

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

August 6, 2009

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chair Lenna Watson at 12:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Lenna Watson
Reford Theobold
Dr. William Findlay
Tawny Espinoza
David McInay
Yvette Carnine

Board Members Absent: Jack Scott
Bruce Hill (Ex-Officio)

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Schoeber, Director
Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
Traci Wieland, Recreation Superintendent
Mike Vendegna, Parks Superintendent
Shon Birch, Recreation Coordinator

Guests: Naomi Barlow

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Reford Theobold moved to approve the July 9, 2009 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Yvette Carnine seconded.

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

Item 3: Election of Officers

Lenna Watson opened the floor to nominations for Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Chair. Reford Theobold nominated Lenna Watson. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed. Tawny Espinoza seconded the nomination. Lenna Watson was unanimously selected as the Chair of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

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

Congratulations Lenna!

Lenna Watson opened the floor for nominations for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Vice-chair. Lenna Watson nominated Reford Theobold. There were no other nominations and nominations were

closed. Dave McInay seconded. Reford Theobald was unanimously selected as the Vice-chair of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

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

Congratulations Reford!

Item 4: Super Rad Art Jam

Super Rad Art Jam representative Naomi Barlow provided a brief history of the organization's continued support of education programs in the Grand Valley, stating the art group is always looking for additional community projects. Ms. Barlow discussed the successful 2008 Art Jam, which was held at Eagle Rim Park and included a skateboard competition and mural contest. Last year's murals were painted on masonite panels and were so popular they were taken by admirers within a week of the event. The 2009 Super Rad Art Jam will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2009 at Eagle Rim Park. This year's artists will be painting the "bowls" at the skate park versus the masonite panels. Naomi Barlow stated the project will be similar to the recent "art in the alley" project downtown, providing an open format for the artists. In addition to hosting the one day event, the group has committed to continually manage the artwork, removing any inappropriate artwork and/or graffiti. Rob Schoeber said the Parks Department is very excited for this project, as crews continually have to paint over the graffiti and are hoping this will be a solution to the problem. Naomi Barlow said the group pays for the community projects out of their own pockets, whenever they are unable to generate enough funding through sponsors and/or fund raisers. Super Rad Art Jam also intends to pursue an art project at Duck Pond Park, in which they hope to involve local high school level II art students in painting the alphabet along the concrete wall.

Dr. William Findlay moved to support the 2009 Super Rad Art Jam event at Eagle Rim Park. Lenna Watson seconded.

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

Item 5: Westlake Park Update

Rob Schoeber briefly discussed some recent changes parks staff made at the Westlake disc golf course, in order to address safety concerns regarding the baskets being location near the playground and canal bank. In addition, holes #6 and #7 will soon be moved across the street to the undeveloped property and three additional holes will be developed (making it a 12 hole course). Mr. Schoeber stated the golfers have expressed they prefer the more natural setting versus turf and said parks staff also intends to install some course obstacles in the undeveloped area, including an old water tank, a large tree trunk and some railroad ties. Rob Schoeber stated golfers are very excited for the change and said the improvements will result in a very minimum cost for the Department. Discussion ensued regarding the growing popularity of the sport and the numerous disc golf courses in the surrounding areas (Westlake Park, Matchett Park, Fruita, Palisade, and Powderhorn). Mr. Schoeber said the disc golf group's ultimate goal is to have a quality course in Grand Junction that would allow them the opportunity to bid on national tournaments.

Dave McInay moved to support the new development at the Westlake Park disc golf course. Tawny Espinoza seconded.

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

Item 6: Best Tennis Town Update

Traci Wieland reported Grand Junction did not make the top three list in the USTA Best Tennis Town contest; however, the City did win a \$2,000 tennis equipment package. While disappointed, the Parks and Recreation Department was excited to have received the national recognition of making it into the top ten. Rob Schoeber thanked Traci Wieland for her hard work and commended her for the excellent job she did throughout then extensive application process.

Item 7: Lincoln Park Golf Update

Rob Schoeber discussed the July 28, 2009 letter he sent the VA Hospital's Chief of Staff, Dr. William Berryman. Mr. Schoeber stated the Mayor and City Council have requested a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's regarding their preferred option(s). Discussion ensued.

Tawny Espinoza moved to support Rob Schoeber's recommendation of option #4 and option #6 in the July 28, 2009 letter. Yvette Carnine seconded.

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

Item 8: Project Updates

Rob Schoeber discussed the proposed irrigation project at Tiara Rado Golf Course, stating the current irrigation system is over 40 years old. Due to the amount of time staff spends on repairing the system, the City is exploring budgeting options to replace the system earlier than what was previously scheduled. The original plan was to complete the project in phases; however, the City currently has an opportunity to borrow the funds from their portfolio, due to the Downtown Development Authority currently owing the City approximately \$4 million. Mr. Schoeber stated the City's portfolio funding may only be loaned to projects that have a "revenue source", and said the City would be technically "loaning money to itself"; however, there is concern regarding the public's perception of the City completing a high dollar project during such tough economic times. Mr. Schoeber expressed this is an exciting opportunity and requested the Board members do what they can to help educate the public on the project's funding. If approved, the project will be completed by June 2010, with the back nine holes closed for construction November 2009 – April 2010. The project, which includes an entirely new configuration, including additional holding ponds, is currently out to bid, and will be submitted to City Council for approval in the near future.

Mike Vendegna reported the new concrete at Melrose Park is approximately 70% finished and the contractor has begun installing the new roof on the restroom building. The project is currently on schedule to meet the September 9, 2009 deadline. Traci Wieland reported staff is waiting on the RFP's for the playground design and said there was a recent article in the Daily Sentinel discussing the reasons the rocket can no longer remain a play structure.

Item 9: Other Business

Yvette Carnine requested the board packets be emailed to the members versus mailing them, in order to save money and improve staff efficiency. Discussion ensued. The Board members agreed all future Board packets and/or correspondence be sent out via email.

Item 10: Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist