

MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
March 14, 2011

The March meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Ruby Bowman at 7:00pm at the Parks Maintenance Building.

1. Roll Call

Cathy Diesing, Board Secretary called the roll call. Those present were committee members; Ruby Bowman, Jim Wardell, Sharon O'Leary, Jim Krick, Greg Braun, and Kelly Dirks. Councilman McCoy and Board member Doug Gollhofer were absent. Board member Wardell came in at 7:20pm, Board member O'Leary came in at 7:05.

Staff Present: Mr. Friesner, Mr. Wolford and Ms. Diesing

2. Approval of Agenda.

A motion by Mr. Braun to approve the agenda was seconded by Mr. Krick, the motion passed 4-0.

3. Approval of Previous Months Minutes

A motion by Mr. Braun to approve the amended February, 2011 minutes was seconded by Ms. Bowman. A spelling error was noted by Mr. Braun. The motion passed 4-0.

4. Public Invited to be Heard. None

5. Old Business

A. Youth Council Project. Christina Pacheco, the Manager for Children and Youth Resources introduced Kai Kanda. He and other youth had held a fundraiser to raise funds to purchase additional No Smoking signs for local parks. The youth group would like suggestions on where to place the next set of signs. Mr. Friesner noted that the group wanted to help reduce smoking in areas where children play. The Board had approved the signs being posted in 8 parks in 2010. It is designed as an educational tool to have those that smoke be more sensitive to their surroundings while smoking. Photos are being taken and paper literature against smoking is being drafted by the youth group. Another fundraiser is being planned, details will be sent later. A Board member felt that the parks were a good place to smoke, as there is a freedom of choice and open air. It was noted the trash that is left behind needs to be addressed. Ms. Pacheco said they were not policing the park but educating people to not smoke in children play areas.

A discussion was held on where the additional signs could be placed. The

idea is to put them by the school areas. Suggestions included Dry Creek Park, Blue Skies Park, Rough & Ready Park, Stephen Day Park and Burlington. A motion by Ms. Bowman that the Park & Recreation Advisory Board approves the eight additional park signs educating the public on no smoking, and that it moves forward, this was seconded by Mr. Braun. The motion passed 4-1. Ms. O'Leary voted nay.

B. Set Date and Agenda for Board Retreat and Field Trip- Develop 2011 Work Plan. A motion by Ms. O'Leary to move Old Business B to after Old Business D) to allow for Board Member Wardell to be present, this was seconded by Mr. Braun, the motion passed 5-0.

C. Capital Improvements Projects. Mr. Friesner noted that a projects list was given to the Board in February. Staff gave a quick summary of the projects

a) Review of Parks and Recreation Divisions Projects Questions were asked on the following funded projects.

PR-185 West Union Project, Dan Wolford noted that the City had an issue with staffing so part of that dollar (\$73,000) amount will go towards updating the Master Plan for Union Reservoir. He said it needs to stay within the same project. The remainder will go for other open space projects, such as trail funds. The project will be put on hold until after the Union Reservoir Master Plan is complete and relook at the West side of the lake.

This also included PR-10 Open Space funding for the first phase development at Union. Union Reservoir has become an item of interest, along with Spring Gulch and Ute Creek projects as they come together. The Board will be invited to the Public Process.

Ms. Bowman would like follow-up on the request by the Board in 2010, that the City find alternative funding instead of using Open Space funding for urban arterial landscaping. Mr. Wolford noted it would be at a Directors level and may be a change of financial policy; he will follow up with Mr. Rademacher.

Questions were asked on the following unfunded projects

PR-182 is Skate Park Component and Repair Maintenance. The skate parks at the Recreation Center and Clark Park are at the end of the estimated life expectancy. Mr. Friesner noted that components such as ramps, skate elements were made of wood by a local company, but that company went bankrupt so we have been unable to buy replacements of damaged elements. The goal is to purchase a concrete type of component, for a longer life.

PR-137 – Mr. Friesner noted that the Recreation Center Parking Lot project would go away if the tennis courts are approved.

BP-171 Improvements of women's restroom, plus fixing the stage wall at the St.Vrain Memorial Building. The Restroom dates back to the 1950's and has never been renovated. The gym originally was a full theatre, years later the city built a wall that separated the room and created meetings rooms in the back area. Sound mitigation would be part of that update.

Mr. Wolford noted Public Works and Natural Resources are looking at how they review playgrounds and routine maintenance. The goal would be to not be competing with CIP money.

Mr. Friesner noted PB-130 Parks Maintenance Facility; this project was not included in the five year plan. This is the old park building and will not be updated until the economy gets better. At this time it is being used as a storage area for Longmont Lights and parks equipment. Renovation would include taking down the building and creating more parking and a memorial as installed in the other corner of the park.

A member asked about the re-stuccoing of the Longmont Recreation Center . Mr. Friesner said it should be completed in 2011. PB-185 is partially funded. The project has been updated to only include stucco application that will reduce the impact by the wood peckers and wildlife. Staff has been working on flicker boxes and covering up the holes .

b) Proposed new Projects

A member asked if parking could be added to Spangler Park as all it has is off street parking. Staff will add it to the list of suggestions however staff has never had a complaint that there is not enough parking.

PB-155, Reference the Longmont Recreation Center was explained by Jeff Friesner. It will be an addition to Recreation Center for a cardio area. In addition the plan includes the addition of a large meeting room. we would expand a large meeting space that could be doubled as class room space.

PB-185 – Reference the Longmont Recreation Center, is a facility repair project which includes repainting the front entrance and other areas of the building and soffit repairs. We must continue to keep the building in top condition for enjoyment of the citizens, and to maintain the revenue for the city.

It was noted by Jeff Friesner, that old exercise equipment is traded back in to the company that is providing the new equipment. If sold it would go to the local auction company as directed by City policy. Spinning bikes are

sorted for quality and sent to other facilities for use.

It was asked by staff, if the Board members have suggestions for new projects, to please send them to Dan Wolford or Jeff Friesner no later than the last day in March. All entries of new projects need to be completed by mid April.

D. Open Space – Adrian Property Home Demolition

Dan Wolford reviewed the photos of the Adrian houses. The 11870 CR 1 home, is in particular bad shape. Renovation bids will be in excess of \$15,000, the demolition would cost less. The road widening would take a great deal of the front yard decreasing the value of the home and lot. Staff is asking if the City should update the home. A motion by Ms. O’Leary that the Park & Recreation Advisory Board requests that the County Line Road Improvement costs for demolition of the Adrian property home be split. This was seconded by Mr. Braun. A discussion occurred that open space money should not pay for the demolition entirely. The motion passed 6-0

*** Agenda Item moved

B. Set Date and Agenda for Board Retreat and Field Trip- Develop 2011 Work Plan.

Mr. Friesner noted that the New Natural Resource Manager starts his new job in May. It was discussed to have the Retreat in April and Field Trip in June. As he will be visiting in April.

A decision was made to have the retreat on Monday April 18 at the Callahan House between 6-8pm. The following three topics were agreed to discuss.

1. Power option will be presented on the Conservation Trust Fund public process. Direction had been received by the Council to make sure it is part of the Focus on Longmont Update.
2. Discuss the possibility of “Friends of Park & Recreation Foundation”, much like the Friends of the Museum, and Friends of the Library. The process of a 501C3 and donating money to the group and grants being offered will be discussed.

During the discussion it was requested to add Parks & Recreation 101, to the June meeting. Future agendas will include subjects not chosen for the retreat but of interest to the Board. Integrated Weed Management Plan, Prioritizing potential land purchases, Wildlife friendly park, Sustainable prairie dog habitat, How will Open Space funds be spent in the future.

6. New Business.

A. Camping at Union. John Brim gave a review of the Union Camping history since 1994 and the police issues that have come up. Staff is recommending that camping be eliminated by 2012. Reasons given were a decrease in camping and camping revenue. The cost of maintaining the camping area, and the reduction of staff. If camping was closed, the reservoir would experience some change in hours saving on staff time. Other venues are available for camping including St Vrain State Park on I-25, camping at the Boulder County Fairground and Lyons, Colorado. , Revenue lost from camping would be made up by offering 100 more boat storage spaces which would generate \$35,000.00, a total of \$45,000.00 per year would include all the boat storage spaces.

A motion by Ms. O'Leary to eliminate camping as a service at Union Reservoir and request that council earmark the additional funds that are generated by the boat storage to go towards additional Union Reservoir and / or the district ranger program. This was seconded by Mr. Krick, the motion passed 5-1. Mr. Braun voting nay.

B. 2011 Parks Division and Recreation Division Special Events. The Board appreciated the list of Parks & Recreation community events. As a part of the Taste of Therapy, staff is working with LiveWell Longmont to introduce eating well and exercising.

7. Items from Staff

A. Jeff Friesner will have pictures of Sunset Bathhouse construction for April meeting. The estimated opening date is June 13. It will be great addition to Longmont.

B. Dan Wolford noted that Heaven Fest will not be held at Union Reservoir this year. He explained the first prescribed burn at Button Rock had flared up several days later and caused the burn of about two acres. The dry weather and wind caused the flare-up. It was noted by Jeff Friesner that the Memorial Building was activated as a Red Cross Emergency Building because of the fire.

8. Items from Board

A. Kelly Dirks asked what the process was for a new Recreation Center. Jeff Friesner noted the City would go to a Bond election first, along with public meetings to develop the facility program. Nothing is presently being planned.

B. Ruby Bowman asked if the Board was interested in a proclamation. This will be added to the April agenda, as it is too late in the evening to discuss it.

9. Public Invited to Be Heard. None

10. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, it was moved by Ms. O'Leary to adjourn the meeting at 9:57pm and was seconded by Mr. Braun the motion passed 5-0.

Chair Signature

Board Secretary