

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

May 20, 2004

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Goss 12:20 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Bernie Goss
Dennis Derrieux
Dale Hollingsworth
Lenna Watson
Reford Theobold

Board Members Absent:

Bob Cron
David Detwiler
Cindy Enos-Martinez (Ex-Officio)

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Joe Stevens, Director
Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist

Guests:

Bruce Hill, Mayor
Trent Prall, Public Works
Jim Shanks, Public Works
Mary Young, KJCT
Lisa Truong, City Youth Council
Dan Cummings, PIAB

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Reford Theobold moved to approve the April 15, 2004 minutes. Lenna Watson seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Item 3: Update on Riverside Parkway

Jim Shanks and Trent Prall, Public Works, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Riverside Parkway project, which was recently presented to over 100 design builders across the country. (See attached) Mr. Prall stated the project generated a lot of excitement due to it being 100% locally funded. The parkway project includes a 6.5 mile 3 lane and 5 lane roadway with new grade separations at 25 Road (at railroad), 4th Street (at railroad) and State Highway 50 (5th Street). Trent Prall stated the project has been moving along fairly smoothly, with the exception of CDOT requiring a special road study. The study is an interchange approval process, in order to determine the best location and configuration of the interchange. A total of four different

interchange locations were proposed. The study considered numerous criteria, including mobility, capacity, safety, access, environment, community, implementation, and economy. Mr. Prall stated the Railroad has expressed some concerns with the parkway plans, with regards to safety (pedestrians too close to the tracks) and with the possibility of them not having enough space to perform maintenance on the tracks. The plans include the widening of River Road, which will continue on the East side of the Riverside neighborhood and include a new pedestrian overpass to replace the current underground pass. Mr. Prall reported the City recently assisted Ice Skating, Inc. in the redesigning of their site, changing the direction/location of their buildings in order to establish a better fit with the parkway plans. The City purchased additional lots to assist Ice Skating, Inc. with the reconfiguration, resulting in Ice Skating, Inc. almost doubling the size of their property.

Trent Prall reported over 50 residential and business relocations are anticipated. Notice of intents to acquire will be mailed out soon, with all plans consisting of fair, consistent and equitable treatment of displaced owners/tenants. Mr. Prall stated construction is scheduled to begin the end of May or the beginning of June 2005. The project is scheduled for completion in November 2009.

Joe Stevens stated that dependent upon the alternative selected for the Riverside Parkway plan, there may be a need for modifications to the Las Colonias Park master plan. Mr. Prall stated the Public Works Department plans to work closely with the Parks Department to determine the best scenario for Las Colonias Park.

Item 4: 4th of July

Joe Stevens introduced Mary Young, representative from KJCT, who is the current sponsor of the annual "4th of July" celebration at Stocker Stadium. This is KJCT's final year of their agreement with the City, which will expire in 2004. Joe Stevens stated RFP's will go out for 2005's event. The original agreement was negotiated for three years and was extended for the last two years. Mary Young stated Pikes Peak Broadcasting has had the opportunity to be the sponsor/presenter for the past five years, stating the event has grown and evolved considerably during that time. Mrs. Young stated KJCT has enjoyed sponsoring the annual event and, if chosen, would like to continue doing so for another five years. Mary Young provided a brief update on the plans for this year's event. KJCT contracts with Fireworks West International, from Salt Lake City, for the fireworks portion of the program. Mrs. Young stated the Salt Lake City company has proven to be very concerned with safety and quality, and has repeatedly exceeded KJCT's expectations. Mary Young expressed her excitement for this year's program, which will include performances by the Centennial Band and the Star Dance Academy. The program is primarily designed to keep people entertained while waiting for it to get dark; the actual fireworks portion of the program lasts for approximately 20 minutes. Mrs. Young stated security officers are always available during the event and additional security has been provided with the cooperation of the Grand Junction Police and Fire Departments, helping to ensure successful events.

Item 5: Lilac Park

Reford Theobald provided an updated on the plans for Lilac Park, stating that a letter was received from CDOT providing the Parks & Recreation with their permission to proceed. Mr. Theobald and Joe Stevens met with John Miller, Manager of Ed Bozarth Chevrolet, to discuss

the proposed park improvements. Reford Theobald said Mr. Miller was very supportive of the project and did not appear to see any downsides with the current plans. Mr. Theobald also reported that Bookcliff Middle School recently received a \$500 grant to improve the community and the students voted to use the funds towards the Lilac Park project. Shawn Cooper said he has discussed the grant with the teachers, who have stated there may be additional grant money available in the future as well.

Item 6: Lincoln Park Master Plan

Joe Stevens reported he has received authorization from City Council to move forward with the Lincoln Park Master Plan. Mr. Stevens discussed the need to put together a subcommittee that will assist in the planning process. Joe Stevens stated he is looking for broad based citizen support and expressed the importance of having all bodies and user groups represented. Bernie Goss and Dennis Derrieux volunteered to serve on the subcommittee and to be point contacts for the project. Bernie Goss requested this issue be carried over for further discussion at the June 17, 2004 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Stevens stated Buzz Schoenbeck has expressed an interest to remain involved, regardless of his upcoming retirement.

Item 7: Other Business

A parks property map was distributed. (See attached) The map coincides with the property listing, which was included in the May Parks & Recreation Advisory Board packets. This was a follow-up in response to Dennis Derrieux's comments about a newspaper article at the April Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

Mari Steinbach introduced City Youth Council member, Lisa Truong. Ms. Truong is interested in representing the City Youth Council at the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meetings, to serve as a liaison between the two groups. Lisa Truong stated she hopes to get more teens and youth involved in the community. Bruce Hill stated he recently had the pleasure of attending a City Youth Council meeting and was very impressed with how much the group has accomplished, including their involvement with the seat belt program. Mayor Hill stated the group has really been taking charge and moving forward, working to become very involved with the community and to provide a resource for our youth.

Chairman Goss reported Dennis Derrieux and David Detwiler are scheduled to be reappointed to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, along with former Board member, Tom Dixon.

Joe Stevens reported City Council recently approved the Wingate Park school agreement. The agreement is scheduled to go before the School Board at 6 p.m. on May 25, 2004. Mr. Stevens requested representation from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Joe Stevens stated there will be a final Open House for Wingate Park at 7 p.m. on May 27, 2004. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the neighborhood to the design and construction team. The project is moving forward, with a permit to start moving dirt in June. Mr. Stevens stated the goal is to get as much of the earth work completed as possible while the kids are out of school.

Shawn Cooper reported on the status of the Pine Ridge tennis courts. The bonding company now has a mediator company involved. The upper management from SRI formed a new

company and submitted a bid for the project. Mr. Cooper stated he hopes to see a signed agreement next week, with the courts being completed by the end of the summer.

Dan Cummings provided a brief update regarding the Parks Improvement Advisory Board, stating Tillie Bishop and Lou Grasso have worked diligently to identify a location for the recognition plaques for Al Cornelison and Dr. Hurst Otto. The plaques will be installed in the area around the Casey statue. Mr. Cornelison and Mr. Otto are being recognized for their years of service and dedication to the Parks Improvement Advisory Board and to the Parks & Recreation Department. An official unveiling will be conducted during the JUCO ceremonies.

Dennis Derrieux questioned the status and expiration date of the current concessionaire contract. Mr. Derrieux stated he has received negative comments regarding the concession services. Joe Stevens reported the contract is due to expire December 31, 2004.

Bernie Goss reported that Buzz Schoenbeck stated that School District #51 recently agreed to match the funds to install a flag pole at the Canyon View Park baseball field.

Shawn Cooper reported the initial planting of the Quizno's corner has now been completed.

Joe Stevens recommended the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members try to get out and visit the various park sites, as there are a number of new amenities to see. (Spring Valley Park renovation, new playground at Cottonwood Meadows, etc.) A tour of the Parks & Recreation properties will be scheduled once the new Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members are in place.

Item 8: Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist