

# Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board

**January 6, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held in the first floor conference room of the Town's Annex building on Wednesday, January 6, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Cindy Neely, Chair.

## **Members Present**

Cindy Neely  
Mary Ann Finn  
Gail Stanford  
Jim McIntosh  
Councilor Cynthia Bettison, ex officio member

## **Members Absent**

Elizabeth Baxter  
Alex Brown, ex officio member

## **Town Staff Present**

Luan Mitchell

## **Members of the Public Present**

None

## **Approval of November 4, 2009, Minutes**

Ms. Stanford moved to approve the minutes as written; Mr. McIntosh seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve.

## **Announcements**

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be Wednesday, February 10, 2010, at 5:30 pm.

## **Public Input**

## **Member Reports**

Ms. Stanford reported that she had been sick and had not gotten things done that she had planned to do.

Councilor Bettison said everyone on the council is waiting to see what the state legislature will do about the hold harmless provision and the food tax. Depending on their actions, the Town may not receive as much money as was previously anticipated, making even more budget constraints necessary.

Ms. Finn had several handouts for the board including hints for ATV riders, an article on safer outdoor playsets, and the first of four flyers provided by the Grant County Community Health Council, HMS and the New Mexico Department of Health regarding the "5210" health initiative for 2010.

Mr. McIntosh will be overseeing the Aldo Leopold High School students who will be working on the state's wetland restoration project.

Ms. Neely met with Alex Brown on November 24<sup>th</sup> and gave him the board's letter recommending the mural proposed by Cecilia Stanford for Penny Park. He suggested going through the approval process so that when money is available, the project can go ahead. Mr. McIntosh asked if any of the money raised by citizens for repair of Penny Park could be used for the mural. He suggested it may not be enough, but it would probably be easy to raise the remaining amount needed. Ms. Neely said the Town is still negotiating with the insurance company regarding payout for the fire damage to Penny Park.

Ms. Neely also reported that David Menzies' grant for the wetlands restoration project includes a fence that will surround at least part of the area where the ATV riders cause damage. She said part of the wetlands project may include placing methane meters on private land. She thought that when talking with property owners about the methane gas monitors would be a good time to also talk with them about maintaining the fences. Mr. Brown told her that although there currently is no money for such things as repairing the tennis courts, the he would like to see a list of worthy projects for when there is more money available. He also mentioned his hope to build a sports complex some day.

### **Old Business**

Ms. Stanford suggested that if the wetlands restoration project includes fencing and maintenance of the fence, then the area of concern would be taken care of and we wouldn't need to solicit help from neighboring landowners. Ms. Finn suggested maybe trails for ATVs could be established around the fence.

Regarding the priority list of projects, Councilor Bettison suggested looking for other funding sources, perhaps a grant for the top five projects.

Ms. Neely reported that there are still two openings for board members. Mr. McIntosh asked if they had taken another look at previous applicants. It was suggested that someone talk about the Parks & Recreation Board and its need for members on the Morning Show on CATS.

### **New Business**

A procedure for follow up to presentations was discussed. A thank you letter from the chair was agreed on. Mr. McIntosh moved that a letter be drafted to Cecelia Stanford; Ms. Finn second and the vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. McIntosh then moved that Ms. Stanford draft a letter to the disk golf group. Ms. Stanford seconded and it was passed unanimously.

A recreation directory was determined to be a good idea. Alex Brown had suggested partnering with the Grant County Health Council on it. Ms. Stanford will get more copies of the Alamogordo directory, Ms. Finn will be the "point person" and Mr. McIntosh will work on the trails pages.

Worthy projects suggested were the Penny Park mural, repair of the tennis courts and pool.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting include 2010 goals, the directory, worthy projects and more on the follow up procedure.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Neely at 7:05 pm.

*Submitted by Luan Mitchell*

Approved by Cindy Neely, Chair, on \_\_\_\_\_2010

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