

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

## **July 19, 2007**

### **Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Co-chair Dennis Teeters at 12:02 p.m.**

#### Roll Call

Board Members Present: Dennis Teeters  
Lenna Watson  
Dr. William Findlay  
Reford Theobald  
Jack Scott  
Nick Adams  
Doug Thomason (Ex-Officio)

Board Members Absent: Tom Dixon

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

Guests: Lena Elliott  
Yvette Carnine

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

Nick Adams moved to approve the June 21, 2007 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Jack Scott seconded.

Motion adopted by Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Yes 6 No 0

### **Item 3: Canyon View Park Development Request from Lena Elliott**

Lena Elliott said she wanted to attend today's meeting to give the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members a "heads up" regarding her current endeavor. Mrs. Elliott stated she is currently trying to obtain approval and raise the necessary funds to complete six additional tennis courts and a shelter at Canyon View Park. Lena Elliott stated the cost of the project is approximately \$400,000. Mrs. Elliott reported she has recently taken several City Council members on a tour of Canyon View Park, and was shocked to learn three of the members were unaware that Canyon View Park was still not finished. Lena Elliott said she has been actively generating supporters for this project, and has also approached two local service clubs, in which one has already donated \$6,000. In addition, Mrs. Elliott has written several letters to local organizations requesting financial commitments should the City Council pledge the \$400,000. Lena Elliott stated she is scheduled to present the proposal to the Parks Improvement Advisory Board next week in hopes of receiving a contribution from the Board. Mrs. Elliott said she has also contacted GOCO and is currently trying to obtain a mini grant for a portion of the project that would cost under \$45,000. Shawn Cooper briefly discussed the current master plan and reviewed the plan illustrating where

the new tennis courts would be located. Joe Stevens stated, due to the economy of scale, it is cost effective to build multiple courts versus one or two. Jack Scott asked what it would cost to finish the entire park. Mr. Stevens responded it would cost approximately over \$4 million to finish Canyon View Park per the current master plan. Mr. Stevens stated a majority of this cost is driven by the expense related to the features requiring water and sewer infrastructure. Lena Elliott reported there have been two tennis tournaments held at Canyon View Park this year and both have received very positive feedback. Mrs. Elliott said the tennis players love the park's setting and the fact there is a variety of activities for their children and/or spectators. Lena Elliott stated it would be very beneficial for City Council if the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board would "define" what they would like done to complete Canyon View Park. Discussion ensued regarding the plans for a volleyball complex. Mrs. Elliott said it was her understanding the main person pushing for the volleyball courts has since left town. Shawn Cooper reported the City has not heard from the volleyball organization in over a year. Lenna Watson asked if there is a current need for a volleyball complex at Canyon View Park. Joe Stevens responded the sports organizations are always looking for facilities that can handle big events, and that volleyball is no different. Mr. Stevens expressed the Parks & Recreation Department's desire to complete Canyon View Park, yet discussed the importance of the City using caution when sticking with a \$400,000 number, stating there are often many surprises with construction. Joe Stevens suggested, should the City authorize \$400,000, the money be used as leverage to pursue a larger grant in order to continue developing the entire park. Mr. Stevens said the Department would be eligible to apply for larger grants if there were a financial commitment in the budget. Joe Stevens briefly discussed the fact that Canyon View Park was one of the CIP projects recently identified by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board as a priority. Lena Elliott said, while she does not know which parks have been identified as a priority by the current Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, she does know that when she was on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board they did not recommend pursuing the development of Burkey Park, as it was not inside City limits. Jack Scott said he disagreed with that decision, stating that was "not" a good reason to choose not to develop Burkey Park. Lena Elliott responded, at the time, City Council was attempting to get the Burkey Park area annexed and did not encourage the development, in hopes of using it as an incentive for annexation. Ms. Elliott thanked the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for allowing her to present, re-iterating she simply wanted the Board members to be aware of her intentions. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board thanked Lena Elliott for her efforts.

#### **Item 4: Other Business**

Reford Theobald asked Councilman Thomason to provide an update on the expansion proposal for Tiara Rado Golf Course. Doug Thomason responded City Council passed a resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign an application to file for a growth plan. Mr. Thomason said he is not aware whether or not the developers will be filing an application at this time. Councilman Thomason said the plan is going to come down to "density" issues, and currently is in a "wait and see" status. Doug Thomason said City Council's action simply allows the process to continue, and that the growth plan amendment process can take up to four months. Joe Stevens reported there were several citizen comments at the Council meeting, and said the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members may be asked to share what the golf improvements mean for this community.

Joe Stevens reported there have been two break ins at the Tiara Rado Pro Shop during the past year. Mr. Stevens said the first break in appears to have been for the purpose of timing the response of the Police Department and to discover how the alarms worked and/or didn't work. Mr.

Stevens said there was not much taken during the first break in; however, approximately \$12,000 in merchandise was stolen during the second break in. Joe Stevens stated the break ins appear to have been planned out and that the thieves went to a lot of trouble to get in. Mr. Stevens said the merchandise stolen is all "high end" quality merchandise, which should make it easier to identify and/or track. Joe Stevens stated there have been additional security measures taken to help reduce the possibility of future break ins.

Mr. Stevens also reported an irrigation mechanism at Tiara Rado Golf Course recently shorted out, resulting in a fire in one of the pump houses. Joe Stevens said the damage was not as significant as it could have been and complimented GJ Pipe for their quick response in making necessary repairs.

Joe Stevens reported on the letters from County Administrator Jon Peacock that were included in the July packets. Mr. Stevens stated the majority of the County Commissioners recently elected to terminate their agreement with the City regarding Long Family Memorial Park. Joe Stevens stated the County has decided to contract with Grand Mesa Youth Soccer Association for all scheduling of Long Family Memorial Park facilities and fields effective July 1, 2007. Mr. Stevens said the decision to terminate the contract was not at all a reflection of the service the Parks & Recreation Department has provided. Reford Theobald asked if the County was still a participating organization of the Parks Improvement Advisory Board. Joe Stevens responded yes, the County is still a member of the Parks Improvement Advisory Board.

Joe Stevens reported on the status of the Stocker Stadium synthetic turf project, stating the project is currently moving forward. Mr. Stevens stated there are presently three football games scheduled for the weekend of August 24; therefore, the contractors will most likely be working around the clock in order to finish on time. Discussion also ensued regarding the status of the soccer field at Mesa State and the issues surrounding its delay in completion. Lena Elliott reported the college plans to begin using the new parking structure as early as this weekend.

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

Joe Stevens suggested the Board members discuss the CIP projects, stating it would be helpful if they would provide feedback and possibly reaffirm their prioritizations. Lena Elliott asked if there were any plans for the City owned property located North of G Road on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Mrs. Elliott stated years ago the adjacent neighborhood did not want the property developed into a park, so the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board did not pursue any changes to the property. Joe Stevens stated this type of hesitation is generally typical from the surrounding neighborhoods should their choice be to either develop the property into a park or leave it open space; however, if the property is facing housing development versus a park, the neighborhoods usually favor a park. Reford Theobald stated the original idea for the property was that the frontage would not be a park, in order to avoid attracting those outside the neighborhood. Shawn Cooper reported, during the past couple years, he has received several phone calls asking when a park will be developed on the 12<sup>th</sup> Street property.

Doug Thomason briefly reported on City Council's recent determination for the City to implement a "one" year budget cycle versus "two" years.

**Item 6: Adjourn**

Co-chair Dennis Teeters asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lenna Watson moved to adjourn and Nick Adams seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher  
Administrative Specialist