

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**

**February 21, 1996**

**Called to order by Chairman John Gormley at 12:00 p.m.**

## **Item 1 Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**  
John Gormley  
Jamie Hamilton  
Frank Dunn  
Dr. Lynn James

**Members Not Present:**  
Dennis King  
Karen Madsen  
Keith Mumby

**Staff Present:**  
Erik Joe Stevens, Director  
Shawn Cooper, Park Planner  
Lynda Lovern, Recreation Supervisor  
Gail Woodmansee, Sr. Admin. Secretary

## **Item 2 Minutes - December 20, 1995 and January 17, 1996**

**Jamie Hamilton moved and Lynn James seconded a motion to approve the December 20, 1995 and January 17, 1996 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board minutes.  
Approved: Yes 4 No 0**

## **Item 3 Public Comment**

**David Hoeffler and Vince Urbina, members of the Grand Junction Forestry Board, along with Mike Vendegna, Parks Supervisor, presented background information and made a request to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to approve the concept of developing an arboretum in Grand Junction.**

**An arboretum would require approximately 20 acres to display the variety of trees and vegetation grown in this region. In addition, this would be a test area for items not normally grown in the valley. Public education would be emphasized and local agencies would be able to utilize the area to inform customers or clients of proper planting practices. The arboretum would include brochures and identification of species.**

**Several sites were evaluated including the Climax Mill tailings site and Saccamanno property. The Climax site was the favorable location due to the proximity of the Botanical Gardens but the soil tests came back and are unsuitable for the arboretum. The Saccamanno site was favorable.**

**The Arboretum Committee would like permission to issue a news release in order to garner interest in the concept and possibly solicit an additional land donation(s). Once a formal recommendation is made, funding sources can be located and secured such as memorials and grants.**

**John Gormley informed the committee that they should not rely on the Saccamanno property. The arboretum could be included in the master plan for the area but at present, there isn't a time line for construction of the park and the site more than likely will not be developed any time soon.**

**Other sites for consideration would be Westlake, Eagle Rim, Jarvis, and Matchett. The 215 acre Matchett Farm could be a possible site to include an arboretum. At present, there are no specific plans or a master plan for the make-up of the park and an arboretum could be included in future plans. The Matchett Farm will probably not be developed for at least 4 years.**

**Another consideration is Canyon View Park. The infrastructure will be in place and the Phase II portion of the park will more than likely be modified from its original plan.**

**Jamie Hamilton moved and Lynn James seconded a motion to support the concept of an arboretum in Grand Junction on public or private land.  
Approved: Yes 4 No 0**

**Item 4 Grand Junction Jaycees Skate Park Funding Request**

**Ron Holzer, Tom LeValley and Eddie Hopper, Grand Junction Jaycees, presented information on their \$27,000 CIP Self Help application.**

**The Grand Junction Lion's Club originally committed \$12,000 toward the construction of Phase I of the skate park contingent on Mesa County's participation. The skate park will receive 50% of the proceeds from the sale of the South Sherwood property (appx. \$45,000). In addition, a private donation of \$5,000 is anticipated.**

**Jamie Hamilton stated that the \$27,000 award was too high and not consistent with previous awards given by the Board. The original request was for \$10,000 and felt the \$45,000 from the sale of South Sherwood was a significant contribution toward the project. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Park Development Task Force spent a lot of time prioritizing and master planning all of the parks under consideration and Westlake was not on the list. Some of the park master plans included skate features but due to the ban on skateboards in the downtown area and the request to City Council, this project was put on a "fast track" and shifted existing priorities.**

**Tom LeValley felt the restrooms are vital to the project and the additional money is necessary and required to make this a nice facility.**

**Jamie Hamilton moved and Lynn James seconded a motion authorizing a \$15,000 commitment from CIP Self Help funds.  
Approved: Yes 4 No 0**

**Item 5 Request from Avalanche Semi-Pro Football Team**

**A request has been made by the Avalanche Semi-Pro football team to schedule their football games at Stocker Stadium.**

**The problem with adding additional use on the football field is that there is not sufficient time to get the facility ready for fall play by the School District and Mesa State College. There are currently more games on the field than it can handle and maintenance becomes a major concern throughout the football season. A Stadium user group was formed in 1995 to review the use and possible overuse of the facility and schedule accordingly.**

**Jamie Hamilton moved and Frank Dunn seconded a motion to table this request.  
Approved: Yes 4 No 0**

**Item 6 Correspondence**

- A) Canyon View Park Status Reports**
  - 1. Council Action Form - Canyon View Bid Award**
  - 2. Park Development Task Force Minutes, February 13, 1996**
  - 3. Status Report #8**
  - 4. Potential Funding Sources**
    - Note: The City of Grand Junction will be notified today on our lottery funding request for Canyon View Park. The meeting was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. so we should hear this afternoon.**
  - 5. Statement of Probable Cost**
- B) Letter to Mesa County Commissioners - request for funding**
- C) Memo from Tim Woodmansee "Property Values and the Matchett Property"**
- D) Memo from Jack Sommers, 1996 Grand Valley Junior Golf Program**
- E) Letter from Grand Valley Water Users Assoc. to Urban Trails Committee**
- F) Letter from County Commissioners of Funding Approval for Skate Park**
- G) Letter from County Commissioners to Wingate PTA**
- H) Letter from Curt Davis, golf complaint**
- I) Letter from Lois Feil, Forestry compliment**
- J) Letter from George B Harpole, Model Airplanes in L.P. complaint**
- K) Tree Planting Program Grant Application**
- L) Article - "Balancing the Challenges of Winter Play"**
- M) Article - "Trails in our Neighborhood"**
- N) Commission on Arts and Culture Annual Report**
- O) Ice Skating Inc (Brochure)**

**Item 7 Monthly Staff Reports**

- a) The Older American Center will be presenting information to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regarding changing the name of the facility.**

- b) Staff have been meeting with the Mesa County Softball Association to review previous practices of collecting player fees and utilizing the funds for their programs/expenditures. The player fees have been collected by the Association not by the City. The 1996 team entry fee will be based on the number of players residing in or outside the city limits.**

**The fees in 1995 were \$293 per team plus player fees. 1996 fees will be \$336 for "resident" teams and \$420 for "nonresident" teams. No additional fees will be collected.**

- c) Last fall, the Board tentatively approved a swim meet for the Grand Valley Wave swim club for 7/13-7/14 as long as there were no conflicts. These dates have now been confirmed.**

**Item 8 Next Meeting**

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 1996.**

**Item 9 Adjourn**

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Gail Woodmansee  
Sr. Administrative Secretary**