

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry  
Advisory Board  
February 15, 2019 Minutes

Members in attendance were Chairperson Rachel Medina, Clarissa Dukeminier, Sawyer Dietrich, Alan Klein, Tom Rennick, and Director of Parks and Recreation Dean Palmquist.

Randy Quillin, Cortez Journal Newspaper Reporter Sean Dolan, and City of Cortez Recreation Supervisor Rosa Dimon were guests in attendance.

Chairperson Rachel Medina brought the meeting to order at 7:05 AM and welcomed everyone to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Advisory Board Meeting.

Minutes from the January 18, 2019, advisory board meeting were approved.

Old Business

- A. South Neighborhood Park Project Status** – Dean shared that the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant had been applied for by the City, and the City will find out the end of February or early March, if the GOCO grant proposal was successful or not. Dean mentioned that the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Energy & Mineral Impact Assistance grant will be re-submitted by the end of March, depending on the status of the City's financial audits. The success of the two grant proposals will impact what park amenities will be sought with the Colorado Health Foundation grant request in June of this year.
- B. Schedule Future Agenda Items for 2019** - Rachel asked for input on when the below agenda items could be part of the upcoming advisory board meeting agendas. The following list were items brought forth at the last meeting from the advisory board members: 1. Have the Youth Commission attend one of the advisory board meetings – Clarissa thought that the Youth Commission's involvement could happen at the April meeting for them to help judge posters. She will check with the Youth Commission and let us know at the next meeting. 2. Keep abreast of what is happening with Montezuma Park – Rachel and Dean are giving updates at each advisory board meeting. 3. Foster relationships with Friend Groups, i.e. dog park and sports organizations, for helping match facility benefits that are direct to a specific user group – Dean suggested that a Friends of the Natural Areas may be a good, first Friends group to look at forming. 4. Recreation Center fitness classes – future meeting. 5. Water Assessment next steps – future meeting. 6. Metrics: Performance & Asset Inventory – future meeting. 7. Connectivity with sidewalks and trails to Hawkins Preserve and other Park & Natural Area facilities – future meeting.
- C. Other Old Business** – Dean and Rachel shared that the Montezuma Park band shell proposal went before the City's Planning and Zoning Commission earlier this month with the recommendation of a conditional use permit and then went before the City

Council on Tuesday, February 12, with a re-zoning of Montezuma Park from Neighborhood Business to Open Zone. Currently, the band shell proposal is meeting approval through the City of Cortez process.

#### New Business

- A. 2019 Arbor Day Celebration & Poster Judging Schedule** – Dean introduced the City’s Recreation Supervisor Rosa Dimon, and she presented about this year’s Arbor Day Celebration, which is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2019. Rosa asked if it would work for the advisory board to judge posters on Friday, April 19, at the advisory board’s regular meeting. The advisory board members thought that time would work fine. Rosa handed out a brief survey to see if the advisory board members wanted to continue with the posters and/or poems contest and if they wanted to continue with t-shirts or switch to water bottles for the youth to receive. Rosa said she would tabulate the results and let us know.
- B. Proposed Youth Plex / Field House (Randy Quillin)** – Rachel introduced Randy Quillin, co-owner of Stormy’s Gymnastics, to present to the advisory board members about his vision for a youth-oriented facility in Cortez. Randy shared that Rayna Hale and he started Stormy’s Gymnastics at the Cortez Recreation Center several years ago and were offering the gymnastics program up to three times per week and outgrew the space in wanting to offer it more times than what the recreation center could accommodate. So, Rayna and he moved Stormy’s Gymnastics to a private business at the corner of Empire Street and US Highway 145. They leased a portion of the building and operated out of there until this past year, where the ownership changed and a new use of the building was being pursued. Rayna and Randy moved the gymnastics program to a facility along the north side of Main Street and are currently providing their gymnastics classes there. Randy had met with Shane Hale, former City Manager, about six years ago about his vision to have a youth plex / field house for gymnastics, skate park activities, wrestling, martial arts, dance, cheerleading, soccer, birthday parties, and any other youth activities that may need a home. Mr. Hale encouraged Randy to come back in five years to the City staff, if his gymnastics program was still viable and going. So, Randy approached John Dougherty, current City Manager, about his vision, who directed Randy to go to Dean Palmquist, Parks and Recreation Director, to share his vision and get Dean’s input on where to go with his vision. Randy said that Dean shared that his vision would need to be presented before the City’s Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Advisory Board for their input and guidance. Randy mentioned about this past summer, where the City’s Playground Days youth program needed an indoor space, when the area forest fires created an unsafe condition for the youth to be outdoors and that the recreation center was not always available for use, due to all of the fitness classes and other user groups. The advisory board members listened to Randy’s presentation and then gave some brief advice for next possible steps. The advisory board members will further consider his proposal at their next meeting for more discussion and additional recommendations.
- C. Other New Business** – None.

The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, March 15, 2019, at 7:00 AM at the Cortez Recreation Center meeting room.

Adjournment—8:15 AM