

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes January 18, 2001

Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Tillie Bishop at 12:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Tillie Bishop
 Bob Cron
 Lena Elliott
 Bernie Goss
 Jamie Hamilton
 Nora Hughes
 R.T. Mantlo

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
 Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
 Erika Doyle, Administrative Specialist

Item 2 Approve Minutes

Lena Elliott moved to approve the December 7, 2000 minutes. Jamie Hamilton seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 7 No 0

Item 3 Western Colorado Golf Foundation (WCGF)

Tillie Bishop introduced Mr. Mike Knode representing the Western Colorado Golf Foundation. Mr. Knode was excited to pass along an update with highlights of the 62nd Rocky Mountain Open (RMO) including:

- There were 144 amateur participants; 70 of those participants were from out of town.
- There were 107 professional participants; 101 of those participants were from out of town.
- Contributions towards the RMO amounted to over \$40,000 (a record year)
- Over 50 volunteers contributed over 1,000 hours
- The payout was over \$75,000 (a record year)
- 1999 RMO green fees due to the City of Grand Junction were paid off one year ahead of schedule.
- The RMO generated over \$11,000 which will benefit the WCGF's scholarship program.

Mr. Knode continued with plans for the 63rd Rocky Mountain Open, which include:

- Working with the community and all of the sponsors to tie them into the Western Colorado Golf Foundation's mission (i.e. scholarships for young golfers).
- Limiting the number of players for the Pro-Am due to the fact that Thursday's rounds were too long.
- Possibly cutting back on the number of professionals on the final day of the tournament.
- Locating ways to expand the tournament.
- Improving upon 2000 financial results.

Mr. Knode was pleased to announce that the WCGF will be awarding its first scholarships this spring. Most likely the awards will be distributed the first part of May 2001. Mr. Knode also stated that the number of applicants will determine the award amounts.

Tillie Bishop inquired as to whether some of the financial success of the WCGF will be put back to continue the WCGF or will it all be given out in scholarships? Mr. Gary Wuster stated that the WCGF Board of Directors will determine how much money will be given to scholarships and how much will be held back to perpetuate WCGF's existence. Mr. Bishop thanked the WCGF for taking the RMO to a new level and extended another thank you to Travis Bunkleman and the golf course staff for their participation in the success of the 62nd Rocky Mountain Open.

Gary Wuster stated that the WCGF was required to turn away 30 professional golfers requesting entrance into the 62nd RMO. Mr. Wuster explained that this was actually a good thing because it nearly guarantees sell-out participation in the 63rd RMO.

Joe Stevens asked Mike Knode to give a brief update on last years major sponsors. Mr. Knode replied that currently Elam Construction is not on board and although they are still trying to get a commitment, if Elam Construction didn't commit fairly soon, it would be necessary for the WCGF to begin approaching new potential major sponsors. Mr. Knode explained that it is sometimes difficult to tie sponsors into the idea of using their money for scholarships.

Lena Elliott stated that she wanted to make sure the WCGF was including the City of Grand Junction in all advertisements/promotions. Gary Wuster then showed the board a copy of one of their promotions that stated: This tournament is brought to you by the Western Colorado Golf Foundation and the City of Grand Junction.

Joe Stevens stated that in the original agreement with the WCGF, there had been a stipulation to repay green fees incurred in the 1999 RMO over two years. Mr. Stevens was pleased to state that the entire debt had been paid off ahead of schedule. Tillie Bishop asked if Travis Bunkleman had anything to add. Mr. Bunkleman stated that the only major change regarding tournaments that had been made was the policy change adding a mandatory \$6/per player required pro-shop expenditure. This policy change will increase pro-shop revenue \$9,000/year and will cut-down on the number of tournaments, opening up an additional 17 days that the City can generate regular play revenues. Bob Cron inquired as to when the new golf course in the

Ridges will be opening up for play? Mr. Bunkleman stated that to his knowledge, July 1st is the tentative scheduled date.

Joe Stevens announced that the golf courses had currently sold, by the end of the year 2000, the same amount of season golf passes that the City had sold through April the previous year.

Item 4 Two Rivers Convention Center Update

Lena Elliott stated that the Two Rivers Convention Center Renovation Committee (TRRC) had presented the budget to City council requesting another \$75,000 and that the presentation seemed to have been very well received. The City Council apparently gave the go ahead to move forward. Mrs. Elliott also stated that the TRCC along with several city departments are in discussions with City Council regarding the closure of 2nd Street for a pedestrian walkway and that discussion was also very positive. Mrs. Elliott relayed that the City Council seemed to show some excitement at the most recent meeting regarding the renovation of Two Rivers Convention Center.

Joe Stevens stated that sometime in March, the TRCC should be receiving the guaranteed maximum price to present to City Council. Mr. Stevens explained that there will be packages of amenities that the TRCC and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be asked to review and prioritize for requiring funding within the next 2-5 years.

Tillie Bishop stated that by having these improvements, the Two Rivers Convention Center will turn into the anchor for a walking/shopping area from the train depot all the way up Main Street and is a wonderful investment in our community.

Item 5 Other Business

Master Plan

Joe Stevens stated that the City Council will review the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan, as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, on February 5, 2001 at 7:00pm in City Hall.

Tillie Bishop indicated that he had recently been at a meeting where Jim Spehar and Janet Terry reviewed possible projects the City would like to tackle should deBrucing be approved by the voters. Mr. Bishop noted that a Recreation/Senior Center was listed at 8 or 9 below the 29 Road Viaduct, Fire Stations, Park Development and Maintenance, etc. Mr. Bishop stated that if the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board were to give them some assistance on encouraging a vote for deBrucing, they should sit down with the City Council and discuss the ballot issue.

Jamie Hamilton stated that he understood the need to have an adopted Master Plan, however, it may very well be obsolete by the time we can get the money as designated by Jim Sephar and Janet Terry that Tillie referred to.

Canyon View Park

Joe Stevens gave a brief update on Canyon View Park stating that the City was in the final design process for the restrooms and that the project should go out to be next week. Mr. Stevens also stated that he had received a signed contract from Coca-Cola regarding the scoreboard sponsorship, however, they signed their own contract without running it through out legal department and the local Coca-Cola company so it is currently under review.

Next Meeting

February 15, 2001. Location most likely at Two Rivers Convention Center.

Item 6 Adjourn

Lena Elliott moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Cron seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board 7 yes 0 no

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika L. Doyle
Administrative Specialist