

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes March 23, 2006**

### **Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Dixon at 11:52 a.m.**

#### Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent:

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director  
Don Hobbs, Assistant Director  
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist  
Traci Altergott, Recreation Superintendent  
Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner  
Tim Seeberg, Two Rivers Convention Center Manger

Guests: Melody Maitland, City Youth Council

### **Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Jack Neckels moved to approve the February 16, 2006 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minute. Dennis Teeters seconded.

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

### **Item 3: Naming Parks & Recreation Facilities and/or Parks**

Joe Stevens discussed the guidelines for naming parks/facilities (included in the Board packets), which were adopted on March 15, 1995. Mr. Stevens stated, when the guidelines were originally drafted, there were concerns about naming a facility "after" a person who has passed away. Joe Stevens said the Board members had suggested it was much better to recognize a living individual, in order for them to know how much they are appreciated. Mr. Stevens discussed the informal naming of facilities, such as the multi-purpose fields at Canyon View Park, etc. Joe Stevens discussed the history of the informally named "Bee Hive Park". The park originally was named "Fuoco Park"; however, it was reported the Fuoco family did not want their name associated with the property. The park was then named after the Bee Hive Subdivision in which the park is located. Joe Stevens asked if the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was interested in recommending names of the informally named properties to City Council. Tom Dixon discussed

the possibility of appointing a subcommittee for reviewing the properties and recommending names to the Board. Bernie Goss suggested also involving the community in the naming process. Discussion ensued. Joe Stevens suggested having a "name the park" contest for Bee Hive Park in the Parks & Recreation Summer Activity Guide, which would provide an easy way to advertise to a very broad population.

Joe Stevens discussed the upcoming Bookcliff Activity Center, stating the City and the School District have been referencing "Bookcliff Activity Center" as an established name, although the name has never been formally adopted. Doug Thomason reported the students at Bookcliff Middle School are requesting one of the new streets, created with the construction, be named "Mustang Way". Mr. Thomason asked if the Board should consider tying in the street name with the new activity center's name. Discussion ensued. The Board agreed it would create confusion to name the activity center something different than the school it is attached to.

Bernie Goss moved to formally adopt the name "Bookcliff Activity Center" for the upcoming activity center at Bookcliff Middle School. Reford Theobald seconded.

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

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board discussed the name of the future expanded gymnasium at Pear Park Elementary. David Detwiler asked if it would be appropriate to name the gymnasium anything different than the school's name, as the gymnasium is designed as part of the school. Joe Stevens stated the issue is more related to an acknowledgement of the ownership interest, asking if the ownership should be recognized in a different way. Joe Stevens reported on the relationship with Wingate Elementary, which is currently utilized by the Recreation Division as an activity center for various recreation programs. The Board discussed the potential for confusion, should the gymnasium be named something different than the school name. It was suggested that the gymnasium have two names on the sign, "Pear Park Elementary" and the activity center's name. Shawn Cooper stated two names on the sign may be a possibility, "if" the school has not already ordered the sign. Discussion ensued.

David Detwiler moved to not name the Pear Park Elementary gymnasium, leaving it the same name as the school. Bernie Goss seconded.

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

Tom Dixon asked to continue the discussion from last month's Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting regarding the possibility of naming the Canyon View baseball field after Gene Taylor. Dennis Teeters stated Gene Taylor has been donating to the local baseball leagues for years. The Board unanimously agreed the local JUCO baseball committee should be involved in any type of recognition for Mr. Taylor, ensuring it is a sincere acknowledgement. Chairman Dixon stated this would be an appropriate situation to designate a naming subcommittee. Reford Theobald volunteered to contact Jamie Hamilton, in order to discuss a potential recognition. Reford Theobald, Dennis Derrieux, and Bernie Goss volunteered to serve as a subcommittee to pursue recognition options and report back at the next Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Doug Thomason suggested the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board approach City Council with a combined list of naming suggestions for the various unnamed parks and/or facilities, rather than individually for each location.

