

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes  
January 15, 2004**

**Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Bernie Goss at 12:03 p.m.**

Roll Call

Board Members Present:                   Bernie Goss  
  Dennis Derrieux  
  Bob Cron  
  Dale Hollingsworth  
  David Detwiler  
  Reford Theobold  
  Cindy Enos-Martinez (Ex-Officio)

Board Members Absent:                   Tom Fisher

Staff Present:                             Joe Stevens, Director  
  Don Hobbs, Assistant Director  
  Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist  
  Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner  
  Allison Sarmo, Cultural Arts Coordinator

**Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Bob Cron moved to approve the December 18, 2003, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. David Detwiler seconded the motion.

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

**Item 3: Review Revisions to Wingate Park Master Plan**

Several meetings were held in December, including two neighborhood meetings, regarding the proposed plans for Wingate Park. Since then, Shawn Cooper has received numerous letters and/or emails from neighborhood residents who were unable to attend the meetings, yet wanted to voice their concerns. Joe Stevens, Shawn Cooper and Don Hobbs recently met with School District #51 representatives, Jack McKelvy and Dave Montoya, to discuss conceptual plans for the park. Shawn Cooper provided a brief overview of the site, beginning with the original plan that was generated in 1995. The original plan was an all blue grass, typical neighborhood park. The second version included a tennis court and native landscaping on the West side, receiving a little more acceptance than the first plan. The third, and current plan includes a native buffer zone, a tennis court, a “tot” playground, two trails and a shelter. An additional neighborhood meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2004, for which Joe Stevens requested representation from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Parking remains an issue. It has been suggested to include a small, undeveloped, piece of school property, which could potentially be used for a small parking lot (approximately 12 cars). Mr. Cooper stated the Department is currently attempting to schedule a meeting with School District #51 Superintendent, Tim Mills, to discuss the possibility of including the property in the park plans. Mr. Cooper stated the Parks & Recreation Department’s first

intent was to minimize the effect the park development would have on the school's property, however, Mr. McKelvy suggested Parks & Recreation look at both properties as a whole. Shawn Cooper stated there have been numerous requests for tennis courts; however, none of the residents want the courts located behind their house. Mr. Cooper said the school has also expressed interest in the park having a tennis court, stating they would use it to expand their gym program. Mr. Cooper stated the proposed plan also consists of two trails, one free form trail (possibly cinder) and one hard surface trail. The elementary school's "Sense of Place" program has requested a soft trail, in hopes of labeling the plants along the trail and using it for educational purposes. Shawn Cooper stated he was considering approaching the school with the idea of the City purchasing the landscaping materials, but allowing the kids to do the actual planting. Joe Stevens stated the budget for the park is approximately \$500,000. Bob Cron reported there is a considerable amount of funds available in the GOCO grant cycle this spring. The Board members agreed to move forward with the current plan and for staff to proceed with property discussions with School District #51.

#### **Item 4: Discussion of Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Vacancy**

Bernie Goss reported he had received a letter from the City Clerk's office regarding Tom Fisher's resignation from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. City Council is requesting input on what criteria the Board members would like to see for his replacement and if they feel there is an area currently not represented on the Board. Bob Cron stated that, while he values the diverse age group and different occupations the Board currently has, he would like to see City Council appoint a female board member. Dennis Derrieux reported he has received several comments regarding the lack of female members on the Board. Cindy Enos-Martinez responded the choices are always limited by who applies. Chairman Goss stated he had, in the past, met with the Mayor and discussed the possibility of assigning a youth liaison to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Bob Cron suggested a representative from the City Youth Council attend the monthly Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meetings. Cindy Enos-Martinez discussed the importance of having members on the Board who either have children that use the Parks & Recreation facilities and/or programs, or who utilize the Parks & Recreation services/activities themselves. Reford Theobald suggested City Council consider geography when making the decision, stating there currently are not any Board members representing the Orchard Mesa and East Grand Junction areas. Cindy Enos-Martinez responded that the majority of the applicants have been from the Redlands, North and Downtown areas. All the Board members agreed the highest priority should be to assign a person who has a high level of interest/passion for the Parks & Recreation cause. Bernie Goss requested the Board's permission to construct a response letter, to the City Clerk, suggesting the following points be considered when reviewing applications for the current Parks & Recreation Advisory Board opening:

1. Examine the possibility of gender diversity
2. Needs to have a true passion for Parks & Recreation facilities and programs
3. Consider geographic representation
4. Must be involved in/utilize current Parks & Recreation facilities and/or programs

Cindy Enos-Martinez reported on the status of the Parks Improvement Advisory Board vacancy. There were a total of five candidates. The interview committee, consisting of Lou Grasso, Tillie Bishop and Cindy Enos-Martinez, has narrowed it down to three people and plan to conduct final interviews on Thursday, January 29, 2004.

**Item 5: Other Business**

Joe Stevens reported the Parks & Recreation Winter/Spring Activity Guide was released on January 10, 2003. Cindy Enos-Martinez said she had received several good comments regarding the new activity guide.

Dennis Derrieux reported he has attended the last four or five Arts Commission meetings. The Commission has been working to select sculptures for, both, Canyon View and West Lake Parks. Allison Sarmo reported there is a budget of approximately \$27,000 for the project and that safety and vandalism are always considered when selecting art for the parks. There were 30 pieces originally submitted, with only four from local artists. Mr. Derrieux reported the final piece chosen for the skate park was a 20 ft long sculpture, by artist Joe McGrane of Ft. Collins. The piece is a fence-like sculpture with a "graffiti" type theme. The final choice for Canyon View Park was a dramatic 12 ft. high sandstone piece, by artist Denny Haskew. Currently there is only one in the county, similar to the sandstone sculpture, located in a California Indian reservation. Discussion also ensued regarding the second choice for Canyon View Park, which was a 30 ft. kite piece by artist, Gunnar Anderson. The kite sculpture came in a close second, and the Board members agreed it would also be a good addition to one of the parks.

Joe Stevens reported the RFP for the second phase of the Lincoln Park master plan is being prepared and will be issued in early January. The RFP for the design engineer on the sound system has also been sent out and is due back by the end of January. Shawn Cooper reported the playground equipment for Cottonwood Meadows has been ordered and should be delivered by the end of the month. Mr. Cooper also reported the installation of the Pine Ridge Park tennis courts and the basketball pads at Spring Valley II Park will begin once the snow has melted.

Due to numerous schedule conflicts, the February Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting has been moved to February 26, 2004.

**Item 5: Adjourn**

Bernie Goss asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dale Hollingsworth moved and Dennis Derrieux seconded. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher  
Administrative Specialist