

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes March 15, 2001**

## **Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Tillie Bishop at 11:35 p.m.**

### Roll Call

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

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

## **Item 2 Approve Minutes**

R.T. Mantlo moved to approve the February 15, 2001 minutes. Bob Cron seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:   Yes 6                   No 0

## **Item 3 Colorado Environmental Coalition for the Colorado Wilderness Network**

Tillie Bishop introduced Susan Claffey with the Colorado Environmental Coalition for the Colorado Wilderness Network. Ms. Claffey handed out some material for review and gave a slide presentation on wilderness preservation.

## **Item 4 Orchard Mesa Middle School/Park Intergovernmental Agreement**

Tillie Bishop introduced Ted Okey, Principal of Orchard Mesa Middle School (OMMS). Mr. Okey gave a brief background on his participation to date for improvements to the OMMS property, which included meeting with twenty-two groups focusing on needs of youth in the OMMS area. The groups came to the consensus that the number one need for the OMMS area was more parks and recreation facilities. One example of current cooperation between the City and OMMS would be the STARS program which is based out of OMMS whereby participants utilizes its entire campus including the pool, computer lab, and grounds. Mr. Okey stated that his vision was to complete the remaining undeveloped area, which OMMS sits on. Mr. Okey stated that School District 51 has committed \$60,000/year (over two years) for an irrigation system if the project were to move forward.

Tillie Bishop thanked Mr. Okey for his work on this “vision” and stated that whenever the City has the opportunity to put these types of projects together – they should. Joe Stevens stated that he looks at this opportunity as a benefit to the community as a whole. Based on the need, working with OMMS has been very beneficial. Mr. Stevens continued that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would need to evaluate the preliminary plan, if they are interested, and identify perimeters (i.e. when the facility/grounds would be available to the public and when it would not due to students on-site). Bob Cron inquired as to who currently maintains the property. Mr. Okey replied that the School District is responsible for maintenance at this time.

Lena Elliott suggested getting Cal Clark and Mesa County involved as a player in this project. Tillie Bishop probed the board for feedback. R.T. Mantlo stated that he thought it would work. Bernie Goss stated that he thought the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should move forward on this as it would certainly benefit the community in an under served area. Nora Hughes agreed with the above statements. Bob Cron stated that, conceptually, he agreed with the rest of the board, however he feels strongly about having an agreement for when the public would have access.

Joe Stevens stated that the idea is to really have a recreational facility in partnership with OMMS with agreements on who and when access would be granted. Tillie Bishop then nominated Bernie Goss and Nora Hughes to sit on a subcommittee along with Joe Stevens and additional staff to delve into the possibilities of this project. Mr. Bishop also asked Ted Okey to appoint an Orchard Mesa community member, locate a representative from Mesa County, and someone from School District 51 Superintendent’s office to sit on the subcommittee as well. Mr. Okey thanked the board for letting him bring the proposal to the table and stated that anything that would benefit the youth and the families in the Orchard Mesa area would be welcome. Mr. Okey’s hope is to increase facilities and provide more structured time for them as well as continue beautifying the area. Joe Stevens reminded the board that this idea was conceptual at best and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board had raised appropriate issues such as funding, operations and maintenance costs, usage and how this potential Capital Improvement Project (CIP) might be prioritized with other Department and City priorities.

## **Item 5 Other Business**

### TRCC Update

Joe Stevens handed out three conceptual drawings of the potential landscape design of Two Rivers Convention Center. The Board was very pleased with the look. Tillie Bishop inquired as to what kind of feedback staff was receiving from area storeowners. Mr. Stevens replied that the Public Works department was doing the dialogue portion with regard to parking and street closures. His understanding was the majority of downtown merchants are happy but there are certainly those that are not. Mr. Stevens stated that the guaranteed maximum final price (GMP) would be presented to City Council on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Lena Elliott suggested that the Two Rivers Convention Center Committee be allowed to prioritize the list of options prior to giving them to City Council. Mr. Bishop agreed and a meeting was scheduled for 3:30pm on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at Two Rivers Convention Center.

Art Center

Bob Cron gave a brief update on discussions with the Art Center and stated the following:

1. The Art Center board is focused on Las Colonias Park for potential relocation.
2. There are other folks interested in going with them (i.e. performing arts center).
3. The next step is to work with Parks and Recreation Department staff on some conceptual planning for that site. The ball is the Art Center's court.

Canyon View Park

Joe Stevens informed the Board that bids were received for the restroom project at Canyon View Park and staff will be recommending a bid award to City Council on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The scoreboard deal through Coca-Cola for the baseball field has fallen through. Coke wanted the City to assume liability for any and all vandalism to the vending machines and agreeing to that was a deal breaker. Mr. Stevens stated that Parks & Recreation staff would be in contact with Pepsi to see if they would be interested in working with the City.

Bernie Goss asked that staff take a look at the south entrance to the baseball field at Canyon View Park regarding speeders. Mr. Goss suggested possibly installing steal posts to deter dangerous situations for spectators that are occurring due to reckless drivers. Mr. Goss also requested that some type of material be put behind the bleachers at the baseball field. This would drastically improve depth perception for players and coaches on the baseball field.

Next Meeting

April 19, 2001. Location: Western Colorado Botanical Gardens, Children's Library, 11:30am.

**Item 6 Adjourn**

Lena Elliott moved to adjourn the meeting. Tillie Bishop seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board 6 yes 0 no

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika L. Doyle  
Administrative Specialist