

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

September 18, 1997

Item 1 Called to order by Chairman John Gormley at 11:55 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: John Gormley
 Jamie Hamilton
 Karen Madsen
 Dennis King
 Lena Elliott
 Katie Kaufmanis

Members Not Present: Dr. Lynn James

Staff Present: Erik Joe Stevens, Director
 Don Hobbs, Asst. Director
 Shawn Cooper, Park Planner
 Mari Steinbach, Recreation Superintendent
 Gail Woodmansee, Sr. Admin. Secretary

Guests: Tim Woodmansee, City Property Agent/Manager
 Shirley Tucker, Ice Skating, Inc.
 Tom Casper, GM YSA

Item 2 Minutes -- July 17, 1997

Jamie Hamilton moved and Karen Madsen seconded a motion to approved the July 17, 1997, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board minutes.

Approved: Yes 6 No 0

Item 3 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Business

- A. Introduction of newly appointed members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board -- Lena Elliott and Katie Kaufmanis.

The Board would like to welcome newly appointed Board members Lena Elliott and Katie Kaufmanis, and congratulate Karen Madsen on her re-appointment. Lena Elliott is a long time resident of Grand Junction and involved in tennis and other activities in Grand Junction. Katie Kaufmanis has been in town since 1972, is a swimmer and former employee of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Board would also like to thank Keith Mumby for his years of service to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Keith's input will be greatly missed.

- B. Election of Officers

Lena Elliott moved and Jamie Hamilton seconded a motion to appoint Dennis King as chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Approved: Yes 6 No 0

Karen Madsen moved and John Gormley seconded a motion to appoint Lena Elliott as vice chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Approved: Yes 6 No 0

The Board would like to thank John Gormley for his service as chairperson -- Great Job!

C. Set Meeting Dates and Times for 1997/1998

The Board meetings will continue to be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., in the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, Lincoln Park.

Item 4 Public Comment

A. Ice Skating, Inc.

Shirley Tucker presented information and an architectural rendering of the proposed ice rink. Fund raising efforts are on-going and to date, \$30,100 has been raised selling the "blocks of ice" and \$6,000 with the dasher board. Donations are pending with Alpine Bank. Any site drainage work that might be necessary will be donated; a fast food chain is considering sponsoring the Zamboni machine (\$60,000); and there is a verbal commitment on a six figure grant. Lottery applications are out and waiting for consideration. There are several private contractors expressing an interest in donating in-kind services. Construction estimates are currently at \$2 million (no improvements such as parking).

Ice Skating, Inc. is still in search of a firm location. The organization appreciates the Advisory Board's commitment of recommending a 5 acre "site to be determined" but feel Canyon View is their number one choice and would like to again request consideration of space in Canyon View Park.

The Board reiterated its position regarding Canyon View and with the amenities currently under construction and those in the future master plan, there is not sufficient space for an ice rink. The Las Colonias Park will be master planned yet this year with a public workshop scheduled for October 16. RNL Consultants will be in Grand Junction to meet with interested individuals/groups to get their input on the development of Las Colonias Park. This is one of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's site recommendation at this time.

Ice Skating, Inc. is exploring the Mesa County Fairgrounds as another potential location. The County is currently reviewing the fairground facility for potential capital improvements.

B. Grand Mesa Youth Soccer Association

Tom Casper, GMYSA Treasurer, has been on board for 3 months and his goal is "to make things work". GMYSA is working on improved communications and standardizing their point(s) of contact. GMYSA produces a quarterly newsletter and has mailers six times per year. The current president is Bill Clark. Les McPherson may continue to be liaison with the City and School District 51.

Regarding use of Canyon View Park, the Parks and Recreation Department has consistently conveyed the message that Canyon View Park would not be available for scheduled use until 1998; this projection has never changed. Originally, Canyon View was not scheduled for dedication until September/October 1997 with play in Spring, 1998. The dedication was moved up to July because the park "looked" near complete. Canyon View is still not complete and significant portions are still under the contractor's control.

GMYSA will need to provide a request for limited tournament play this Fall. It was suggested that some GMYSA championship tournament games could possibly be played at Canyon View. GMYSA will submit details.

Item 5 Leonard Long Memorial

It has been suggested that a memorial to Leonard Long be placed at Canyon View Park. Individuals have approached the City Council and Mayor requesting some type of memorial to honor Mr. Long and his support of Canyon View Park.

Lena Elliott stated that since Mr. Long was paid for his property, the City should not feel compelled to place a memorial.

Tim Woodmansee stated that Benerita Urruty was paid approximately \$10,000/acre while Leonard Long was paid \$6,000/acre. Mr. Long did discount his selling price and was quite interested in selling the property for the purpose of a park.

The Board did not feel compelled to honor Mr. Long and felt that if the City Council wanted to honor Mr. Long, they should decide on the specifics.

Item 6 Horizon Glen Subdivision

When the Horizon Glen property sale/donation was first proposed earlier this summer, the assumption was made that if the property came in at a reasonable figure, it would present the City with an opportunity to acquire and develop the land for a trailhead and perhaps a small park or interpretive area. The proposal was that the City would buy 1/2 and Tim Foster would donate 1/2 and agree to name the park after his parents. There were issues to be resolved regarding the road construction and wetlands as well as how it fit in with other City priorities.

Tim Foster shared an appraisal of the 4 acres for \$257,000. Based upon pending revisions to the capital improvement program, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not want to defer pending Parks and Recreation capital improvement projects for this acquisition and was of the opinion that sufficient funds were not immediately available.

Tim Woodmansee reported that in his opinion, the appraisal was not adequate and in order to “sell” to the City Council, you need to have adequate support information to justify cost. The comparable sale identified in the appraisal is different zoning. The Foster property appraisal does not adequately identify any deductions for wetlands mitigation (which requires a Corp of Engineers 404 permit before wetlands can be touched), construction of platted road (\$100,000 estimate), or vacation of a platted road.

The Public Works Department has the Horizon Drive widening project in their budget for 1998/99. There may be a way to purchase the land using right-of-way acquisition and/or trail construction funds. Tim will check into this as a possibility.

John Gormley moved and Karen Madsen seconded a motion to encourage exploration of the possibility of acquisition through street improvement project.

Approved: Yes 6 No 0

Joe will contact Tim Foster and let him know that the Parks and Recreation Department is interested in the property but, due to funding restrictions and pending project priorities, will not recommend purchase at this time. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board suggests working directly with the Public Works Department on the acquisition through the Horizon Drive widening project if grant money becomes available.

Item 7 Park Project Update

A. Canyon View Park Baseball Field

The construction of the new baseball field at Canyon View is underway. The Health Department will allow porta-potties at the baseball field as long as a plan is in place for future construction of a permanent restroom facility.

Item 8 Staff Reports

A. The City's 10-year Capital Improvement Project listing has been overhauled and park projects have been reallocated. A copy of the CIP plan is provided for the Boards review.

B. Swim Meet. Hale Adams prepared bid specifications for submittal to USA Swimming knowing that there are still some outstanding issues to be resolved. Mari Steinbach is working with Hale Adams.

C. Jamie Hamilton wanted the minutes to reflect his statement that "the City and the Parks Improvement Advisory Board did nothing wrong regarding the Canyon View baseball and soccer field construction projects along with their associated bids and felt no apology was necessary. The City should not have apologized for the process and the resulting contracts".

Dennis King moved and Lena Elliott seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting, 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail M. Woodmansee
Sr. Administrative Secretary
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