

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes September 16, 2004

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Goss at 12:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Bernie Goss
Dennis Derrieux
Reford Theobold
Bob Cron
Tom Dixon
David Detwiler
Cindy Enos-Martinez (Ex-Officio)

Board Members Absent:

Lenna Watson

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner

Guests:

Ted Ciavonne, Ciavonne Associates
Dan Cummings, Parks Improvement Advisory Board

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Tom Dixon moved to approve the August 19, 2004 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Bob Cron seconded.

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

Item 3: Lincoln Park Master Plan Update/Alternatives

Ted Ciavonne, Ciavonne Associates, stated the Lincoln Park Master Plan consultants have recently met with numerous groups, including the Lincoln Park Inter-Governmental Advisory Group (consisting of representatives from the City of Grand Junction, Mesa County, Mesa State College, JUCO, and School District #51). The consultants also presented the conceptual plans at the September 13, 2004 City Council workshop. Mr. Ciavonne stated the consultants received two clear mandates from the City Council members; 1) Lincoln Park will remain a park, and 2) A golf element will remain at Lincoln Park. Mr. Ciavonne stated the purpose of the meetings was to get feedback from the organizations to try to arrive at a preferred concept. The Inter-Governmental Advisory Group and City Council, both, have agreed that all of the concepts should be presented to the public for comments and suggestions.

Ted Ciavonne provided a brief history on Lincoln Park. In 1922 the park property included a horse race track and a tourist campground. There was a barn-like structure located West of the Moyer Pool (flag pole area), which was later torn down and the current barn was built. The angle and location of the current barn was due to the location of the horse track. The golf course was built in the 1930's, at the closing of the horse track. The tennis courts were also built, East of Moyer Pool, in the 1930's, originally as gravel courts. The property, referred to as the "Teller 40", was acquired in the 1930's, by acquisition of the tax note. The "Teller 40" is now home to the V.A. Hospital and the Eastern portion of the golf course. The football/baseball stadium was built in 1949.

Mr. Ciavonne presented the following concepts (See attached) to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board:

Concept 1: This plan follows the Sink Combs Dethlefs study, and would include additional storage square footage on the barn, along with a new stadium ticket plaza area, administration office expansion, and new parks maintenance space. The plan would eliminate the loop road and would include updating the parking lot to meet existing codes (resulting in a loss of spaces). The plan allows for an expansion of the aquatics area, will keep the horseshoe pits, and would allow the ability to build a restroom facility between the horseshoe pits and the tennis courts.

Concept 2: This plan follows the Sink Combs Dethlefs study, and would include changing the golf course to an executive course, eliminating all par 5's, and relocating the driving range to a North – South location, moving it closer to the clubhouse. The maintenance yard would be relocated, the loop road would be eliminated, and the parking lot would be expanded. The plan creates the ability to increase the aquatics area and to expand the park offices. A road connecting at 14th Street (near Johnson's House of Flowers) would be created to improve the traffic flow. The horseshoe pits would be removed, which the Horseshoe Association has recently requested, as they would prefer to be located at Canyon View Park. Tennis courts would remain, possibly eight courts, while still allowing room for a new restroom facility located near the tennis area.

Concept 3: This plan follows a portion of the Sink Combs Dethlefs study, and would change the golf course to a Par 3 course, which would free up 15 additional parkland acres. A new clubhouse would be built, and the possibility of lighting the driving range would exist. The old clubhouse would become the Recreation Administration offices. The barn would be relocated, providing space for a festival area at the front of the barn. This plan also allows for an expansion of the aquatics area. The West entrance would line up with Teller Avenue and a new road connecting at 15th Street would be included. A new football stadium would be constructed, allowing for a very large parking lot to be built at 12th Street and North Avenue (doubling the parking from 450 to approximately 900 spaces). A new 10 lane track would be built, with a football/soccer stadium. A minimum of four tennis courts would remain. This plan would provide a central parking area and would basically create a new park with a fairly large amount of "unscheduled" space.

Concept 4: This plan is similar to Concept 3, including a new clubhouse, however, would change the golf course into a "Learning Center", freeing up approximately 30 acres of parkland, and would also include a driving range. The West entrance would align with Teller Avenue, entering into a large parking area. The barn would be eliminated and an activity center 3-4 times larger than the barn would be built. The track would be relocated, leaving a synthetic soccer/football field in its place. (The track would either be moved to another park or could be relocated inside Lincoln

Park, without a synthetic turf.) The tennis courts would be moved to the South end of the park (along Gunnison Avenue), a new restroom building would be constructed, and the horseshoe pits would remain as neighborhood park amenities. The parking lot would be expanded to over 600 parking spaces, a small maintenance shop would be located behind the V.A. Hospital, and the aquatics area would be expanded.

Concept 5: Suggestions were made at the September 13, 2004 City Council workshop, which led to the development of a fifth plan. The plan is a combination of Concepts 3 and 4 and would include eliminating the loop road and align the West entrance with Hill Avenue. The barn would remain in its current location and would have more space for additional programming. The South entrance would be relocated, allowing room for a larger aquatics area.

Mr. Ciavonne stated synthetic turf for the football field is included in all five concepts. Shawn Cooper expressed the importance of synthetic turf as the need will increase when a new high school is built, and with the possibility of Lacrosse becoming more popular on the Western Slope. Don Hobbs briefly talked about the Soccer Association's desire for a gated facility, as they currently do not have a controlled admission facility in which to generate revenue.

Discussion ensued regarding all five conceptual plans, with most of the Board members favoring Concept #3. Ted Ciavonne stated he plans to present the concepts to the public sometime in October or early November.

Item 4: Other Business

Don Hobbs reminded the Board members of the October 23, 2004 dedication of Canyon View Park. Mr. Hobbs stated the dedication will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Shawn Cooper reported the Arts Commission, due to additional revenues from other projects, are recommending the purchase of the sculpture "A Community that Plays Together..." which could be installed at Canyon View Park. The sculpture is of three kites and was the second choice when the "Love Song" sculpture was purchased earlier this year.

Bob Cron discussed the possibility of inviting other Directors of Recreation in Mesa County, perhaps Fruita and Palisade, to a future Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Cron expressed his desire to increase communication with the other recreation organizations. Don Hobbs stated he would follow-up with Bob Cron's suggestion.

Shawn Cooper reported on the Bookcliff Middle School grant for Lilac Park. The long term project includes reestablishing the lilacs in the park. The initial planting is scheduled to take place on October 13, 2004, in which approximately 12 students will be present to assist in the planting. Mr. Cooper stated a masterplan for Lilac Park will be created, and a donation value list will be established.

Shawn Cooper stated the development of Wingate Park is progressing well. The seeding will be planted by the end of next week. Mr. Cooper stated the project is right on schedule, without any major problems. The only concern, at this point, is how to keep the kids off of the property when the irrigation and seeding begins.

Item 5: Adjourn

Chairman Goss asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Dixon moved and Dennis Derrieux seconded. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist