

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD



Meeting Date: March 14, 2011

Agenda Item: New Business, Item A

Subject: Camping at Union Reservoir

Presenter: John Brim, Senior Ranger at Union Reservoir

Suggested Action: Discussion and Recommendation

Background:

Union Reservoir is a 736 acre reservoir that provides a wide variety of recreational opportunities including swimming, wakeless boating, sailing, fishing, dog off leash area, special events, picnicking and camping (42 sites).

Visitation and revenues continue to grow at Union Reservoir. When one reviews the numbers, visitation in 2010 saw an increase of 12% over 2007's visitation. Revenues saw a whopping increase of 26.7% over 2007's figures. These figures don't reflect the 27,000 people that spent a summer weekend at Heaven Fest, or that part of the revenue increase was due to a fee increase implemented in 2008.

Trends in visitation reflect a consistent increase in fishing, boating and swimming, and in 2010 we saw a dramatic increase in day use activities. One of the largest revenue streams for the reservoir is annual boat storage, generating \$35,000.00 per year. On the contrary, we have seen a 52% decline in the reservoir's camping activity. Camping generates the least amount of revenues for any one activity at Union Reservoir. In 2010, revenue generated from camping was \$18,106.00 while money spent to provide camping was \$27,000.00, resulting in an overall loss of \$8,894.00

Union Reservoir, during peak months of operation, is a 24 hour, 7 days a week operation due to supporting camping at the reservoir. Over the past several years the staffing level has dropped from 4.25 fulltime employees (2 FTE and (3) $\frac{3}{4}$ employees) to 2.5 fulltime employees (1 FTE and (2) $\frac{3}{4}$ employees). This staff is not only responsible for the operation at Union Reservoir but also the City's District Park Ranger Patrol. Due to the reduction of staff the rangers have eliminated any regular City patrols.



Due to the costs associated with maintaining camping, the reduction of staff over time to attrition and the reduced trend in camping at Union Reservoir, staff is recommending eliminating camping as a service at Union Reservoir. Additional revenue can be generated by providing additional boat storage opportunities. Currently, there are 31 names on our boat storage waiting list, which at one point as many as 65 names were on that list. Many of these people have chosen other options due to our lack of storage space available. An additional 100 storage spaces could be attained at the existing campgrounds, generating up to an additional \$35,000 in revenue.

Additional Support:

- ✓ Staff spends 30% of their time related to camping, i.e. trash, restrooms, patrol, conflict management.

- ✓ 50% of all trash and litter generated on weekends comes from campers

- ✓ Only 2% of all park visitors camped in 2010

- ✓ Camping has declined over the past 4 seasons
 - 2007, 1,935 campsites sold
 - 2010, 52% reduction

- ✓ Camping Experience is minimal
 - Sites are too close
 - No hookups or water source
 - No designated parking pads
 - No Dump station

- ✓ 75% of all enforcement contacts are directly related to camping

- ✓ Park staffed until 2:00 am on Friday and Saturday evenings

- ✓ Law enforcement Issues over the years have included: gang fights, drag racing, guns in the park, stabbings, prostitution, drugs, conflicts between campers, DUI, domestic violence, public intoxication, vehicles in irrigation ditches, vandalism, etc.

Discussion and Recommendation

2011 Special Events

March, 2011

- **Taste of Therapy** - Longmont Recreation Services' Taste of Therapy Fairs provide the opportunity to try a variety of alternative wellness options. Mar 12, 2011
- **Youth Job & Career Fair** – Longmont Recreation Services collaborates with local partners to provide an informational Youth Job & Career Fair for youth ages 14-22. March 3, 2011, at the Twin Peaks Mall in the former JC Penney store.
- **The 8th Annual Spring Kids Fishing Extravaganza** takes place on Saturday, March 26th at Izaak Walton Park, 18 So. Sunset St., Free fishing for kids 15 years and younger. The first 250 kids to sign-up and complete the fishing clinic will receive a free fishing pole, adult supervision encouraged. There will also be free hot dogs and soda for the whole family from 10:30 – 1:00 p.m. For more information or to sign up call Lore Blattner, 303-651-8446.

April, 2011

- **Clean-Up-Green-Up** - Get ready Longmont for the annual Kickoff for Clean Up Green Up on Saturday, April 2nd at the Parks & Forestry Administration Building, 7 So. Sunset St., from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m., free coffee, juice and donuts to get you going, plus the famous 35 gallon orange trash bags and the clear recycle trash bags will be available. You can pick the area you want to clean up or we can give you an area that needs clean up! Can't make it for the Kickoff call Lore Blattner, Program Manager, 303-651-8446 or email : lore.blattner@ci.longmont.co.us for more information.
- **Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration** - On Saturday, April 16th (rain date is April 23rd) at Thompson Park, 4th & Bross from 11:00 – 3:00 p.m. come join this combined celebration to enjoy and learn more about both. There will also be the tree and rose bush sale, environmental education, "Edible Forest" lunch, live music, hugh earth balloon, community drum circle, urban wood waste utilization, chainsaw artist, balloons, games, and prizes. For more information call Ken Wicklund, City Forester, 303-651-8449, or email: ken.wicklund@ci.longmont.co.us.
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- **15th Annual Taste of Therapy Wellness Fair** – Longmont Recreation Service's Annual Taste of Therapy Wellness Fair is the BIG one that brings together many different alternative wellness practitioners under one roof. Apr 9, 2011

- **Mud Hen 5K Race** - Longmont Recreation Services co-sponsors the McIntosh Mud Hen 5K Race, a fun run/walk appropriate for all ages. Apr 23, 2011
- **Underwater Easter Egg Hunt** – Longmont Recreation Services presents the Underwater Easter Egg Hunt as a fun opportunity for youth to retrieve weighted eggs from the Centennial Pool. April 23, 2011

May, 2011

- **Sunset Pool Opens** – Longmont Recreation Services opens Sunset Pool for the summer season. Tentatively, Saturday, May 28, 2011.*Date dependent upon Sunset Bathhouse Construction.

June, 2011

Looking to volunteer? [Check out volunteer opportunities with Longmont Recreation Services!](#)

- **Longmont Kids Only Triathlon** – Longmont Recreation Services offers its Annual Longmont Kids Only Triathlon for youth ages 7 – 17. June 4, 2011
- **Longmont Triathlon** – Longmont Recreation Services presents the Annual Longmont Triathlon, the longest running triathlon in Colorado and the continental United States. June 5, 2011
- **Summer Concert Series** – Longmont Recreation Services offers a series of free summer concerts weeknight evenings.
- **Pet & Doll Parade** – Longmont Recreation Services hosts the Annual Pet & Doll Parade around the interior of Roosevelt Park. June 18, 2011
- **Longmont Classic Doubles Grass Volleyball Tournament** – Longmont Recreation Services' Longmont Classic Doubles Grass Volleyball Tournament offers play in a single-day format for both juniors and adults. June 25 & 26, 2011
- **Airport Expo** – The City of Longmont presents the Airport Expo in honor of the Kugel family, the founding family of the Vance Brand Municipal Airport. This bi-annual event will occur June 25.

July, 2011

- **Summer Concert Series** - Longmont Recreation Services offers a series of free summer concerts weeknight evenings.
- **Rhythm on the River** – Longmont Recreation Services, along with a multitude of local community partners, presents the Annual Rhythm on the River, Longmont's Signature Event. July 8 & 9, 2011

- **Roger's River Run 5k** – Longmont Recreation Services offers the Roger's River Run 5K, kicking off Rhythm on the River's Saturday activities. July 9, 2011
- **Longmont Day of Roses** - Rose show and festival sponsored jointly by the St. Vrain Rose Society, Loveland Rose Society and Longmont Parks Division, will be on Saturday, July 23rd from 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Longmont Senior Center. Show Schedule – entries taken from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m., Judging Starts – 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Public Viewing 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Running concurrently from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. there will be the first bi-annual Longmont Rose Festival in the Longmont Memorial Rose Garden, which is adjacent to the Senior Center. This will be an opportunity to learn about growing roses in Colorado, meet local vendors, and enjoy the rose garden. Planned events include tours, information booths, classes, music, and an ice cream social. Plan to attend and sign-up to volunteer at the rose garden.

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August, 2011

- **Summer Concert Series** - Longmont Recreation Services offers a series of free summer concerts weeknight evenings.
- **Dog Swims at Activity Pools** – Longmont Recreation Services offers Dog Swims at both Roosevelt and Kanemoto Activity Pools after the activity pools close for the summer season.
- **2011 Longmont Kinetics Sculpture Challenge at Union Reservoir** - The City of Longmont and Kineticists proudly sponsor this fun, family-friendly event that provides unique entertainment in the form of human-powered Kinetic Sculptures. Date August 27, 2011. Event will be at Union Reservoir, 0461 WCR 26, Longmont.

September, 2011

- **Taste of Therapy** - Longmont Recreation Services' Taste of Therapy Fairs provide the opportunity to try a variety of alternative wellness options at Izaak Walton Clubhouse. Sept 10, 2011, 10am-1pm
- **Annual Father Daughter Dinner Dance** – Longmont Recreation Services' Annual Father Daughter Dinner Dance is a wonderful opportunity for fathers and daughters of any age to enjoy a magical evening of dinner, dancing, and fun! Fall 2011 date TBA.

October, 2011

- **Taste of Therapy** - Longmont Recreation Services' Taste of Therapy Fairs provide the opportunity to try a variety of alternative wellness options at Izaak Walton Clubhouse. Oct 8, 2011, 10am-1pm

- **Halloween Parade** – Longmont Recreation Services presents the Annual Halloween Parade, a walking parade for youth and their families to show off their costume creations. Oct 29, 2011, 9:30am line up, 10am parade.
- **Safe Halloween Night** – Longmont Recreation Services offers a Safe Halloween Night geared for youth ages 10 and under that is full of carnival games, boat rides, and Halloween fun! Oct 31, 2011, 6-8:30pm. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up at 2:30pm, to staff games from 6-8:30pm, and to assist with clean-up from 8:30-9:30pm. Dinner provided to evening volunteers. Please contact Barb via e-mail or call (303) 774-4758.

November, 2011

- **Taste of Therapy** - Longmont Recreation Services' Taste of Therapy Fairs provide the opportunity to try a variety of alternative wellness options at Izaak Walton Clubhouse. Nov 12, 2011, 10am-1pm
- **Turkey Trot** – Longmont Recreation Services presents the Annual Turkey Trot 10K and 2 mile run/walk benefiting the Longmont Recreation Services Youth Scholarship Fund. Nov 12, 2011, 9am

December, 2011

- **Longmont Lights Santa's Workshop** - Longmont Recreation Services offers an evening of free activities for parents and their children 1 to 9 years of age during the Longmont Lights Santa's Workshop. Dec 9, 2011, 5-8pm
- **Longmont Lights Holiday Parade** - Longmont Recreation Services hosts a special night Longmont Lights Holiday Parade with all the lights and magic of the holidays. Dec 10, 2011, 5pm

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD



Meeting Date: March 14, 2011

Agenda Item: Items from Staff

Subject: Recreation Update

Presenter: Jeff Friesner

Suggested Action: Information

The following summarizes Recreation programs and issues for the past month:

Quail Campus

1. Preschool Tennis Clinic began in February with 11 initial attendees. The class is taught by a certified tennis instructor and uses small handle, large face rackets and foam balls. They are using the pickleball net as well.
2. Pickleball continues to grow. At first we were averaging around 4 players and are now up to 10 – 12 players every time. We have discussed some options for summer play due to the number of camps and drop-ins that we have in the summer. The players have been open to discussing the best options. They also play on the outdoor courts during the summer.
3. Young American Basketball has wrapped up for the season.
4. Enrollment is currently taking place for the following Spring Sport leagues: Softball, Flag Football, Basketball, Coed Soccer and Youth Volleyball. Enrollment is up for Flag Football over the past year.
5. A contract for the SilverSneakers® program has been agreed upon by the City and SilverSneakers®. Four staff from the Recreation Center will be attending instructor training March in order for them to be certified to teach the program. It is our hope to begin offering the program May 2. Chairs and workout equipment are provided by SilverSneakers® for 30 participants.

Centennial Campus

1. A Waterfront lifeguard class was taught by Sara Stewart, Aquatic Specialist. Summer lifeguard interviews begin the first week of March.
2. The Place After School Program had 13 students participate in the February Top Point Trip for being actively a part of The Place. Heritage Middle School had a total of 226 students for the month with an average of 15 students per day. The Top Point trip was the much anticipated bowling night at Centennial Lanes.
3. The Middle School after school intramural Lacrosse and Soccer program registrations has started. Currently, seven schools will be participating in the soccer program which will begin practice March 1.
4. The State Farm Insurance grant ended at the end of February. The participants of Move It! ended the grant with their community service project, the Move It! Fitness Fair. The Fitness Fair was held



on February 26 at Clark-Centennial Park, Loma Linda Elementary School and Centennial Pool. Over 300 people participated in the various activities the kids put together including rock climbing, hula-hooping and a fitness scavenger hunt. The youth who participated and the parents were very pleased with the program and were sorry to see its end. Other teen fitness type activities are in the works to keep these kids motivated to continue a healthier lifestyle.

5. Work has begun on the 2011 Triathlons. Registration is open and Noodles and Company has committed to another year of serving food to the athletes.
6. Work has also begun on the 2011 Kinetics. Plans are for the event to take place Saturday, August 27.
7. Parents Night Out was held February 12 after a several year hiatus, with 18 kids attending, and the assistance of two graduates of Babysitters Trainings. The kids had a lot of fun and the parents were very appreciative, so plans are to hold them 3-4 times per year. The babysitters appreciated the experience, ensuring the continuation of the Babysitter's Practicum component of Parents Night Out.
8. Centennial Pool has seen a significant surge in facility users. Tuesday and Thursday nights in particular are extreme usage with people showing up over a half hour early in order to get a spin bike for biking class, 70 CARA kids swimming, 2 dozen or more Beginning Masters swimmers and the Alpine Angelfish synchronized swim team all vying for pool space.

Roosevelt Campus

1. Preschool and youth classes are still filling, and new classes are being opened to accommodate the waiting lists. Week-end rentals and building usage continues to grow in the winter months. Eight additional weekend night rentals were added.
2. Rhythm on the River created the River Procession (Animal Parade) at last years event. This year, on March 20 a community project will take place at Izaak Walton Clubhouse from 10am-Noon with artist Diane Wood. This free workshop will create the river animal puppets for the parade on July 9th at 11a.m. in Roger's Grove.
3. The Spring Taste of Therapy Fair & Livewell Expo will be held on Saturday, April 9 at the St. Vrain Memorial Building and the Senior Center from 9am-4pm. Over 40 practitioners, guest speakers will provide hands on services for a minimal or no fee. This year Recreation Services is working in conjunction with the Livewell Longmont initiative by having a month long community wide activity list to kick off the Spring.
4. Additional themed birthday parties have been added on Sunday afternoons: Tumbling Parties and Itty Bitty City for children ages 3-6 years. Every Sunday in February was booked with two parties.
5. Registration has begun for the Mud Hen race at MacIntosh Lake. It will take place on Saturday, April 23rd at 10a.m. Registration is available through Active.com and at all Recreation facilities.
6. Small Wonders Preschool held its Fall registration for 2011 on February 15th. Currently we have nine openings for all of the classes.
7. Recreation Services will be partnering once again with the Longmont Downtown Development Authority and hosting a series of concerts in downtown Longmont. The final details will be presented in the March report.
8. Summer Day Camp registration began on March 1. This licensed camp program will run June 6 – August 12.
9. The Ice Pavilion season is wrapping up with the closing on Sunday, March 13th. Learn to skate lessons filled in the second session and a 6 pm classes was added for Tykes Beginner.
10. Staff is currently planning summer programs, camps and working on the numerous upcoming Special Events.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD



Meeting Date: March 14, 2011

Agenda Item: Items from Staff

Subject: Parks Development Update

Presenter: Paula Fitzgerald

Suggested Action: N/a

The following summarizes the Natural Resources Division, Park Development projects and issues for the past month:

- **Dry Creek Community Park** –Phase 1 construction project will open bids on Wednesday March 16. We hope to be underway with construction by early April.
- **St. Vrain Phase 9/10** – The project punchlist is being completed by the Contractor.
- **St Vrain Phase 11 – Dickens Park** – No new information. Project is still slated to begin in late fall 2011.
- **Lake McIntosh Phase 4 / 17th Avenue Pedestrian Crossings** – The feasibility study final report has been revised by the Consultant. A public process will be done in early 2011 to receive comment on the study.
- **Alta Park Master Plan** – No new information.
- **Athletic Field Park Master Plan** – Community Services has begun work on this area as part of the Midtown Redevelopment project for the Kitely neighborhood. Natural Resources is supporting their efforts regarding any changes to the park area. Requests have been made for a playground and some improved shrub / flower beds.
- **Union Reservoir Recreational Master Plan** – A meeting was held with the directors to discuss the project. It was determined that an update to Council would be helpful to see if there are any new ‘givens’ to the project with the changed conditions. We hope to go to Council in April for that discussion.
- **Jim Hamm Pond** – No new information. The project is still slated to being in late fall 2011.
- **Quail Campus Tennis** – No new information. Decisions on project timing are pending Dry Creek Community Park bids. An LACP amendment is also needed prior to park development on the site.

