

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

April 18, 2002

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Tillie Bishop at 11:45 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Tillie Bishop
 Bernie Goss
 Bob Cron
 Dennis Derrieux
 Dale Hollingsworth

Board Members Absent: Lena Elliott
 Nora Hughes

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
 Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Bob Cron moved to approve the March 21, 2001 minutes. Dale Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

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

Item 3: Canyon View Phase II Status Report

Shawn Cooper reported that at the April 17, 2002 City Council meeting, City Council members approved authorization of negotiations with Winston Associates for Phase II of Canyon View. The second phase will include 36 acres of undeveloped land, including landscaping and beautification of the corner of 24 and G Road. The total estimated cost is \$3.5 - 5 million, of which \$695,000 is currently available.

Mr. Cooper has been in contact with Mesa County Football Association, who has currently committed to contribute \$40,000 – \$60,000 towards football fields. The intended design includes several “multipurpose” fields (soccer, football, kite flying dog show, etc) meaning that the fields will need to be marked for each event - they will not be permanently marked. Bob Cron expressed his concern that the football groups and various other organizations are well aware of the fact that there will not be funding available for upcoming improvements.

Shawn Cooper also reported that the Basques group has committed to do landscaping to beautify the handball court, consisting of approximately \$25,000 of volunteer work. Maggie Doyhemard is the contact for the Basques organization. At this time, Mr. Cooper is hesitant to send the volunteer crews out until there is a better picture of what needs to be done.

The previous master plan has included additional regulation handball courts near the 24 & G Road corner. It also contains a proposed spray ground or interactive water park. Shawn Cooper reported that he was recently interviewed regarding the possibility of such a water park. At this time, there are no final plans for the spray ground, therefore, no further details could be provided. Tillie Bishop suggested he obtain research on the costs involved.

Mr. Cooper reported that all plans for Phase II are still in the design process with hopes of finalizing the plans by fall 2002. He stated that this phase might not include a lot of above groundwork, as the underground work must all be completed first. Winston Associates plans to initiate public meetings beginning in May to obtain input and public feedback on proposed designs. Plans are to break ground late this year.

Item 4: Discussion of Naming City Facilities

Bernie Goss reported the status of his research. He expressed that the previous Board spent a considerable amount of time discussing the issue. Mr. Goss requested the issue be carried over to a future board meeting.

Item 5: Other Business

Bob Cron reported that his Board term is about to expire. Tressa Fisher will research the expiration dates for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members and bring the information to the next meeting.

Bob Cron reported the Legacy Grant for Phase I of Las Colonias Park has been submitted. The results, of whether or not we can move on to the next round, should be known on Monday, April 22, 2002. The request was for \$800,000 from GOCO, and would be added to the \$200,000 donation from the Downtown Development Authority. Mr. Cron stated that the Riverfront Board members, along with Dan Patton, will be updating City Council on May 13, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. Tillie Bishop requested Tressa Fisher to send out a reminder for the City Council meeting. Bob Cron expressed that due to the numerous Riverfront area issues, it is essential the board members stay informed with all of the processes underway.

Bernie Goss questioned the "chain of command" process when Board members are being approached regarding the potential locations for the proposed event center. Tillie Bishop responded that the first contact would be Joe Stevens.

Bob Cron stated that he feels the first step to explore a Recreation Summit would be to invite the other recreation entities (i.e., City of Fruita, Mesa County, Town of Palisade, etc.) to meet with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board to discuss the status of their master planning. Discussion ensued regarding the possible discussion on the master plan overlays, common shortage of funding, how each organization plans to proceed, etc. Bernie Goss suggested a special meeting/workshop versus a regular Board meeting be scheduled for further summit discussions, due to time constraints.

Discussion ensued as to which organizations should be included. The following entities were suggested: City of Grand Junction, State Parks, Riverfront Commission, Urban Trails Committee, School District 51, Division of Wildlife, Mesa County, City of Fruita and Town of Palisade. Dennis Derrieux expressed the importance of making sure the other entities felt it would be beneficial to have a summit. Tressa Fisher was asked to establish a date for a special Board meeting/workshop for further discussions on this issue.

Tillie Bishop reported that the Board was not aware of the changes being done by JUCO to the north side of Stocker Stadium.

Don Hobbs reported that today is Arbor Day. A presentation was given this morning for approximately 200 children. Earth Day celebrations will continue on Friday. On Saturday there will be an Arbor Day booth set up at the South West Festival, as well as Touch-A-Truck. Mr. Hobbs also reported that the dedication of the Blue Heron soft trail would take place on June 22, 2002.

Shawn Cooper reported on a phone call he received approximately 2 months ago from a lady requesting a dog park in Grand Junction. Since that time, she has obtained numerous petitions, articles, suggestions, clippings, and etc, which she has mailed to Shawn's attention. Dog parks are a fenced in area where dogs can be taken off their leash and allowed to run and socialize with other dogs. Mr. Cooper reported that dog parks have been growing in popularity and he requested that she be allowed to make a presentation at a future board meeting. Tillie Bishop asked for her to be scheduled to present at the May 2002 meeting, allowing her 15-20 minutes. Bob Cron reminded the Board that there is a dog park in the master plan for the Mesa County Fairgrounds.

Item 6: Adjourn

Tillie Bishop asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Cron moved and the meeting was adjourned by acclamation, with the Board scheduled to meet at the Avalon Theater for a tour.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist