

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2000

Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Jamie Hamilton at 11:34 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Jamie Hamilton
 Tillie Bishop
 Bob Cron
 RT Mantlo
 Nora Hughes

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
 Shawn Cooper, Park Planner
 Tracy Constable, Leisure Service Rep.

Item 2 Approve Minutes

Bob Cron moved to approve the March 16, 2000 minutes with the revision of removing duplicated words 'with the'. (The revised minutes are attached.) Tillie Bishop seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0
 (Nora arrived at 11:45 a.m.)

Item 3 Two Rivers Renovation

Joe Stevens began conversation by explaining the happenings from the last renovation meeting involving committee members, Bruce Hill, Tillie Bishop, and Lena Elliot. Three scenarios came from the meeting; one, stick to the original plan for 3 million dollars, two, "do it correctly the first time" in the neighborhood of 4 million, or possibility three, do the project in phases to add all the amenities the focus groups agreed on which would increase the cost to a little over 5 million.

Tillie Bishop made the point that if the Parks Department has to work at the 3.5 million mark or less, that the project wouldn't be substantial enough to make it worth while. Tillie Bishop stated that JUCO committee will contribute \$100,000 for the overall renovation. Lena Elliot and Tillie Bishop also received positive feed back from Energy Impact on extra funding from the City and the County. Joe Stevens stated that the Parks and Recreation Department at this time does not have the extra funding for this project, all existing Capital Improvement Funds are tied up with Canyon View and Eagle Rim Parks. This issue is tentatively on the City Council agenda for May 15, 2000.

Tillie Bishop moved that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board address City Council identifying that the Board's choice is 3.5 million to fund construction cost, which would leave the project short 1.5 million to cover architectural/engineering and interior furnishings costs. The Board would like to ask City Council for another \$500,000, with additional monies coming from Mesa County, and from local service organizations and foundations for the remaining \$1,000,000.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Item 4 Eagle Rim Dedication

Shawn Cooper stated completion of Eagle Rim Park is projected to be mid-June, the dedication is set for July 1st, which the Board agreed, would be a feasible date. Joe Stevens would like the Board to appoint a committee to work with staff on the format, invitations, ideas, and scheduling of the dedication. The committee will work to involve Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, City Council, Riverfront Legacy, and Orchard Mesa Community members. Bob Cron and Jamie Hamilton volunteered to co-chair the committee.

Item 5 Professional Baseball

Jamie Hamilton introduced Dale Hollingsworth, a representative from the Executive JUCO Committee, who gave a brief background of JUCO in Grand Junction. Dale stated that Sam Suplezio and the Executive JUCO Committee did want to bring a Rookie League from Arizona to Grand Junction, but earlier this year Sylvia Galindo, Manager of Minor League Operations, denied that prospect. The JUCO Committee has since decided to no longer favor bringing in a pro-baseball team under any scenario.

Dale also made the point that after his meetings with George Killian, NJCAA Executive Director, the Committee has come to the conclusion that bringing in a Minor League Team would not benefit JUCO. The JUCO Tournament would be jeopardized in different ways including being forced to work around a Pro Baseball Team. There would be competition for advertising in the community between the Pro Baseball Team and Mesa State College, School District 51, and JUCO. Tillie Bishop also believes if we attempt to change things too much for the JUCO Tournament, JUCO may consider other offers and possibly move to a different location.

Jamie Hamilton brought up the fact that the Board needs to have the Professional Baseball Guidelines in place and approved by council now in case the opportunity for bringing in a Professional Baseball Team arises again in the future. Tillie made the point that the dollar figures in the guidelines need be periodically updated to meet future costs.

Tillie Bishop moved to adopt the Professional Baseball Guidelines with changes to the final paragraph, recommending that at the time of negotiations, PIAB be a part of the process. Bob Cron seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Jamie Hamilton made the observation that having three Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members that also serve on the JUCO Committee would pose a bias opinion towards the Professional Baseball issue. Knowing the emotional state and personal feelings towards Professional Baseball coming to Grand Junction, Jamie believes the Board should not make any decisions, because the votes will be looked upon as a conflict of interest. Not knowing what the future may bring, both Jamie Hamilton and Tillie Bishop expressed they were not in favor of bringing in a Professional Baseball Team at this time.

