

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes October 7, 2010

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Lenna Watson at 12:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Tawny Espinoza
 Yvette Carnine
 David McInay
 Dr. William Findlay
 Lenna Watson
 Bart Dickson
 Scott Coleman
 Bruce Hill (Ex-Officio)

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Schoeber, Director
 Darcy Austin-Settles, Leisure Service Representative
 Mike Vendegna, Parks Superintendent
 Traci Wieland, Recreation Superintendent
 Lorie Gregor, Recreation Coordinator
 Rob Stong, Golf Pro
 Doug Jones, Golf Superintendent

Colorado National
Monument Guests: Annie Williams
 Michelle Wheatley

Commission on Arts
and Culture Guest: Gisela Flanigan (observing)

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Yvette Carnine moved to approve the September 2, 2010 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Scott Coleman seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

Item 3: Parks and Recreation Outstanding Partner Award – Colorado National Monument

Traci Wieland presented the Colorado National Monument with the “Outstanding Parks Partner” award, specifically recognizing them for providing bus transportation to and from the Monument for the summer camp program for the last three years. Michelle Wheatley thanked the Department for the award, and said the Monument was honored to be a part of the recreation programs. Ms. Wheatley also discussed the recent news that the Colorado National Monument may be renamed a “Park”, stating “Monuments” that have been renamed “Parks” have brought in more tourists after their name change.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board agreed to send a letter of support for the proposed name change.

Item 4: Parks Master Plan

The Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of developing a parks master plan in-house. Staff will be sending out a survey to a particular group of 300 people who are known for “responding” to surveys, rather than doing a mass mailing to 10,000 and risking only getting a few back. Rob Schoeber shared copies of a draft survey, stating the questions should be limited to 10-12 open ended questions. The Board members suggested the survey be more specific to include options to choose which parks and which amenities the responders utilize. The survey will go out the end of next week and will be used as a tool to allow the community to provide their ideas of things they have seen in other communities that they would like to see in Grand Junction.

Item 5: Tour of Golf Course Improvements

Doug Jones spoke about the updates to Tiara Rado Golf Course, stating crews have completed a little more trim work on the pump house and are considering installing an injection system for irrigation water to help with the turf and trees. Mr. Jones stated the City and the golfers are very happy with the improvements, and said the project is going to come in approximately \$40,000-\$50,000 under the projected cost.

Rob Stong reported the golf course is seeing an increase in hotel packages, which they are excited about, along with a new website they will work on improving this winter. Mr. Stong stated, to date, revenues are \$16,000 over where they were last year. Tiara Rado plans to host a grand opening sometime in November.

Item 6: Project Updates

Mike Vendegna reported the restrooms at Hawthorne Park have been approved; construction is scheduled to begin October 18, 2010. Crews also hope to repair several sidewalks and benches that are currently in bad shape. Renovations will be taking place at Washington Park, as there is currently not any irrigation in the strips of turf that border the park on the North, East, and South sides. Crews will also be tearing down the old house on the Struther’s property (East of the Botanical Gardens). Renovations to the Lincoln Park restrooms (South of the swimming pool) will be starting soon.

Item 7: Awards

Traci Wieland announced Parks and Recreation has been awarded the Colorado Lottery’s Starburst Award for excellence in the use of lottery funds. Lottery funds were used to renovate the playground equipment at Rocket Park.

Traci Wieland announced Parks and Recreation recently received the United States Tennis Association Intermountain Section Colorado Organization of the Year Award.

Item 8: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy Austin-Settles
Leisure Service Representative