

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes October 19, 2000

Item 1 Called to Order by Chairman Tillie Bishop at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

City Council Members Present: Jim Spehar

Board Members Present: Tillie Bishop
 R.T. Mantlo
 Lena Elliott
 Bernie Goss
 Jamie Hamilton

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
 Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Erika Doyle, Administrative Specialist

Item 2 Approve Minutes

Jamie Hamilton moved to approve the September 21st minutes and September 28th Special Meeting minutes with revisions. (The revised minutes are attached.) R.T. Mantlo seconded the motion.

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

Item 3 Hilltop Senior Center

Tillie Bishop introduced Tom Piper, Art Moss, and Dottie Lundy with Hilltop. Mr. Piper gave a brief background on the Hilltop Center stating that in 1999, Hilltop served over 13,000 people with their combined services that they offer. Mr. Piper went on to present the current Senior Enrichment Center plan to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB). In Phase I there will be a new assisted living center with approximately 139 units. This assisted living center will be three stories through the middle with the ends being two story buildings. The second phase of the assisted living center will add another 125 units.

As far as the Senior Enrichment Center, the first phase will include the Aquatic Center which will have two separate pools (1) lap pool and (2) heated pool for aerobic exercise, etc. with an indoor walking track surrounding the pool. There will be locker rooms as well as a gymnasium and they are hoping to begin the project this year. In the second phase a large meeting room will be built. It will have a suspended floor for aerobics and like classes. This space has not been completely outlined yet and Hilltop would really appreciate input from local citizens as to needs for that space.

Tillie Bishop inquired as to whether there would be a jacuzzi. Top Piper replied that there would be two jacuzzi's inside and one outside. Mr. Piper added that the swimming pool will be much larger than the one currently at Hilltop. Lena Elliott inquired as to how many people they hope to service. Mr. Piper answered that they were looking at initial numbers of 500-700. Ms. Elliott asked if Hilltop was planning on just serving the people that reside in their assisted living homes or the entire community. Mr. Piper answered that this was to serve the community as a whole. Joe Stevens asked if he had looked at parking issues. Mr. Piper stated that all parking and traffic regulations had been met. R.T. Mantlo stated that he was very interested in Phase II and wondered if they had plans on being able to cater, would there be pool tables, would they host dances, etc. Mr. Piper answered that they were waiting on feedback from the seniors on needs for that space but it was all a possibility.

Tillie Bishop asked if they had any thoughts as to what kind of fees they would charge. Tom Piper answered that they have preliminarily projected a fee of \$35/per person. However, they understand that a lot of seniors can not afford that type of a fee so they would certainly be working on getting grants and scholarships for those that need them.

Jamie Hamilton stated that he truly appreciates Hilltops efforts and wanted Mr. Piper and Art Moss to know he was very supportive. Mr. Hamilton asked Joe Stevens what the purpose of the presentation was today. Mr. Stevens answered that the Hilltop Senior Enrichment Center is seen as a wonderful compliment to anything the City of Grand Junction may do with a Recreation Center and this was just an update and information giving session. Mr. Hamilton asked Art Moss if he thought a Recreation Center, built by the City of Grand Junction, would be a hindrance or a compliment to Hilltops Senior Enrichment Center. Mr. Moss stated that he felt the seniors are very much in support of an exclusive center as well as a recreation center.

Tillie Bishop stated that he hopes the enthusiasm of the seniors is not lost for voting on a recreation center for those ages that don't meet the criteria of Hilltops Senior Enrichment Center which would be limited to 55 and over. Art Moss responded there is certainly enthusiasm within the senior community to have a recreation center available for their children and grandchildren as well as themselves.

Item 4 Master Plan Review

Joe Stevens stated that City Council has requested a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on Thursday, November 2nd at 11:30 a.m. in the Administration Conference Room at City Hall. This meeting is for an overview of the Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan and to discuss potential Tabor projects.

Item 5 Parks Improvement Advisory Board Presentation

Tillie Bishop introduced Dr. Hurst Otto, Chair of the Parks Improvement Advisory Board (PIAB). Dr. Otto stated that he knows the PRAB is aware that JUCO has been very successful and PIAB asked him to approach PRAB to adjust the Master Plan for including additional seating. Lena Elliott asked why there is a need for 750 seats at Canyon View Park. Dr. Otto responded that JUCO is looking towards the future and are hoping to relieve some pressure off of the stadium in Lincoln Park as the valley is growing and it looks like a reasonable thing to do.

Tillie Bishop stated that PRAB has had discussions on this topic and that there was a consensus that 500 seats might be more appropriate. Joe Stevens stated that during discussions with Sam Suplizio, Sam could support the number of 500 seats so as to alleviate parking restraints that would require a possible long-term lease with the church across the street or additional parking in Canyon View Park.

Jamie Hamilton inquired as to whether staff would be appreciative of the project if it were fully funded. Joe Stevens answered that staff are and would be appreciative because it would be difficult to say no to a fully dedicated funding stream. However, the “vision” for the design of the entire facility needs to be made clear. Mr. Hamilton confirmed that Mr. Stevens meant that “philosophically” it has to fit in the design. Mr. Stevens answered yes. Mr. Hamilton stated that he understands that there are priorities and that by doing this project, it may push those other priorities back.

Lena Elliott stated that maybe PRAB should go back to the table, review the Master Plan, and decide the vision for Canyon View Park. Dr. Otto stated that he would go back to PIAB and JUCO and relay the discussion.

Item 6 Past Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Member Recognition – Karen Madsen

Tillie Bishop and Jamie Hamilton presented a plaque to Karen Madsen, past Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member, for her volunteer service on the board.

Item 7 Other Business

Two Rivers Convention Center

Lena Elliott gave a brief update on where the Two Rivers Convention Center Committee (TRCCC) was to date. The City of Grand Junction has hired Shaw Construction for the project. TRCCC is currently waiting for the architects to bring back a design within the \$4.1 million budget. TRCC is still contemplating whether or not the Convention Center will be closed during renovation. Ms. Elliott asked the Board on their views of closure – stating that it would save \$93,000 in construction costs if it were closed. Jamie Hamilton, R.T. Mantlo, and Bernie Goss all said that they would recommend closure. Jamie Hamilton stated that we need to make sure we send out a letter to our customers giving them options on where they can continue their meetings and luncheons during the time that we aren’t able to accommodate them. Mr. Hamilton

also stated that he feels the DDA should take over operation of the Two Rivers Convention Center. Tillie Bishop encouraged staff to assist customers as much as possible in locating alternate meeting space.

Eagle Rim Park

Don Hobbs gave an overview of the most recent Police Department's Community Policing Project at Eagle Rim Park. Staff are happy with the Police Departments decision to provide two officers, between the hours of 2:30pm and 1:00am to oversee happenings at Eagle Rim Park.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be on December 7, 2000 at City Hall, 11:30 a.m.

Item 8 Adjourn

Tillie Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting. R.T. Mantlo seconded the motion.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board 5 yes 0 no

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika L. Doyle
Administrative Specialist