R.T. Mantlo moved that the Board would not act on the JUCO Baseball committee's position at this time because of bias opinions. Tillie Bishop seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Item 6 Other Business

Cinco De Mayo

Linda Villa spoke on the behalf of the Riverside Task Force. Linda gave a brief history on the Task Force including their goals, special events, and their youth programs. Linda also summed up an article from the Delta County Independent that went into great detail on the Task Force's programs and applauded them on doing such a great job with the Riverside Community.

Jamie Hamilton made note that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board supports the Riverside Task Force and the Cinco De Mayo Event. Jamie also expressed the Board's concern about Riverside Park being too small of a site for a three-day event of this magnitude, and suggested that either the event be reduced to a one-day event or moved to a different location.

Linda Villa explained that the Riverside community is concerned that if the Cinco De Mayo Event moves from Riverside Park they would lose other events at that location presented by the Task Force.

Nora Hughes moved to make the Cinco De Mayo Celebration a one-day event for the year 2001 which is consistent with a recommendation from the Grand Junction Police Department. R.T. Mantlo seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Master Plan Update

Paul Kuhn and Chris Cares of Winston & Associates gave a presentation on revisions to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Paul gave an analysis on the number of community parks per capita in Grand Junction and said at this rate the Parks Department is keeping up with population growth very well, but the city could use more neighborhood parks. Tillie Bishop questioned if some of our neighborhood parks were cost effective. Paul pointed out that the current level of community park use is phenomenal and he would venture that all of the parks, neighborhood included, are used on a regular bases and worth having. The local survey showed 20% of the survey participants used the parks 21 times a year. Paul also pointed out that community parks (eg. Lincoln Park, Sherwood Park) can be used and considered as neighborhood parks for their areas, as can school properties. Joe Stevens stated the Parks and Recreation Department works closely with School District 51 on shared park/school use in existing and undeveloped future school grounds. For instance, a future school is planned to go in a segment of Matchett Park, and a park is planned adjacent to and connected to the Wingate Elementary property.

Chris Cares said Master Plan Focus Groups that met in March, were very effective, helped in prioritizing projects, and validated several points made with last fall's surveys. The Focus Groups agreed that Matchett Park is a great location for a Recreation Center, and Los Colonias area for a possible second center.

To get more information Chris Cares and Shawn Cooper distributed a survey to Grand Junction High School, they found that both survey's findings were very close in choosing priorities. 120 surveys were distributed to High School Students and 90 were returned. The Students gave strong support to the Water Park, trails systems and amphitheater and 67% of those surveyed said they would support a vote for the quarter of a cent sales tax increase.

Paul Kuhn continued by explaining what projects were tentatively recommended for each five-year phase of the Master Plan.

- Phase 1: Development and improvements to existing parks (7 community parks, 3 neighborhood parks)
 - Finish Canyon View Park
 - Purchase land for neighborhood parks
 - Wingate Park

- Phase 2:
 - Burkey Park
 - Westlake Park
 - 5 new neighborhood parks
 - Phase 1 of Saccomanno Park
 - Phase 1 of Los Colonias Park

- Phase 3: Amphitheater

Joe Stevens set a meeting for Tuesday, May 16th at 9:00 a.m. in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room to refine the update and discuss any questions or ideas concerning the Master Plan before discussing with City Council, perhaps on May 25th.

Rick Manchester's Resignation

Jamie Hamilton and the rest of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would like to extend their appreciation to Rick and all the hard work and many years he has devoted to the Parks and Recreation Department, and wish him the best of luck in the future.

Item 7 Adjourn

Tillie Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting, Bob Cron seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board 5 yes 0 no
Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy A. Constable
Leisure Service Representative