

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
Advisory Board
August 21, 2020 Minutes

Members in attendance were Chairperson Tom Rennick, Roman Jefferson, Kenneth Quigley, and Director of Parks and Recreation Dean Palmquist.

James Alexander and George Tripp were guests in attendance.

Chairperson Tom Rennick brought the meeting to order at 7:07 AM and welcomed everyone to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Advisory Board Meeting.

Minutes from the July 17, 2020, advisory board meeting were approved.

Old Business

- A. South Neighborhood Park Project Status** – Dean shared about the process of developing a public notice to let the general public, especially the south side neighborhood residents, know the status of the south neighborhood park project. The City is making sure that the message sent out to the public is a positive one, as much as possible. Also, the City is working with the Cortez Sanitation District on placement of a new, main sewer line through the south neighborhood park. Dean has contacted our park design team, including DHM Design and Goff Engineering and Surveying, to find out the best location possible for the main sewer line in regard to the park project. Dean also brought up about the existing trees at the new park site and their lack of water. Dean shared that the park maintenance staff have added a watering system for the trees there to ensure they are now receiving water on a regular basis. Dean stated that the Cortez Fire District has been watering the trees periodically at the new park site, when they conducted fire drill practices. The City will also be revisiting the naming of the South Neighborhood Park in the coming months, as the past City Council members decided that Panther Park was not one they were willing to move forward with, since the middle school football field is already called Panther Stadium.
- B. Veterans Park Dedication Ceremony** – Dean stated that the Veterans Park dedication ceremony will be held on Patriot Day, 10:00 AM, Friday, September 11, 2020. Dean shared that a dedication ceremony invitation and program is being developed and will be distributed ahead of time and at the event to our Veterans groups.
- C. 5 Year Parks & Recreation Capital Plan** – Dean led more discussion about the City's 5 Year Capital Plan and what was pertinent to parks and recreation. Dean also looked back at the 2016 Parks & Recreation Master Plan to see if other items needed to be listed on the City's 5 Year Capital Plan. The advisory board members thought the City had a pretty thorough list of capital project items for the 5 Year Capital Plan. Some discussion continued about the future prospects of the outdoor swimming pool and following up with community stakeholders to see about the viability of the outdoor

swimming pool with the limited financial resources the City will have in the coming years.

- D. Other Old Business** – Roman Jefferson shared that David Temple, Mark Boblitt, and he did a preliminary assessment of the tree conditions in the park system and along Main Street for disease, insect, limb damage and water needs. More tree assessment evaluation needs to occur in the park system and especially with the street trees. More City funding is needed to take on this endeavor.

New Business

- A. Discuss Montezuma park Performance Space versus the Centennial Park Band Shell Project** – Dean spent some time discussing the difference between the Montezuma Park performance space versus the proposed Centennial Park band shell project. Dean stated that one of the biggest differences is the performance space size with the Montezuma Park performance space accommodating 5 to 7 musicians versus the Centennial Park band shell project accommodating a concert band of up to 50 musicians. One of the advisory board members wondered why the Parque de Vida Amphitheater would not meet the need of the band shell space, but Dean shared that the Amphitheater stage area is not large enough to accommodate a concert band. Dean mentioned that Bob Waggoner, who has an interest in providing a concert band space in the parks, is working with an architect to design a band shell for Centennial Park.
- B. Other New Business** – Ken Quigley introduced George Tripp to the advisory board members and shared that George would like to bring up some tennis court items. George brought up about the tennis courts needing some type of sealant to protect them from moisture getting in the courts and doing damage during the freeze and thaw cycle. Dean shared that the park maintenance staff is planning to do that sealant work later in the summer or during the early fall season before the weather gets too cold. Also, George requested to see if a backboard could be placed on the north side of the Parque de Vida east tennis court for individuals to practice hitting their tennis balls. It would be similar to the backboard at the Centennial Park tennis courts. Dean thought the request was worthy of consideration, and he was going to check with the park maintenance staff to see if they could schedule that work into their future work schedule. Also, George asked if the Parque de Vida baseball backstops are protected against lightening (high voltage) strikes (grounded and bonded). Dean said that he would check into that and let the advisory board members know at the next meeting. After George Tripp brought up his requests, the advisory board members asked George if he may be interested in serving on the parks, recreation, and forestry advisory board. George asked if he could get more information about the advisory board, and Dean said that he would send him some additional information.

The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, September 18, 2020, at 7:00 AM at the Centennial Park large shelter.

Adjournment—8:35 AM