue off of the proposed event center. Mr. Foster stated the College has also been in discussions with some local organizations, including Hilltop, regarding possible partnerships for a senior citizen recreation center component. Tim Foster reported the college students are currently not using the cardio area in the mornings, which would allow time for senior citizens to use the facility. Joe Stevens stated he would like to discuss the recreation center concept with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, in order to see if they may be interested in some type of partnership as well. Mr.

Stevens discussed the record numbers at Orchard Mesa Community Center Pool, stating it might be a good idea to consider including the swimming pool in the recreation component.

Tim Foster also reported the College is currently conducting a supply and demand parking survey, in order to determine whether or not they should consider building a parking structure. Mr. Foster said it doesn't appear there is a need for a parking structure, stating it doesn't make financial sense to build a "fee" parking lot when there is "free" parking in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Item 5: Concession Operations

Joe Stevens reported Two Rivers Convention Center recently hired a ¾ time Concessions Supervisor. Mr. Stevens briefly discussed Mesa State College's request at the February 16, 2006 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting, in which the College asked to provide concessions for a select number of their home baseball and football games. Jamie Hamilton reported the College has since decided not to make a request for the baseball season, but said the College does intend to put together a proposal for the 2006 football season.

Item 6: Recognition of Lou Grasso

Dan Cummings presented Lou Grasso with a plaque in recognition of Mr. Grasso's 25 years of dedicated service to the Parks Improvement Advisory Board. Mr. Grasso thanked the Board and said he has truly enjoyed his time on the Board. Lou Grasso also said he would be happy to assist with any future fund raising and/or special committees, etc. Good Luck Lou!

Item 7: Future Meetings Agenda

No additional future agenda items were discussed.

Item 8: Adjourn

Lou Grasso moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Phillips seconded. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Unanimously Approved: Yes 4 No 0

Meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist