

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes October 27, 2005

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Dixon at 11:38 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Tom Dixon
Bernie Goss
Dennis Derrieux
Jack Neckels
David Detwiler
Reford Theobold
Dennis Teeters
Doug Thomason (Ex-Officio)

Board Members Absent:

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
Don Hobbs Hobbs, Assistant Director
Linda Friesen, Leisure Services Representative
Travis Bunkelman, Golf Pro
Traci Altergott, Recreation Superintendent

Guest: Mike McDill, City Engineer

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Bernie Goss moved to approve the September 15, 2005 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes Jack Neckels seconded.

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

Item 3: Horizon Drive Interchange Project - Mike McDill, Public Works

Mike McDill, Public Works, presented the conceptual plans for the interchange at I-70. Mr. McDill also spoke to the Board regarding the C-Dot Project to rebuild the interchange at 24 Road. The C-Dot and Horizon Drive Project are both cooperative projects in which the City will be offering financial help. In the last year the City has negotiated an agreement with Ute Water to use water from their system for landscaping on similar projects. Landscape planning has been done with conservation awareness through xeriscape and grasses that are economical and attractive. The scheduled funding for Horizon Drive is \$250,000 in 2006 (design and irrigation) \$750,000 in 2007 (ground breaking, block work and landscaping). Tom Dixon asked Joe Stevens if similar changes in the past have increased needs. Joe Stevens stated the Parks Department does

a pretty good job of meeting public expectations; however between the agreements with the School District, Pear Park, Memorial Park and the upcoming interchanges the department is facing many new issues. Mr. Stevens said the department is doing the best they can within the budget.

Tom Dixon asked Mr. McDill how the City plans to integrate sidewalks for parks, schools, etc. Tom Dixon sighted Canyon View as an example, as the sidewalks lead up to Canyon View then stops. Mr. Dixon asked how the sidewalks are prioritized. Mr. McDill explained Public Works has a sidewalk list/school safety program with a budget of \$150,000 per year, which identifies areas where there are no sidewalks. Once identified, letters are sent to property owners in hopes of obtaining the necessary 50% support for sidewalk projects. Mr. McDill stated Canyon View Park sidewalks are approximately 5 to 6 years out on the priority list.

Item 4: Dog Park Update

Joe Stevens reported the fencing is complete and signs are being installed. Mr. Stevens said City Council is getting negative feedback, including concerns with the rules and regulations, and comments regarding the loss of the ponds. Joe Stevens emphasized there are eight successful dog parks on the Front Range, all but one, without a water feature.

Doug Thomason stated the process will require education as well as firm enforcement of the leash law. Mr. Thomason expressed that over time the majority of public will realize the dog park is an asset to the community.

Reford Theobold reported the Commission on Arts and Culture will be installing a sculpture at the Canyon View Park East entrance. Mr. Theobold said the Commissions' goal is to select a location that can be seen from both on-ramps.

Discussion ensued regarding the dog park grand opening. Doug Thomason suggested a soft opening. Joe Stevens stated he will ask Shawn Cooper to continue research on grasses, additional fencing, and park improvements. The Board members unanimously agreed to an immediate soft opening and a grand opening in the spring of 2006.

Item 5: Joint School District #51 Projects Update

Joe Stevens updated the Board on the Bookcliff Middle School and Pear Park gymnasiums. Mr. Stevens stated the projects are moving forward with openings scheduled for next year.

David Detwiler reported the completion of the Riverside School is currently scheduled for the second week of April. Mr. Detwiler also stated the need for a gymnasium was recently discussed at a neighborhood meeting.

Item 6: Review and Discussion on 2006/2007 Parks & Recreation Fees & Charges

Tom Dixon opened discussions on the 2006/2007 fees and charges which are reviewed every two years. Joe Stevens reported the fees and charges include Two Rivers Convention Center and The Avalon Theatre; however do not require action from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Reford Theobold questioned whether or not Two Rivers Convention Center has an official board. Joe Stevens stated to his knowledge the Two Rivers Convention Center Board currently consists

of Mayor Bruce Hill, Lena Elliott, Tillie Bishop, Kelly Arnold, Dave Varley and Debbie Kovalic. Mr. Stevens said the Board members currently advise the convention center staff and himself regarding operations. Reford Theobald stated Lena Elliott, Bruce Hill, and Tillie Bishop were originally appointed as a sub-committee during the remodeling project, and questioned how they became lifetime board members. Doug Thomason said he would research the appointments and follow up at a future board meeting.

Joe Stevens discussed the effects of annexations with regards to the resident/non resident fees. Mr. Stevens stated in the past there was a 60/40 recoup from non-residents; however recent changes are undermining the opportunity to recoup expenses. Mr. Stevens said the need for a higher cost recovery program will be discussed further at the November 5, 2005 City Council meeting.

Jack Neckels complimented the staff's hard work with regards to budget preparations. Mr. Neckles and Tom Dixon both commented on the modest increases and expressed their gratitude for a job well done.

Travis Bunkelman provided a brief update regarding the Tiara Rado and Lincoln Park fees and charges. Mr. Bunkelman reported the golf course is still trying to dig out of a hole and is requesting a 5% increase.

David Detwiler moved to approve the 2006 and 2007 fees and charges and recommended them for submittal to the City Council. Bernie Goss seconded.

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

Item 7: Other Business

Tom Dixon congratulated Joe Stevens for his recent CPRA award. Mr. Dixon also commended CPRA Conference co-chairs Traci Altergott and Larry Manchester on a job well done in the planning and presentation.

Joe Stevens reported on the Mesa State College concessions, which are currently being run by Mesa State College as a pilot program. Mr. Stevens stated this program is not exclusive to Mesa State College and could be offered to other organizations provided the cost recovery is sufficient, and are self contained and agree to abide with current agreements (Pepsi, etc.).

Joe Stevens updated the Board on the open house at Tiara Rado Golf Course scheduled for October 27th, 2005. The purpose of the open house is to thank neighbors for complying with golf course rules and regulations.

Don Hobbs presented a plaque from the Mesa County Junior Football Association and passed along their thanks for the Boards support.

The Board discussed parking issues at Canyon View Park. Don Hobbs reported parking is an on going issue. The Parks and Recreation Department makes every effort to obtain additional permits during large events.

Item 8: Future Meetings Agenda

The Board intends to meet at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office on November 17, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. to tour Pear Park, Wingate Park and the dog park. A brown bag lunch will be provided by Two Rivers Convention Center.

Item 9: Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Friesen
Leisure Services Representative