

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
March 6, 2003**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Bernie Goss at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Bernie Goss
 Lena Elliott
 Dennis Derrieux
 Bob Cron
 Tom Dixon
 Dale Hollingsworth
 David Detwiler

Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Executive Director
 Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Traci Altergott, Recreation Supervisor
 Eddie Mort, Recreation Coordinator

Guests: Buzz Schoenbeck, School District #51
 John Walker, School District #51
 Mike Moran, KKCO
 Max Krey

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Bob Cron moved to approve the January 16, 2003 minutes. Tom Dixon seconded the motion.

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

Item 3: School District #51

Don Hobbs and Joe Stevens recently gave Buzz Schoenbeck permission to temporarily use a field at Kronkright for baseball practices, pending a final decision from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. John Walker, Grand Junction High School's Athletic Director, provided a brief background regarding the past working relationship between Grand Junction High School and Monument Little League. The freshman baseball team used to be allowed to practice on the fields at Monument Little League weekdays from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., which allowed the Grand Junction High School fields primarily to be used by the JV and varsity teams. However, they received a letter, last January, from the President of Monument Little League, stating they could no longer use the fields for practice. This change has forced the freshman team to practice "after" the varsity teams. Buzz Schoenbeck suggested Kronkright fields as a possible solution. The practice schedule was presented to the Parks & Recreation Department, consisting of approximately 17 dates throughout March and April. Mr. Walker stated that one field would be

sufficient. Discussion ensued. Don Hobbs reported there currently are not any schedule conflicts with the requested dates and that a field would be available to accommodate their needs. Lena Elliott questioned who the responsible party would be should an injury occur during the practices. John Walker responded that School District #51 is liable for all injuries and that a certificate of insurance would be in place. Tom Dixon stated he was a former Monument Little League Board member and that he would support the decision to allow practices at Kronkright with the condition that School District #51 allows the Little Leagues to use their fields when not in use. Joe Stevens expressed the importance of encouraging Little League organizations to request grants from numerous entities, such as the Lion's club. Buzz Schoenbeck stated the request was not intended as a long time solution, as School District #51 intends to discuss this further with Monument Little League in hopes of a resolution.

Dennis Derrioux moved and Bob Cron seconded a motion to support Joe Stevens' administrative decision to allow Grand Junction High School to practice on one of the fields at Kronkright.

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

Item 4: SouthWest / Arbor Fest

Joe Stevens began by explaining that the Recreation Division has been working on a special event proposal and would like the Board's opinion before moving forward. The Recreation Department would like to know if the Board agrees with; 1) hosting the event, 2) the name of the event and 3) if they agree with utilizing funds raised for the scholarship program. (See attached proposal)

Eddie Mort, Recreation Coordinator, reported he has received numerous citizen requests for the Parks & Recreation Department to host the annual SouthWest Fest, which is traditionally held downtown. Recently the Downtown Association decided not to continue organizing the event. Mr. Mort began researching the possibility of hosting the event and has already received commitments from several major sponsors, including Cummulus Broadcasting and KREX. All profits made, above the expenditures, would go towards the Parks & Recreation youth scholarship fund. (The Parks & Recreation youth scholarship fund grants over \$12,000 a year in recreation scholarships. Funds are often contributed by local businesses, such as Okagawa Farms who donates over \$2000/ year to the scholarship program.)

Joe Stevens stated that traditionally SouthWest Fest included a beer garden and requested the Board consider whether or not they wanted to continue that tradition. Eddie Mort stated the Elk's Lodge has agreed to sponsor the beer garden and would donate a portion of the profit to the scholarship fund. Mr. Mort reported that Arbor Day was already set for April 19th and that his goal would be to partnership with Arbor Day, holding both events at Lincoln Park, which should increase the attendance at both events. Dennis Derrioux said it would be a great opportunity to show off Lincoln Park and that the location would provide good visibility for the event. Bob Cron recommended keeping the name "SouthWest Fest" due to the name having good recognition. Discussion ensued regarding selling beer in the park. All regulations and licensing requirements would be met.

Bob Cron moved to support the Parks & Recreation Department hosting the SouthWest / Arbor Fest event, which will be held at Lincoln Park on April 19, 2003, and will include beer sales. Dennis Derrieux seconded the motion.

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

Item 5: Canyon View Park Update

Joe Stevens briefly discussed the Basque group's request for a restroom at the handball corner of Canyon View Park. Although the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board had already made the decision at a previous meeting to deny the restroom request, Mr. Stevens wanted the Board to know the Basque group has been invited to bring the issue to the Board again. Tom Dixon recommended the Board go on record as "endorsing" Joe Stevens' January 29, 2003 letter to Maggie Doyhenard and move forward. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board unanimously agreed. Joe Stevens stated the plans for Canyon View Park are moving forward with the East side of the park going to bid on March 25th and the cultural corner opening for bids on April 2, 2003.

Item 6: Park Development Update

Joe Stevens provided a brief update on the restrooms at Columbine and Riverside Parks. The low bids have provided a balance of \$137,000, which will be utilized for other park projects. A portion of the funds will go towards the cost of the Two Rivers Convention Center's marquee. The Downtown Development Authority has agreed to split the cost of the \$42,000 marquee 50/50.

Item 7: Parks Improvement Advisory Board

Don Hobbs reviewed the Parks Improvement Advisory Board (PIAB) information included in the March Parks & Recreation Advisory Board packet. (See attached) Essentially PIAB is the same today that it was when it was originally formed. In addition to their general fund, they also have developed a stadium fund which consists of 5 contributing members; 1) City of Grand Junction, 2) JUCO, 3) Mesa State College, 4) Mesa County and 5) School District #51. Lena Elliott questioned if all the funds are being spent solely at Lincoln Park. Don Hobbs responded that approximately 75% of the funds have been spent on the stadium, as no other requests have been made. Discussion ensued. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members decided they would like to meet with the Parks Improvement Advisory Board. Joe Stevens expressed that the PIAB members would welcome the dialogue and suggested the meeting take place after JUCO and the upcoming election. Bernie Goss appointed Tom Dixon and David Detwiler to a sub-committee assigned to reviewing the current relationship with PIAB. The decision was made to schedule a meeting with PIAB in mid-June.

Item 8: Other Business

Bob Cron questioned the status of land acquisitions and the Park tour, which was requested at a previous meeting. Due to schedule conflicts, the tour was postponed and will be rescheduled for the end of March or the beginning of April. Joe Stevens stated there are a couple of potential sites he would like to show the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. The decision was made to proceed with the tour as long as four or more Board members are available to attend.

Bob Cron also expressed his concern that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board has been canceling/rescheduling meetings and that he felt it was necessary for the Board to meet monthly, regardless if someone is unavailable to attend. All members agreed the next Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting would be held on Thursday, April 17, 2003.

Max Krey, citizen guest, suggested the Parks & Recreation Department create a green belt area along 25 ½ Road for bicycles, skateboards and etc. Bernie Goss requested this area be added to the upcoming land acquisition tour.

Item 9: Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist