

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

April 22, 1999

Item 1 Called to order by Chairman Lena Elliott at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Lena Elliott
Jamie Hamilton
R T Mantlo
John Gormley
Karen Madsen

Staff Present:

Joe Stevens, Director
Don Hobbs, Asst. Director
Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
Rene Heinrich, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present:

Lynn Bennoit, Police Dept.
Tim Moor, Public Works
Stephanie Nye, City Clerk
Evelyn Knott, Cinco De Mayo
Shirley Sanders, Cinco De Mayo
Robert Garcia, Cinco De Mayo
Linda Villa, Cinco De Mayo, Riverside Task Force
Kim Joyce, Chipeta Girl Scouts
Bob Salazar, Cumulus

Item 2 Approval of Minutes

Jamie Hamilton moved and Karen Madsen seconded a motion to approve the March 18, 1999 minutes.

Approved: Yes 5 No 0

Item 3 Linda Villa, Cinco De Mayo, Riverside Task Force

Guests: Evelyn Knott, Shirley Sanders, Robert Garcia, Kim Joyce, Bob Salazar.

Board Chairman Lena Elliott introduced Lyn Bennoit, Stephanie Nye, and Tim Moor from the city and stated we are involving other departments of the city for the purpose of coordinating Cinco De Mayo issues. Linda Villa explained how Cinco De Mayo in Riverside got started, stating Hispanic youth wanted to focus their energy into something positive. They came to her asking for guidance and support. Linda did tell them that Cinco De Mayo was already in town but they were very concerned that the youth were not involved and given the opportunity to have input into some of the things being put together for the youth during the celebration. At that time Linda said she would do whatever she could. A community task force of about 10 adults was formed to help the youth. Pablo Martinez met with Ted Novak and some people from the Parks and Recreation Department and presented their ideas. The kids said they would not do their celebration in conjunction with the downtown celebration because they were adamant about not selling alcohol. Their goal was to do prevention and to educate the kids in the community. The Riverside Task Force initiated the Cinco De Mayo Celebration in Riverside Park. This is the 8th year for the celebration.

The Cinco De Mayo Celebration had become so successful, and because of this success other concerns have arisen. The Celebration kicks off on April 30, a parade and several organizations and individuals join the celebration to show their support. According to the organizers the biggest success they have is involving everyone from Senior Citizens to small children and being able to see the crime rate drop. The Task Force has brought down the police and sheriff's Departments to speak with the kids and the Task Force in order for the community to be able to work together with law enforcement. Linda Villa believes there

was a lack of communication; they were not aware of any real concern regarding the Cinco De Mayo celebration.

Jamie Hamilton asks the members present what the real issue regarding the celebration is. Joe Stevens, Director stated there is some concern regarding the size and duration (3 days) of the celebration, and the ability of Riverside Park to hold the large number of people who now attend. Property access and parking during the celebration is also a concern. All permits have been obtained for this year including permits from Public Works for street closure. Security has been hired, and police have been notified. Parking in the alley was a problem last year, however the police did not receive a lot of calls and from last year's activities.

Resolution: Jamie Hamilton suggests establishing some guidelines, and possibly doing an evaluation with staff after a month or so for some monitoring suggestions. Joe Stevens will communicate issues that arise and coordinate with police and public works. Staff will monitor volumes of people at the festival. John Gormley suggests possibly setting guidelines for the size of festivals in the park and Linda Villa will get together with Joe regarding next year's festival. The use of acreage near the mall is also a possibility for next year.

Item 4 Professional Baseball

Jamie Hamilton spoke with Pat Elster and Bruce Hurst, representing independent Baseball and interested in bringing a professional baseball team to Grand Junction. Jamie suggested to Pat and Bruce they try to bring in a franchise instead of coming in as an independent group. They were asked to come back to us with a proposal because they are going to require concessions, parking etc. They also want to work with JUCO, Mesa State and District 51.

Item 5 Parking Lot Expansion, Canyon View

Joe Stevens reminded the Board that funds were authorized in 1999 to expand the parking area at Canyon View Park, in conjunction with the 3 new soccer fields. The proposed plan would save the handball court, however the board has decided to tear down the court and Lena suggests looking for an alternate means of storage for lights currently being stored in the shed. Shawn will redesign the parking area and suggests possibly building 2 new concrete racquetball courts to be tied to the 2000 budget. The parking lot should be out to bid the week of April 27th. Lena would like to meet with the handball advocates to let them know what is going on with the handball court.

Item 6 Park Project Updates

A. HawthornPark / Paradise Hills

New playground equipment has been installed in both parks, waiting on a few pieces of equipment to finish Hawthorn Park.

B. Eagle Rim Park

Park is ready to go to bid, include add alternates to bid, playground may be an add alternate. Budget is tight and the first phase is at \$800,000, there is not a lot above ground in phase I.

Item 7 Minutes – Other Agencies

No comments.

Item 8 Monthly Staff Reports

No comments.

Item 9 Correspondence

No comments

Item 10 Other Business

- Needs Survey and Community Perspective on the role of impact fees – the survey will cost ten to fifteen thousand dollars. Two or three firms may be invited to come in and make a presentation if Council concurs with the need for a survey. Joe will set up a selection committee for the perspective firms and the Board will attend if possible. Survey result may have to be worked into the 10-year plan. John Gromley would like to know what the Board's expectations are.
- Two Rivers – Board agrees to hire an individual for Two Rivers Management position. Renovation will move forward.
- Facility updates- Don Hobbs let everyone know there was vandalism damage at Duck Pond Park. The Stadium at Lincoln Park is two thirds done, and the sod is looking good. The new Press Box will be installed behind home plate at Suplizio Field the week of April 26th and the Zone Swim Meet is coming along very well. Orchard Mesa Pool is closed for remodeling, and will have a new deck and lockers when they reopen. The Senior Center has new carpet.

Item 10 Next Meeting – May 20, 1999**Item 11 Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rene Heinrich
Administrative Assistant

file\recprog\recbrd\minutes\pk042299doc