

**Parks and Recreation Advisory & Parks Improvement
Advisory Board Joint Meeting Minutes
October 09, 2003**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Bernie Goss at 12:17 p.m.

Roll Call

PRAB Members Present: Bernie Goss
Dennis Derrieux
Bob Cron
David Detwiler
Dale Hollingsworth
Reford Theobold
Cindy Enos-Martinez (Ex-Officio)

PIAB Members Present: Tillie Bishop
Clarence Ross

Board Members Absent: Tom Fisher
Bob Cron
Lou Grasso
Buzz Schoenbeck
Jamie Hamilton
Sue Gormley (Ex-Officio)

City Council Members Present: Mayor Jim Spehar

Guests: Andy Barnard, Sink Combs Dethlefs
Darren Starr, Representing JUCO

Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
Shawn Cooper, Parks Planner
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist

Item 2: Lincoln Park Stocker Stadium & Suplezio Field Master Plan

Andy Barnard, Consultant with Sink Combs Dethlefs, presented the proposed master plan options for Lincoln Park Stocker Stadium and Suplezio Field. The plan is now being referred to as the "Lincoln Park Stadium Improvements Plan", as the focus is on the stadium and football field versus the entire park. The first phase of the planning process was to evaluate the needs and recommendations of the user/stakeholder groups, such as JUCO, School District #51, Mesa State College, Concert Promoters, Concessionaire, Neighbors/Community, etc. The "wish list" includes improving concessions and installing new concessions on the West side, improving circulation, upgrading the sound system, additional restrooms, and synthetic turf. Input from the surrounding residents included the request to eliminate late evening amplification, improve safety/security,

increase parking for peak times/bus services, and moving the passive areas/events to the sides closest to their homes.

Mr. Barnard stated the following improvements have been designated as “higher” priority:

1. Sound System Upgrade (replace existing sound system with a better quality/better distribution system on both sides of the stadium. estimated cost: \$240,000 - \$300,000)
2. Accessibility (upgrade and improve ADA accessibility at restrooms. Upgrade/improve ADA accessibility along 1st base line. estimated cost: \$62,000 - \$93,000)
3. Concessions Improvements (replace existing concession stand with larger, upgraded facilities. estimated cost: \$600,000 - \$990,000 Add full service concessions to the area under the West football bleachers. estimated cost: \$480,000 - \$744,000)
4. Synthetic Turf (replace natural grass field with synthetic turf to withstand multiple use. estimated cost: \$850,000 - \$980,000)
5. Ticket Building/Plaza West (re-orient entry to West stands and construct plaza. Construct new ticket booths. estimated cost: \$100,000 - \$123,000)

The following improvements have been designated as “lower” priorities:

1. Seating Upgrades (upgrade prime seating to fixed seats; net loss of seats = 1,125 seats. estimated cost: \$162,000 - \$211,000 Include reconstruction of seating risers. estimated cost: \$438,000 - \$720,000)
2. Accessibility (upgrade accessible seating at 3rd base line and upgrade accessible seating for East football stands. estimated cost: \$48,000 - \$64,000)
3. Concession Stands (add new concession stand to 3rd base side. Add new concession stand to 1st base side. estimated cost: \$670,000 - \$960,000)
4. Parking Improvements (modify parking layout and curb work at pool drive lane. estimated cost: \$60,000 - \$90,000)
5. Horseshoe Pits (replace horseshoe pits. estimated cost: \$194,000 - \$240,000)
6. Tennis Courts (replace South tennis courts. estimated cost: \$375,000 - \$440,000)
7. Scoreboard (replace scoreboard with new, including upgraded features. estimated cost: \$240,000 - \$600,000)
8. Lights (relocate lights at both stadiums to eliminate obstructed sight lines. estimated cost: \$140,000 - \$200,000)
9. Pressbox Modifications (renovate pressbox for accessibility and better function, add elevator. estimated cost: \$175,000 - \$225,000)

Major Improvements (Estimated cost: \$4,320,000 to \$6,240,000) include:

- Seating Upgrades
- Accessibility
- Add Concessions
- Add Restrooms
- Pressbox Improvements
- Relocate Lights
- Add Storage/Maintenance

Reford Theobald asked about the possibility of “phasing” the process due to the extensive costs involved. Andy Barnard stated the process of removing and installing new bleachers/seating could possibly be completed one side at a time, which would allow for sporting events to be held on the side not under construction. Mr. Barnard stated it would take close to a year for the entire

bleachers/seating project to be completed. Mayor Spehar requested a plan be put together that incorporates phases that are independent of the rebuild, in order to better determine the costs involved.

David Detwiler expressed concern over the results of the neighborhood poll regarding parking; the surrounding residents do not view the parking lot as being inadequate. Mr. Detwiler stated that most of the residents would probably not see parking as an issue, as they most likely “walk” to the events. The consensus is that the community has become accustomed to searching for a parking spot during large events. Joe Stevens stated there are approximately 12 - 15 events/year that more than maximizes current parking.

David Detwiler questioned whether or not plans are being made for the Lincoln Park Barn. Mr. Barnard replied the evaluation process determined there is very little usage in the barn that is associated with Stadium events, and the community appears to be happy with the current use of the Barn.

Jim Spehar expressed concern with the plaza location at 12th and North Avenue, stating the safety issues are magnified at 12th Street and North Avenue. Bernie Goss stated the plaza might “increase” the safety, as it could possibly reduce the number of jaywalkers if there was an official entrance at 12th and North. Darren Starr also questioned having a North entrance, suggesting the ticket booth be moved to the South end, which would motivate people to park at the South end as well. Shawn Cooper suggested removing the parking lot located West of the Barn to install a ticket plaza. Mayor Spehar liked Mr. Cooper’s idea, stating the further ticket booths, etc. are moved from 12th and North Avenue, the safer it will be. In addition, this would allow for storage/maintenance areas to be installed underneath the West football bleachers. Reford Theobald stated it wouldn’t be practical to locate the new ticket booths/entrance on the Southwest end, as the entrance would then be located too close to the Southeast entrance. Discussion ensued.

Clarence Ross expressed concern with future traffic patterns, questioning whether or not North Avenue will eventually be widened. Andy Barnard responded that discussions regarding traffic issues had taken place early on in the planning process. Reford Theobald stated North Avenue most likely will not be widened, as the upcoming beltway will relieve a large portion of the traffic. Mayor Spehar agreed that North Avenue traffic patterns should not be an issue. Joe Stevens stated staff would confirm future plans for North Avenue with the Traffic Division.

Jim Spehar discouraged a lot of investment being put towards the North parking lot, and suggested the possibility of turning the parking lot into drop off area for buses.

The possibility of installing a soccer field was discussed. Mr. Barnard stated that currently there is not room for a regulation soccer field (required width: 75 yards), however, if the track were widened, a soccer field could be built in the center. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of widening the track and moving it approximately 30 feet to the South.

Andy Barnard stated he would evaluate the suggestions made at today’s meeting, including the possibility of relocating the North entrance, then report back.

Item 8: Adjourn

Bernie Goss asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Derreix moved and David Detwiler seconded. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist