

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

July 8, 1999

Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Lena Elliott at 11:50 a.m.

Roll Call

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

Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
 Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Michael Varnum, TRCC Manager
 Donna Red, TRCC Assistant Manager
 Erika Doyle, Administrative Specialist

Item 2 Approval of Minutes

RT Mantlo moved and Jamie Hamilton seconded a motion to approve the May 20, 1999 minutes. Unanimously Approved: Yes 6 No 0

Item 3 Introduction of New Board Members

The Staff and current members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board welcomed the newly appointed and present board members Nora Hughes, Bob Cron. Director, Joe Stevens, also introduced the new Two Rivers Convention Center Manager, Michael Varnum. Tillie Bishop requested to be excused from this meeting but will be present at the August 19th meeting.

Item 4 Recognition Awards

Recognition awards were presented on behalf of the Parks and Recreation staff and advisory board to John Gormley and Dennis King for their dedication and service. John Gormley was present and accepted the awards for both he and Dennis King.

Item 5 Election of Officers

Karen Madsen nominated Jamie Hamilton as Chair and Tillie Bishop as Vice-Chair. Bob Cron seconded the motion. Unanimously Approved: Yes 6 No 0

Item 6 Community Hospital Foundation Fee Reduction Request

The Board discussed the history between Two Rivers Convention Center (TRCC) and the directive to discount Community Hospital's 1998 Gala rates.

A discount was given to Community Hospital due to the fact that the 1997 Gala had been described as a fiasco. TRCC did not perform up to expectations at this event and it was determined that a fee adjustment for 1998 was warranted. A discount of 40% off the base rental fee was offered and agreed to by Community Hospital for their 1998 Gala. In addition to this discount, \$501 was reduced from Community Hospital's 1998 bill due to apparent misunderstandings about bar and miscellaneous charges.

The event coordinators are again planning to use TRCC for the upcoming 1999 Gala in September. Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent, sat down with representatives of the Community Hospital Gala after the 1998 event and outlined what the cost would be for 1999. At that time, Mari's projections seemed agreeable to the representatives of the Community Hospital Gala. The outline stated that in 1999 the base rental fee would be as mandated by the Fees and Charges Policy and no discount would be granted.

Community Hospital is again requesting a discounted rate (as yet unspecified) which would include all supplies and equipment that TRCC has in inventory rather than these costs being split out which is customary for all other facility rentals and was done in 1998 for the Community Hospital Gala.

Jamie Hamilton and Lena Elliott suggested that the Board work something out for this year's event by authorizing a discount, but make it very clear that in future years, the event will be charged exactly as TRCC would charge any other event. (Jamie let the Board know that he was on the Community Hospital Gala Committee and would be abstaining from the vote.)

R.T. Mantlo said that we should go with what our policy currently states. Stick with it and don't negotiate again.

Michael Varnum suggested that we charge Community Hospital the published rental rate as well as a percentage of what their final catering bill would be. The percentage rate being based on whatever is comparable to what we should have made if TRCC were catering the event as well as add on all other miscellaneous items the Gala requires as rentals from TRCC. Michael and Mari will get together and run the numbers to see where that would put us as well as the amount Community Hospital would be paying. Michael and Mari will then present both options to Community Hospital.

Bob Cron stated that he was very uncomfortable authorizing a discount as TRCC fixed the problem from 1997 and we shouldn't still be paying for it in 1999. Bob Cron and Nora Hughes, however, agreed that they would go along with Michael Varnum's suggestion.

Joe Stevens suggested that the staff analyze the numbers as well as Michael Varnum's suggestion and present the findings to Community Hospital very quickly. In this year's presentation it will be made clear that after the 1999 Gala, TRCC will charge Community

Hospital the same as it would any other event – utilizing the Fees and Charges Policy and that no discount or adjustments would be made in the future. The Board and staff agreed and stated that the 2000/2002 Two Rivers Fees and Charges Policy should include language prohibiting kitchen rental. Catered events, if permitted, will be catered. The kitchen will not be available.

Item 7 Survey

Joe Stevens gave a brief overview of why we were requesting a survey. The approved survey would basically poll the community on what their support level is for Parks and Recreation activities as well as support for a tax increase to fund these programs including but not limited to a Recreation Center/Senior Center in Grand Junction.

The first part of the survey would most likely be conducted by telephone and would be followed up by a subsequent survey by mail. The cost will be approximately \$16,700 and will be performed by RRC, a company based in Boulder, Colorado

Item 8 Status Report on Two Rivers Convention Center Renovation Program

Shawn Cooper led the discussion as to the decision by Parks and Recreation to put out RFQ's (Request for Qualifications) and RFP's (Request for Proposals) to both Architects and Contractors separately. As an example, the Grand Junction City Hall is being built this way. Shawn feels that going this route would give more control to the City as far as getting "what we truly want to see". The schedule will be revised to reflect this modified "design-build" approach for the Two Rivers Renovation process.

Jamie Hamilton agreed that most major building projects are now being conducted in the same manner. Lena Elliott also expressed her pleasure that the project will be bid out separately. Lena requested that Michael Varnum touch base with the DDA regarding the revised time-line.

Joe Stevens suggested that a committee be formed for architect selection. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members and DDA Board members would be welcomed on this committee.

Item 9 Classic Golf Update

Classic Golf Representatives Present:

Bo Bostrom
Jim Neville

Bo Bostrom began the discussion stating that he felt Classic Golf was "greatly improved" from the previous Board Meeting. Jim Neville has moved to Grand Junction and has taken a lead role with Classic Golf as Director of Golf. Jim stated that from here on out – "The buck will stop with me" as far as any problems. Doug Naylor will be focusing on tournaments as well as interaction with both the Men's and Ladies Clubs. Apparently the Volunteer Open went very well. As far as the upcoming Rocky Mountain Open, Jim Neville will be "devoting 1,000% of his time" to making sure this runs smoothly. A lap

top computer has been purchased for scoring. Classic Golf realizes the level of concern regarding scoring but does not expect any glitches. Software is also being purchased specifically for this tournament and Classic Golf reiterated their understanding of the importance of this tournament to the Grand Junction community.

Lena stated her concerns about the major sponsor having pulled out and losing \$17,000 of sponsorship. Jim assured the Board that he was doing everything possible to gain community support via sponsorships and hopefully will make some of that up.

Bo Bostrom passed around the July 1, 1999 Classic Golf Newsletter (see attached). Bo stated that he had recently hired an administrative person to assist him so that he could focus more on golf operations than paperwork.

Joe Stevens made it clear to Classic Golf that this the Rocky Mountain Open *must* go and go well. He asked Classic Golf to let him know today (July 8, 1999) if they foresaw any difficulty in pulling this tournament off – Joe didn't want to hear anything about a no-go anytime after today.

Joe also expressed his appreciation of the efforts of Classic Golf since the last meeting. He has noticed a change in attitudes at Lincoln Park but also says that Tiara Rado still has a way to go and tournaments, while improving, continue to be a stumbling block.

Karen Madsen asked that there be notice given to golfers when the Juniors are playing the front 9 at Tiara Rado as she has had several comments regarding this subject.

R.T. Mantlo asked Classic Golf to contact the School District Superintendent regarding golf scholarships for students. In Classic Golf's proposal presentation, they stated that they would focus on community involvement and would provide scholarships. Classic Golf said that they would prepare a proposal for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Boards review and adaptation in the context of the agreement between the City and Classic Golf.

Item 10 Monthly Staff Reports

No questions.

Item 11 Other Business

Lifeguards

Joe Stevens brought to the Boards attention the fact that 4 lifeguards were recognized for saving the life of a heart attack victim at the Lincoln Park pool. To the benefit of the Parks and Recreation training program, within the past two weeks, several life guards also administered first-aid, 1) to an 11 year-old girl that fell off the high-dive, and 2) to a crashed motorcyclist they pulled out of a stream on Red Mountain Pass over the 4th of July weekend. These lifeguards were instrumental in saving the motorcyclists life as well pool patrons.

Handball Advocates

Lena Elliott mentioned how happy she was at the way Shawn Cooper handled the Handball Advocates. Lena said that Shawn did a great job in working with and explaining tentative plans to the group.

Rock the Rage

Joe Stevens passed out a letter written to Martin Crowe, President of Showpath Promotions, Inc. regarding the upcoming event “Rock the Rage” to be held in Suplezio Field. Joe wanted to let the Board know that this event was backed strongly by Mesa State College and their coaches and would be a fundraiser. The Parks and Recreation stands to collect \$3,000 to \$7,500 if the event brings in the amount of people projected. The organizers will enter into an agreement with the City which will cover insurance, security, damage deposit, etc. Joe is hoping that this money could then be earmarked back to the stadium for repairs and improvements. The Board agreed with his decision on this matter.

River Front Commission

Bob Cron volunteered to be the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board representative on the River Front Commission. Bob asked that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board think about possible names for what is now called “Jarvis Trail”. R.T. Mantlo suggested that Crawford’s Trail might be nice after the founder of Grand Junction.

Tour

Joe Stevens offered a tour of all Parks and Recreation facilities to the new Board members.

Item 12

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika L. Doyle
Administrative Specialist