

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
Advisory Board
January 18, 2019 Minutes

Members in attendance were Chairperson Rachel Medina, Kenneth Quigley, Clarissa Dukeminier, Sawyer Dietrich, Councilmember Mike Lavey, and Director of Parks and Recreation Dean Palmquist.

James Alexander and Alan Klein were guests in attendance.

Minutes from the November 16, 2018, advisory board meeting were approved.

Chairperson Rachel Medina brought the meeting to order at 7:06 AM and welcomed everyone to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Advisory Board Meeting.

Old Business

- A. South Neighborhood Park Project Status** – Dean shared that two grants have been applied for by the City, and the City will find out the end of February or early March, if the Great Outdoors Colorado grant proposal was successful or not. Dean mentioned that depending on what happens with the two grants on whether we get funding or not will impact what park amenities will be sought with the Colorado Health Foundation grant request in June of this year.
- B. Montezuma Park Band Shell Proposal Status** – Dean shared that the City's Planning Department staff hosted a neighborhood meeting at City Hall and most of the neighborhood residents in attendance were supportive of having a band shell at Montezuma Park. One of the only concerns was the band shell being used as a place for the homeless population to hang out and sleep there. Dean stated that the Planning Department staff is now looking at rezoning Montezuma Park under an open zoning which would allow for the band shell in the park. The process will take one Planning and Zoning Commission meeting and two City Council meetings to get the zoning approved. Dean shared he will keep the advisory board members abreast of where the process is at and what the final result will be.
- C. 2016 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Review** – Dean and Rachel further reviewed the parks and recreation master plan and how much will be accomplished in just a few years into the plan. Following the south neighborhood park project, Dean shared that Geer Natural Area development around the lake and the Rotary Park restrooms will be the next highest priorities in the master plan.
- D. Other Old Business** – Dean mentioned that he followed up with the advisory board members, via e-mail, verifying that the trees planted at Centennial Park were in fact on City of Cortez property.

New Business

- A. Western Water Assessment VCAPS Fall Pilot Project 2018** – Dean shared that he went to a climate impact workshop on October 2 & 3, 2018, at the Cortez Service Center, conducted by a research group based at the University of Colorado Boulder. The workshop goals and objectives included the following: 1. Raise awareness and build expertise among City staff of regional climate trends and future climate scenarios; 2. Establish a common understanding of the anticipated impacts of climate change on City operations, with respect to water supply; 3. Take inventory of current initiatives, concerns, and challenges associated with water supply; and 4. Identify options for adapting City operations to mitigate risks associated with drought, in light of scientific uncertainty. Dean said that he learned about the current state of our local climate conditions from a climatologist. Also, the City staff and council members in attendance discussed two different drought scenarios and started some mitigation planning on what would be done to reduce water use in each scenario.
- B. Discuss Future Agenda Items for 2019** – Rachel asked the other advisory board members for their input on what they would like to see for future agenda items at the upcoming advisory board meetings. The following list was items brought forth from the advisory board members: 1. Have the Youth Commission attend one of the advisory board meetings 2. Keep abreast of what is happening with Montezuma Park 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 4. Recreation Center fitness classes 5. Water Assessment next steps 6. Metrics: Performance & Asset Inventory 7. Connectivity with sidewalks and trails to Hawkins Preserve and other Park & Natural Area facilities.
- C. Other New Business** – Dean and Rachel welcomed Alan Klein to the advisory board meeting and passed out his letter of interest for serving on the parks, recreation, and forestry advisory board. Alan was asked to verbally share his interest on why he wants to serve on the advisory board, and advisory board members were given the opportunity to ask him any questions pertaining to that and to read his letter of interest in-depth before voting. The advisory board members unanimously recommended Alan Klein to serve on the advisory board. Dean said that he will submit his letter of interest to the City Council at their February 12, 2019, meeting for the Council's consideration for approval.

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

Adjournment—8:17 AM