

Parks and Rec Commission
Meeting Minutes April 1, 2011
Williams Recreation Center

Roll Call.

Present: Commissioner Glassburn, Commissioner D'Arpa, Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Patricca, Commissioner Winbourn, Commissioner Rodriguez, Director Newbold

Absent: Commissioner Redfeather

Guests: Sue Atkinson, Glen Cornwell, AJ Minor, Mark Worden, Mike Dulay

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Glassburn at 10:00am

Agenda: Motion was made by Commissioner Winbourn to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Williams and unanimously approved.

Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez to accept the minutes from the February meeting and attaching corrections recommended by Laura Duncan correcting some wording. It was seconded by Commissioner Williams and unanimously approved.

Renaissance Faire: Mark Worden

Commissioner Glassburn stated that Mark Worden would like the Commission to recommend to City Council to allow him to hold his event at Buckskinner Park.

Mark stated that he has had conversations with Councilman Dent regarding a fire plan at the Park. Mark always runs a dry camp, no fires. If there is a fire danger in the forest there will be a water truck on site. Councilman Dent gave Mark support of this idea. There will also be designated smoking areas under the Ramada's. That is what we are proposing to Council. Mr. Cornwell asked if Mark was going to allow overnight camping. Mark responded that only the vendors, volunteers and participants will be allowed to stay overnight.

He would also like the lake closed for the weekend. The lake is our focal point of the event for the Lady in the Lake and a jousting event being planned down by the lake.

Director Newbold stated the community does not like it when lake access is closed and recommended Mark add that to his proposal to City Council.

Mark stated he had no problem allowing access to the lake as long as they stayed to the banks and not in the main area.

Mr. Cornwell added that the lake is a watershed for the City and did not want to risk any type of contamination. Mark stated that the Lady in the Lake was the only activity planned for in the lake.

Mark said he did receive a letter of support from the Chamber of Commerce that was written by Rhonda. Commissioner Winbourn asked if Mark could get him a copy of the letter.

He plans to shuttle people from town, maybe use the High School parking lot and shuttle people up to the event.

Commissioner Williams made the motion that the Commission recommend to City Council to allow the event in Bucks Skinner Park. It was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Glassburn state she would write a letter to City Council recommending the event be allowed at Bucks Skinner Park and that concerns regarding fire danger, having a water truck available, the lady in the lake and dust control on the road still need to be worked out with the City.

Monument Park

Commissioner Winbourn distributed copies of maps (on file) of proposed park improvements. Commissioner Winbourn felt it was a doable project with the intent just to clean the area up and not put a lot of money into it. The biggest issue is the retaining wall is falling apart.

Commissioner Winbourn reviewed cost figures (on file) for graveling the main portion of the park. If we wanted two different colors of rock we would need to refigure the cost.

A lot of the park is cosmetic with the exception of the east end retaining wall where the monument is. The trees and the roots are actually pushing the Railroad ties out and the soil is degrading. The three aspens are sick and dying and need to come out.

Commissioner Winbourn would like to remove the trees, lower the whole area by 1/2, utilize boulders from the golf course, add soil and replant trees. The statue will remain where it is.

Add perennials that are low water and easy to maintain. He was concerned how people will react to removing trees from the Park.

Commissioner Patricca felt that if we made it clear to the public that the Aspens are dying and our intention is to replace them with something else this issue would be less of a problem.

Director Newbold did research history of the park and could not find anything on the history of the trees.

Mr. Cornwell added we should have a public meeting. He remembers most of those trees were donated and there should be plaques up there. Commissioner Patricca thought he saw plaques on most of the tree with the exception of the aspens.

Commissioner Glassburn stated that bottom line is a safety issue.

Commissioner Winbourn stated that with the cost of materials and using donated labor he estimated it would cost around \$6,000 for the main portion of the park. This does not include the elevated area. A 20 year guaranteed weed barrier would be put down in the main portion of the park then covered with gravel.

The west end of the park near the kiosk will be dressed up a little. Maybe add a hose bib for water and consider adding a drip line now for a future drip system.

At the east end of the park Commissioner Winbourn recommended planting deciduous trees like birch or maples or fir trees like an Austrian Pine.

Commissioner Glassburn stated that there is still more work to do on this and if the Commission wanted to continue she would write up a public participation plan to bring before City Council.

Commissioner Williams recommended lowering the east end area by half leaving a higher elevation on the wall and planting local vegetation, lower the statue down to ground level because people like to stand next to it and take pictures.

Commissioner Patricca thought if there was a walkway that went up to the statue for safety. A ramp not steps for ADA compliance, then surrounding the statue with the various dedication plaques.

Commissioner Rodriquez made the motion to make two distinctive proposals to City Council for approval on continuing planning on the reconstruction of Monument Park with a public participation plan and cost figures for:

- 1) **Main Park Area**
- 2) **The raised east end of the Park.**

It was seconded by Commissioner Patricca and unanimously approved.

Mr. Cornwell stated that he has discussed with Commissioner Winbourn on removing the large trees at the east end and replacing them with something else. Eventually the trees will have to come out. If we do remove them we can immediately reduce the grade and make the area more public friendly. We (the City) are currently working with APS to add a light pole on north side of the park. We would like to remove two electric poles and the flag pole on the east end and build electrical boxes to eliminate overhead wires.

Commissioner Winbourn added that all the electrical that was run 9 or 10 years ago on the north side of the park is what is used for Christmas lights down there. When we re-do the park we don't have to do any changes to that electrical.

Mr. Cornwell added that maybe more outdoor furniture like picnic table be added to the budget.

Commissioner Williams stated she had a student at school that wanted to make a table and donate it.

Any donations from the Kaibab Lake renovation project were also mentioned as well as Commissioner Glassburn offering the concrete tables from Glassburn Park.

It was recommended that once ready for public participation meetings that it be held at the Park and have a BBQ.

Cataract Park;

Mr. Cornwell gave a brief update on Cataract Park. He presented to the Commission an aerial map outlining the lots and who owns them to the Commission (on file). The City may be putting in a trail path around the lake. All the trees will be preserved. The Main Road into the Park is on Forest Service Property. We (the city) do have access to Country club Rd.

Director Newbold asked if the Forest Service had an agreement with the County for access and he replied he didn't think so.

Mr. Cornwell went on to say that the City would like to purchase the County Owned piece for placement of an additional Fire Dept. or Nature Center.

Sam Stoneman is the only private property owner out there. We could work around his property if we had to.

Commissioner Glassburn reminded the Commission that there is a meeting scheduled for April 8th between the City, the County and the Forest Service to discuss the land issues at the Park at City Hall.

The Sherriff office confirmed that the inmates will be in Williams for an entire week next week and we can use them to clean up Cataract lake Park in preparation for camping out there this summer.

Aquatic Center:

Mike Dulay reported he had made his proposal to City council last week asking to extend the swim season from August to September. The anticipated cost of the extension is \$7300. The Friends of the Aquatic Center could donate their \$5,000 and in addition to the Williams

Community Fund Grant they are hoping to get would leave around \$800 that he asked the city to sponsor.

Monies raised by the Friends of the Aquatic Center from now on will go towards the 2012 season.

Director Newbold stated that they have worked very hard on staffing to get the cost of the extension down. Because this being an extension and we don't have to deal with start up or shut down costs nor are we offering lessons during this extension which cuts back on staffing costs so we got the cost down for the additional month.

Mike stated his presentation was during the public participation portion of city Council so no decision was rendered. Director Newbold stated that feedback from City Hall was very positive.

A gas heater was discovered on the Pool Pak system. We don't believe it has run for the last few years but the equipment is there. It should cost around \$2000 to heat the pool in lieu of \$5000 when we get it running. There are three different gas heater companies and Mike is looking into.

Director Newbold reported that the pool is up to 73 degrees and the broken pipe has been fixed!

The Pool Pak unit can be run remotely from a laptop or computer. All the electronics are there it's just not hooked up. There is a company in Phoenix that actually knows something about the Pool Pak system but they charge \$700 to \$800 to come out and do an analysis in the system. Director Newbold stated that if she has to hibernate the building again she can't have humidity issues like last year. Pool Pak is a heating, dehumidifying, air conditioning unit that cost about \$250,000.

Skate Park.

Director Newbold reported that there is \$1500 in the account. She received a \$100 check from Rotary and she is expecting another \$100 from a personal donation. Commissioner Glassburn thought the check from Rotary was supposed to be for \$300. Mr. D'Arpa will check with Rotary at the next meeting. This will mean that we need \$1000 from the City in lieu of \$500. Commissioner Glassburn did receive confirmation from Joe Duffy at the City for \$500.

The Sportsman club plans to hold a "Ham Shoot" April 16th at the shooting rand and all the proceeds will be donated for skate Park improvements

Commissioner Glassburn felt that we had enough to move forward.

Mr. D'Arpa has ordered samples of the Russian Birch and the paint. He felt it important to look at it before we place the order. Delivery will go to the GCR warehouse for storage so it can be stored inside. Once we get a date to put this in motion we will let everyone know.

Recreation Park Master Plan:

Commissioner Glassburn stated that there is a master plan in place and we will eventually get this done. We need to take it piece by piece.

Cataract Lake Park:

Mr. Cornwell did a review of this earlier in the meeting. Again a closed work session will be held April 8th at City Hall between the City and County.

The last county meeting Commissioner Glassburn attended the budget for improvements were 1,700,000. Our next county P&R meeting is next week and I don't know where the budget will be at the point.

Director Newbold believes that a letter was sent to Matt Ryan by the city directing the County to work with the Parks and Rec Commission on Cataract Park. We have not received confirmation on that back from the County yet.

Sportsman Club:

No report

Director Newbolds report:

(on file) Director Newbold reported that March was busy and April will be even busier. Today there is a fundraiser at Pizza Hut for the Food Bank. 20% of your purchase will go to them.

The WAAG Clinic is tomorrow as well as the Ducky Egg Race. Opry Night is the 8th, Yes I can is the 10th, April 16th there are three events as well as High School Prom. April 21-24 is the Carnival, April 23rd is the Egg Hunt, the 29th is the Harlem Ambassadors basketball show and the 30th is Clean up day.

Beginning plans for Sumer Rec Program.

The Santa Fe Dam signs are in!

Completed an inspection of Bucks Skinner Park and we will be opening it April 8th.

The additional bleacher cover has been ordered for Cowpunchers.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Next meeting set for May 6th at 10am at the Rec Center.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez.

Meeting adjourned 11:31am