

# DRAFT

## Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes May 17, 2001

### Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Tillie Bishop at 11:50 p.m.

#### Roll Call

Board Members Present:

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

City Council Members Present:

Harry Butler

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Joe Stevens, Director  
Don Hobbs, Assistant Director  
Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner  
Erika Doyle, Administrative Specialist  
Karen Peterson, Accounting Clerk

### Item 2 Approve Minutes

Bob Cron moved to approve the March 15, 2001 minutes after changing “appointed” on page two, paragraph four to “nominated”. Bernie Goss seconded the motion.

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

### Item 3 City of Grand Junction Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

Joe Stevens handed out copies of the recently adopted City of Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Master Plan and stated that a project summary was located on page 27 with current Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) listed on page 26. Mr. Stevens continued with a brief overview stating that the CIP will give Master Plan readers an idea of where the Parks and Recreation Department currently stands and future direction. Tier I improvements list the number one priority as completion of Canyon View Park and is followed by undeveloped park projects valley wide. One change in the adopted Master Plan is that of a large or several small possible Recreation/Senior Centers which has been moved to Tier II. What you’ve got right now is a really good working document that includes a great deal of research, work, and energy. Mr.

Stevens added that in addition to having a good working document, the adopted Master Plan will allow the City of Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department to apply for grants requiring formal master plans.

Mrs. Lena Elliott inquired as to whether the Department automatically received monies laid out in the CIP. Mr. Stevens answered that all monies had to be incorporated into the biennial budget and be approved and adopted by City Council. Mr. Bob Cron asked how the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) would be included in the CIP process and if they would present it to City Council. Mr. Stevens answered that he would be presenting a program to the PRAB for consideration and upon PRAB recommendation, the proposal would go to the City Manager and City Council for review, revision, and approval.

Mr. Tillie Bishop asked if the City had put any data together as far as bonding? Mr. Stevens replied that Ron Lappi, City of Grand Junction Finance Director ran several scenarios with projected costs, but it is an issue for City Council. Historically, the City Council has elected not to incur debt for projects that are generally operated out of the general fund (eg: City Hall, Canyon View Park). Mr. Bishop then asked if there had been recent discussion of a Special Recreation District. Mr. Stevens answered, no. Mr. Bishop replied that this might be a good time to research this option.

Mr. Harry Butler stated that he may be way out of line, but he thought that there were people that might be interested in using the tax surplus for a recreation center. Mr. Jamie Hamilton stated that Mr. Butler should “lead with his chin” as the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board had asked on several occasions for the City Council to go to a vote of the people and they would not support this request.

Mr. Bob Cron stated that the PRAB should be thinking about how to allocate the money that is already budgeted and he suggested that there should be a strong focus on neighborhood parks as they are the backbone of our growing population. In addition, Mr. Cron proposed that this suggestion is probably doable in conjunction with the CIP. Mr. Cron continued that the City should find a different funding source for the larger parks and facilities, hoping to at least keep up with the neighborhood parks.

Mr. Stevens stated that in regard to GOCO and Legacy, if you look at the City of Grand Junction and it’s Parks and Recreation Department – we have been one of the most successful departments in five years raising funds from these sources. If you tie the efforts of the department in with the efforts of Bob Cron and the Legacy Committee as well as the Botanical Gardens – the department has received its fair share. Tillie Bishop stated that he believed we were probably more progressive and had a greater team effort than put forth by the rest of the state. Mr. R.T. Mantlo stated that one thing we have is that, at least with the Riverfront project, we said what we were going to do and we did it! Mr. Bishop thanked Joe Stevens, Don Hobbs, Shawn Cooper, and Mari Steinbach for their efforts on putting the Master Plan together and stated that GOCO, Legacy, and other funding sources need to be pressed for grants and matching funds. Mr. Cron challenged the Board to open up dialogue with City Council members to find out where they stand on funding issues and see what kind of reaction we get and then discuss it at the next meeting. Mr. Bishop stated that prior to doing this, the Board should all be on the same page themselves about where the Board wants to head with funding issues. Mr. Butler

stated that he would be pushing the City Council for a Recreation Center. Mr. Butler may work towards a special election for this purpose.