Bernie Goss discussed a proposal he recently drafted regarding upgrading and/or improving undeveloped areas within city limits. (See attached) Mr. Goss reported the proposal was a result of an undeveloped park land discussion, which took place after a previous Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Bernie Goss stated he prepared the draft proposal to be utilized as an opportunity to follow through on some phased development of City owned park land. Mr. Goss stated the idea originally came from Gregg Palmer, who stated he would like to see some of our participating organizations (JUCO, Mesa County Junior Football Association, Grand Mesa Youth Soccer, Rotary, Lions, Kiwanas, etc.) take more action in developing park land. Tom Dixon expressed his approval of the proposal's concept. David Detwiler stated the issue would be regarding the expense of the "master planning" for the development, and who the responsible party would be for such costs. Joe Stevens stated the cost issue may deter some of these organizations, as it could be very difficult for some of them to pay for the master plans. Mr. Stevens stated transitional uses may be an option, such as wood chip trails, which are nonpermanent features that often last 10+ years. Tom Dixon stated this concept could allow for some competition that would assist the City in determining the "priority" parkland for development. Jack Neckels thanked Bernie Goss for preparing the document and suggested the Board members tour of a few of the undeveloped park properties before discussing further. Joe Stevens said he would be happy to have staff schedule a tour. Mr. Stevens stated there is not a shortage of properties and/or projects that local organizations could have a significant impact on. It was suggested the naming of these facilities could be tied into the organization that is involved with the site's development.

Chairman Dixon recommended the Board invite City Council to attend the May Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting, as an opportunity to informally discuss current issues.

Shawn Cooper invited the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members to attend a tour of the Bookcliff Middle School Activity Center at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29, 2006. Mr. Cooper asked for anyone interested in attending to RSVP by early next week.

Chairman Dixon left the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting at 12:40 p.m., asking Bernie Goss to chair the remainder of the meeting.

#### **Item 4: Correspondence**

Don Hobbs reported on the history of the Cinco de Mayo celebration, which is often held at Riverside Park. Mr. Hobbs stated in 2000, there were several groups who did not get along with each other, and consequently sent a threatening letter to the Riverside Task Force regarding the Cinco de Mayo celebration. At the time, a meeting was held to discuss whether or not to cancel the 2000 festivities. The task force decided to allow the event, but to increase security. Don Hobbs reported the 2000 celebration went very well, and did not have any significant incidents. Mr. Hobbs reported he has recently been contacted by the Riverside neighborhood requesting to hold the Cinco de Mayo festivities at Riverside Park again in 2006. The event organizers are working with the Public Works Department in hopes of closing the road for the festivities. Mr. Hobbs stated it will be a two day, non-alcoholic event geared towards youth, consisting of food venues, arts, crafts, and various other activities. Don Hobbs said the event committee intends to submit a letter to the Parks & Recreation Department describing their plans for the event, including the security details. Joe Stevens briefly discussed the difficulties related to a large festival being held in a neighborhood park, including noise, late hours, lack of restrooms, parking

in private driveways, etc. The decision as to whether or not to issue the event permit is currently being reviewed by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Reford Theobold reported on a recent conversation he had regarding the strict liability insurance requirements for special events held in the Lincoln Park Barn. Mr. Theobold stated the cost of the insurance is often cost prohibitive for fund raising organizations, referring to a recent fund raising event in which the organizers approached the Lions Club requesting them to cover the cost of the insurance policy. Reford Theobold asked if there is a way to reduce the insurance requirements for nonprofit and/or smaller organizations. Joe Stevens responded he would consult with the City Attorney and the City Risk Manager to determine if any other alternatives can be made available. Mr. Stevens stated he would report back at the May Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

Melody Maitland, City Youth Council Representative, reported on the upcoming Teen Night event, stating the Youth Council is pushing to obtain better attendance, as the numbers at past events have been very low. Ms. Maitland also reported several City Youth Council members have volunteered for the April Dive 'n' Jive event.

Traci Altergott reported she had recently attended another "Friends of the Dog Park" meeting, in which only two people attended.

Don Hobbs reported the Mesa County Animal Control has recently requested permission to set up the "Barkey Bus" at Canyon View Park on Saturdays in hopes of increasing the number of adoptions. Mr. Hobbs stated Animal Control has done a commendable job of increasing enforcement of the leash laws, not only in Canyon View Park, but in the majority of the City parks. Don Hobbs reported a significant improvement has been witnessed at the Matchett Park property. Mr. Hobbs said the Barkey Bus proposal is an opportunity for the community to "get to know" their local Animal Control Enforcement Officers.

#### **Item 5: Future Meetings Agenda**

Undeveloped Park Property Tour  
Lincoln Park Barn Insurance Requirements

#### **Item 6: Adjourn**

Bernie Goss asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jack Neckels moved and Dennis Teeters seconded. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher  
Administrative Specialist