

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
Two Rivers Convention Center
November 24, 1999

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

Roll Call

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

Parks & Recreation Staff: Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
 Doug Jones, Golf Course Superintendent
 Lynda Lovern, Recreation Supervisor
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Larry Manchester, Aquatics Coordinator
 Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
 Travis Buckelman, Interim Golf Pro
 Michael Varnum, TRCC Manager
 René Heinrich, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Hale Adams, Colorado Swimming Inc.
 Dr. Ted Okey, Principle, OMM
 Steve Hoefler, Pinon Grill

Item 2 Adoption on minutes

Senator Bishop moved to approve the November 1, 1999 minutes, Bob Crone seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved: Yes 7 No 0

Item 3 Public Comment – Zone Swim Meet

Senator Bishop presented to Hale Adams a plaque for the regional swim meet held in Grand Junction in August 1999. Hale Adams in return presented to the Parks and Recreation Board a momento of the meet. Mr. Adams stated that the hospitality and friendliness of the City staff was a major reason for the success of the meet. Parks and Recreation staff members, Mari Steinbach, Larry Manchester, and Lynda Lovern were given gold medals in recognition of their hard work with the meet and Lena Elliott complimented Mari on the success of the meet.

Item 3 Public Comment Cont.- New Skate Park

Dr. Ted Okey, Principal of Orchard Mesa Middle School (OMMS) presented a Request for Consideration to the Parks and Recreation Board Members. In September Adam Martin, a special education student at OMMS was killed while riding his skateboard, the students of OMMS have for the last several months collected quarters and have raised approximately \$150. Dr. Okey and the OMMS student's request a plaque be placed in the Eagle Rim skate park in memory of Adam. The students at OMMS will donate all proceeds from their quarter drive towards the purchase of the plaque. After further discussion by the Board regarding the placement and protection of the plaque and an assurance by Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner that a secure place will be found for the plaque Tillie Bishop moved to approve the placement of a plaque in memory of Adam Martin in Eagle Rim skate park, Lena Elliot seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved: Yes 7 No 0

Item 4 Pinon Grill Agreement, Contract Renewal

Joe Stevens presented the Pinon Grill Agreement explaining that right now we are in the 3rd year of our current agreement with Pinon Grill the agreement has a 2-year renewal option. Pat Kennedy and Steve Hoefer have asked the Parks and Recreation Board to consider a new agreement, basically another 3-year agreement with a 2-year option. Joe Stevens also proposes the Parks and Recreation Board amend the agreement to include a 1 year only agreement to operate concessions in the Lincoln Park Pro Shop. Historically Jack Sommers was interested in divesting himself of all concession operations at Lincoln Park. Concession operations prior to Pinon Grill, revenue was \$13,500; currently we are averaging \$24,000 annually.

R.T. Mantlo asks about the advantages of a 2-year option, Mr. Stevens explains the 2-year option offers an incentive and is also an "out" clause should either party wish to use it.

Lena Elliott asks if the concession people (BallPark Concessions) will be interested in the Lincoln Park Golf Course and who is responsible for the utilities and maintenance at Pinon Grill. Joe Stevens stated that Ball Park Concessions has shown no interest in the Lincoln Park Golf Course. Pinon Grill pays their own utilities at Tiara Rado. The outside of the building is the responsibility of the city however Pinon Grill shares in the maintenance/improvements.

Lena Elliott moves to approve staff's recommendation for a new Pinon Grill 3-year contract with a 2-year option and 1 year agreement to provide concessions at Lincoln Park Golf Course. Bob Crone seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved: Yes 7 No 0

Item 5 2000/2001 Budget Overview

Joe Stevens presented the Budget Overview to the Parks and Recreation Board. During the presentation Tillie Bishop questioned how the Board and Staff could communicate to the public the benefits of our programs to the community. R.T. Mantlo suggested a publicity department for Parks and Recreation. Bob Cron would like to see the Parks and Recreation Department strengthen their relationship with the VCB. Joe Stevens is currently speaking with service clubs.

Lena Elliott was concerned with staff programming and questioned why the staff cancelled 24 programs. Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent explained the cancellation of 24 programs was typical and a “good thing”, with the cancellation of programs it gives the staff a better feel for what the community is looking for in programs.

Tillie Bishop also commented on the cemetery, stating he thinks it looks about as nice as he has ever seen it look.

Item 6 2000/2001 Fees and Charges

Joe Stevens presented the 2000/2001 Fees and Charges to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Karen Madsen questioned Item 6, the decrease in the age of seniors from 65 to 55 and what monetary effects this will have. Mari Steinbach stated the reason for the decrease in age was the participation factor, by lowering the senior age more people will have access to the senior center and senior programs. Most senior programs however will still not offer a senior fee discount until the age of 60.

Tillie Bishop asked why Two River Convention Center room rates were not increased. Michael Varnum, TRCC Manager explained the new fee system in which rooms will be charged a flat rate up to 4 hours and then an hourly rate for each additional hour. Lena Elliott also questioned the increase of the dance floor from \$50 to \$300 and the LCD projector from \$50 to \$200. Michael explained the increase was do to purchase of a new, much larger dance floor and an upgraded LCD unit.

Joe Stevens handed out correction sheets for the Green Fee portion of the Fees and Charges Policy.

Lena Elliott asked about Senior Golf Passes. Doug Jones stated we already have one available called a Limited Pass that is also available to persons on “fixed incomes”. Jamie Hamilton stated he was comfortable with the golf fees noting that golf cart rates are increasing but golf is still 4% above average.

Jamie Hamilton was concerned with the increase in season passes for the pools. Mari explained the early season pass price and the new 3-tier discount for season passes. Lena

Elliott cited some concern over the swim meet fee. Tillie Bishop asked if a fee increase will generate a profit for Parks and Recreation, and asked if we have noticed a decrease in participation in the past because of fee increases. Tillie Bishop also inquired as to whether swimming could be compared to other organized and unorganized sports in the area and suggested we let people know our facilities are user fee generated. Joe Stevens explained that the pools are high use facilities, Lincoln Park Pool is a weather sensitive facility. Swimming is one of the top 3 or 4 participation sports nationwide as well as in our area. Joe Stevens also reminds the Parks and Recreation Board of our 80%-90% recovery goal and suggests it may be time to reevaluate that guideline.

Fees and Charges were not approved at this meeting; a follow up meeting will be scheduled.

Item 6 Concessions

Concessions RFQ deadline has been extended to December 2nd due lack of responses. 11 packets were sent out, and one was returned to the Parks and Recreation office. Some interested parties stated they did not have time to send in the RFQ.

Item 7 Baseball

City Council would like to know what the priorities are for Professional Baseball: Facility, JUCO, Staff, Concessions etc...

Item 8 Director of Golf

Jamie Hamilton feels that for the most part we are doing a pretty good job. Feedback to Travis about the golf course prior to the City's taking over included comments on Bo disappearing, terrible tournaments, and lack of customer service, Travis's main concern right now is customer service. Joe Stevens stated a polling of members of the golfing community would like to see a Golf Director who can hit the ground running, they want a staff that can run tournaments from the get go and a Pro-Shop with merchandise on hand or that can be custom ordered.

Item 9 Special Meeting

The Parks and Recreation Board has requested a special meeting. The agenda will consist of:

200/2001 Fees and Charges

Golf Director Update

Two Rivers Update

The meeting will be held on Tuesday November 30, 1999 at the Parks and Recreation Administrative offices.

Item 10 Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:30

Respectfully submitted,

René Heinrich
Administrative Assistant