

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
November 20, 2003**

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Bernie Goss at 12:01 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: David Detwiler
 Tom Fisher

Staff Present: Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Assistant Director
 Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Bob Cron moved to approve the October 16, 2003, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Reford Theobold seconded the motion.

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

Dale Hollingsworth moved to approve the October 9, 2003 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and Parks Improvement Advisory Board joint meeting minutes. Reford Theobold seconded the motion.

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

Item 3: Draft Report from Sink Combs Dethlefs on Stadium Improvement Plan

Joe Stevens reported that the Stadium Improvement Plan has been presented to City Council. The Council members suggested a few minor changes. City Council gave direction for Mr. Stevens to schedule meetings with the Mesa State Board of Trustees, Mesa County Commissioners, School District #51, and JUCO board members, in order for Andy Barnard, Sink Combs & Dethlefs, to make the same presentation. Joe Stevens stated the meetings are being scheduled for December 2003. Bob Cron questioned how much funding is currently budgeted in the CIP, for the stadium project, during the next 10 years. Joe Stevens responded that the sound system (\$270,000) is currently included in the CIP, however, there is no other funding allocated to the project at this time. Discussion ensued regarding timing and potential funding. Bob Cron suggested bonding, allowing the potential partners to contribute annually over the next 20+- years. Artificial turf was also discussed, along with the possibility of soccer games on the football field. Joe Stevens stated

the usage would most likely triple if artificial turf was installed. Reford Theobald stated the next step would be to establish a date, as to when the project should be completed, and to break down the cost, allowing potential partners to see an “annual” cost.

Item 4: School/Park Joint Use Facilities Research Update

Joe Stevens distributed the “Park – School Facilities Use Agreement Models” handout (See attached). Per the strategic plan, staff has been reviewing models in order to recommend one that will serve as framework in addressing growth issues. Mr. Stevens recognized Mari Steinbach for the extensive time and research she has contributed to the project. Currently 5 specific models (from Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Colorado) have been reviewed. The department has been evaluating the Parks & Recreation Department’s use of School District #5’s facilities to the School District’s use of Parks & Recreation’s facilities. Ms. Steinbach reported the current usage is based on the Parks & Recreation Department’s relationship with individual school principals. Unfortunately, this does not always appear to be a fair relationship, as the Parks & Recreation Department often gives the School District and Mesa State “first priority” for field use over their own use. However, Parks & Recreation programs are frequently cancelled, with very little notice, whenever teachers schedule events (play, concert, etc.). This can be very problematic for Parks & Recreation, as it upsets the customers who have already paid their program fees. It was requested the Board members review the detailed report and notify the Department of any questions or concerns. Cindy Enos-Martinez questioned the liability of each party. Mari Steinbach responded both parties carry an additional insurance policy. Joe Stevens stated the next step is to share the information with the city Council and, at some point, meet with School District #51, in hopes of developing a more comprehensive, well-rounded overview. This is a draft model designed to promote additional discussion.

Item 5: Other Business

Joe Stevens distributed copies of an article regarding dog parks and transients (See attached). Denver is experiencing similar dog park issues, along with a growing transient population. Mr. Stevens reported Canyon View Park may have a potential dog park site, located between the North road and the interstate, which is not dedicated for anything at this time. Bob Cron stated he had looked at the site and it currently has the attributes needed for a dog park. Mr. Stevens stated this site would be less expensive than using the original riverfront location.

Joe Stevens reported that the City has received notification from Tom Fisher that he has been recalled to active duty with the National Guard. Mr. Fisher’s departure will create an open position on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board that will need to be filled.

Joe Stevens discussed St. Mary’s Park, which is a 2 acre park leased by the City. The lease expires at the end of year. Mr. Stevens recently received notification the hospital would like Parks & Recreation to maintain the property, however, St. Mary’s intends to reduce the park to less than 1 ½ acres. Joe Stevens stated that, based on the location and amenities, this size of park is not something the department recommends maintaining, as it is not viable for City park purposes. Mr. Stevens is recommending the City discontinue maintaining the park once the lease expires. St Mary’s has also requested the Parks & Recreation Department maintain the small piece of property on the corner of 7th Street and Bookcliff Avenue. Mr. Stevens stated the Parks & Recreation Department is not interested in maintaining hospital property free of charge.

Bob Cron reported on the property located along the back portion of Fire Station #5. This site is a little less than one acre and can be accessed from the cul-de-sac. Mr. Cron stated the Board may want to consider this site, in the future, as a potential neighborhood park site.

Reford Theobald provided a brief update on the Lilac Park effort, which has been postponed at this time.

Item 6: Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist