

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes September 16, 1999

Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Jamie Hamilton at 11:45 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Jamie Hamilton
 Tillie Bishop
 Lena Elliott
 RT Mantlo
 Nora Hughes
 Karen Madsen

City Council: Reford Theobald

Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
 Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Erika Doyle, Administrative Specialist

Item 2 Approval of Minutes

Jamie Hamilton moved to approve the August 19, 1999 minutes, RT Mantlo seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved: Yes 6 No 0

Item 3 Sam Suplizio – Rookie League Overview

Jamie Hamilton introduced Sam Suplizio to the Board. Mr. Suplizio stated that several rookie baseball clubs are currently looking for new locations and are interested in possibly relocating to Grand Junction due, in part, to the success of JUCO.

Mr. Suplizio introduced three types of teams and shared the following:

1. Independent Teams (i.e. the team in Pueblo, Colorado). These teams are the least desirable due to the fact that they go in and out of communities very quickly. They seemingly relocate to a community, take their money, and relocate to a new community within a few years.

2. Franchise Teams (owned by investors that have working agreements with major league teams – i.e. Butte Copper Kings). These teams would be better than an independent team, however still not ideal. Mainly, because these teams would be competing against JUCO for funding and would require that the community of Grand Junction put up at least \$1.2 million in advance to bring them to town.

3. Colorado Rockies Rookie League. This particular team would be the ideal choice for Grand Junction as the Rockies wouldn't require up front funding from the community, and in fact have underwriting monies available for the town they choose.

The Rockies Rookie League will be meeting in Grand Junction September 28, 1999 to gather more information. Joe Stevens and Mr. Suplizio stated that the above presentation was for informational purposes only at this time. Joe Stevens believes that at this juncture we are just gathering information and will evaluate when the time is right and that we shouldn't rush into anything. Jamie Hamilton asked what time frame we were looking at? Mr. Suplizio stated that it might be a year or two before anything comes about as a result of these meetings.

Item 4 Stars Presentation

Dustin South, Rick Manchester, and Mari Steinbach presented the 1999 STARS Appreciation Awards to two organizations:

1. Leroy Winter and Merlin Tucker, Orchard Mesa Lions Club
2. Anita and Frank Nieslanik, Okagawa Farms

Without their financial support, this program would not have been possible. Rick and Dustin then gave a slide presentation of some of the activities and participants in this years STARS program which included such activities as planting flowers at the fire station, slip and slide, as well as educational aspects like trips to the public library.

Mari Steinbach also announced that the Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department was the recipient of two Columbine Awards – one of which was for excellent work with the STARS program.

Jamie Hamilton thanked the award recipients as well as Dustin, Rick and Mari for their hard work and obvious rewards – the kids. The entire board was very pleased with what has been accomplished in the STARS program.

Item 5 Capital Improvement Overview

Joe Stevens presented the Capital Improvement Overview to the Board and specifically outlined projects the Parks and Recreation Department is requesting funding for over the next two years. Joe also offered a more detailed 10-year overview document to those who were very ambitious. Joe encouraged the Board to take this with them, review it and call with any questions, concerns or comments between now and the next meeting.

Discussion ensued about the \$100,000 allotted for 24 & G Road Area Improvements. After discussion, the Board elected to recommend that the City change the listing to designate the money for Canyon View Improvements rather than to a specific project in Canyon View Park.

The Board asked for information from Shawn Cooper as to what is necessary for improvements to the Urruty handball court. At this time, Shawn didn't have any information available although he stated that he would begin looking at what would be required. The Board would like to have this information as soon as possible so they can send a letter to Maggie Doyenhard, Basque Representative. The Board would like to explain to her that they understand keeping the court has been approved, but that all renovations would have to stay consistent with plans for Canyon View Park as well as what would be required of their in-kind money as the time nears for renovation.

Shawn Cooper brought up the fact that we would need the Master Plan finalized and construction documents would need to be prepared. Shawn will put a cost projection together in the next packet for Board review.

Joe informed Board members that the City Council would be reviewing all CIP projects Monday, September 20th at 5:30pm in Two Rivers Convention Center.

Item 6 Staff Reports

No questions.

Item 6 Other BusinessResidential Development Near Canyon View Park

Jamie Hamilton passed out a residential development plan by Steve Reimer (see attached) that has been proposed adjacent Canyon View Park. Mr. Reimer apparently just wanted the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to be aware of his plans at this point.

Shawn Cooper stated that he had met with Mr. Reimer recently and knew that Mr. Reimer was trying to connect the private walkways in his planned subdivision with those of Canyon View Park. At this point, Shawn has advised Mr. Reimer that there will be several issues that will require further review.

Joe Stevens

Joe Stevens will be out of town for the next meeting.

Item 7 Adjourn to Executive Session

Karen Madsen moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations at the City's golf courses, Lena Elliott seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika L. Doyle
Administrative Specialist