#### **Item 4 Western Colorado Botanical Society**

Tillie Bishop stated that for the past decade, the Western Colorado Botanical Society (WCBS) was one of the best accomplishments to the City of Grand Junction along with Canyon View Park. For cultural type activities – this is where the action is! Mr. Bishop then introduced Ms. Lorna Naegle, Executive Director of the WCBS. Ms. Naegle presented Phase I drawings of the Botanical Gardens to the Board as they stand now and showing potential future projects. Ms. Naegle was pleased to announce that with the addition of the Children’s Library, the Botanical Gardens were able to hold several classes and throughout the spring, had earned \$1,500. The WCBS is looking forward to the completion of the children’s castle (greenhouse) and beginning on the Native Garden. The Native Garden will be a model of the Grand Valley and will include the Mesa, Monument, Bookcliffs, and Colorado River with the intent of showing how the Grand Valley was prior to Grand Junction’s uprising.

Mr. Jamie Hamilton inquired as to the capacity of the outdoor amphitheater that the WCBS is completing. Ms. Naegle stated that with current parking codes and requirements, the amphitheater could seat approximately 250...but when Las Colonias Park is completed, the amphitheater should accommodate 500+ people. Ms. Naegle continued that the WCBS biggest priority was the Native Garden, however, upon its completion they would begin construction of a Japanese Garden.

#### **Item 5 Other Business**

##### Coca Cola

Mr. Joe Stevens stated that initially negotiations with Coca-Cola had fallen through because of the clause requiring the City assume liability if there were vandalism or maintenance needs. In exchange for providing Coca-Cola at Canyon View Park, Coke has agreed to provide a score board for the baseball field and remit 25% of gross sales from Coca-Cola products sold in Canyon View. However, John Shaver, Assistant City Attorney, has worked out a revised agreement and the contract is again being prepared for execution.

##### Parks and Recreation Department Web-Site

Mr. Joe Stevens introduced Don Hobbs, Assistant Director and Karen Peterson, Accounting Clerk for the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Stevens continued by thanking Mr. Hobbs, Mrs. Peterson, as well as Ms. Mari Steinbach for their labors on the web-site. Mrs. Peterson began by announcing the web-site address for those interested in viewing it ([www.gjcity.org](http://www.gjcity.org)) and ended with a brief overview of the site.

##### Concessionaire

Mrs. Lena Elliott inquired as to whether the concessionaire was working out and would they be ready for JUCO? Mr. Joe Stevens answered that last year was their first year so it was a learning year and they seemed to be prepared for this year’s event.

Art Center

Mr. Tillie Bishop inquired as to where we stand with the Art Center. Mr. Bob Cron answered that at this time the ball was in Dan Patton's court and there was nothing else to report at this time.

Orchard Mesa Middle School Project

Mr. Bernie Goss stated that he and Mr. Joe Stevens had met with Mr. Cal Clark, Mr. Dave Montoya, and Mr. Ted Okey regarding the Orchard Mesa Middle School Project brought to the PRAB's attention at the previous meeting. Mr. Goss stated that the original \$120,000 available by School District #51 had shrunk to \$60,000 and was dedicated to repair and maintenance of the existing lawn. Mr. Goss continued that lots of things had been said and discussed, but the truth was there isn't any money on the school district side and with 2A being shot down on the city side...the project is down for now. Mr. Tillie Bishop stated that the issue needed to be brought to a close and requested that a letter about the situation be sent to Mr. Okey and carbon copy School District #51's Superintendent.

Stadium Entrance Dedication

Mr. Tillie Bishop announced that JUCO and PIAB had dedicated the new Sam Suplizio/Stocker Stadium entrance. Mrs. Lena Elliott interjected that she felt it was very poor and disappointing that the PRAB had not been invited or included in the dedication.

Next Meeting

June 21, 2001. Location: Parks and Recreation Administration Building

**Item 6 Adjourn**

R.T. 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 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika L. Doyle  
Administrative Specialist