

Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board

February 10, 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, February 10, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Cindy Neely, Chair.

Members Present

Cindy Neely
Mary Ann Finn
Gail Stanford
Elizabeth Baxter
Cameron Martin
Jesse Hargrave

Members Absent

Jim McIntosh
Alex Brown, ex officio member
Councilor Cynthia Bettison, ex officio member

Town Staff Present

Luan Mitchell

Members of the Public Present

David Menzies

Approval of January 6, 2010, Minutes

Ms. Neely requested a correction to the Minutes. In her report of her meeting with Alex Brown, it should not read that he suggested going through the approval process for Cecilia Stanford's mural project for Penny Park, but that the idea should be put at the top of the worthy projects list. Ms. Stanford moved to approve the minutes as amended; Ms. Neely seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve.

Announcements

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be Thursday, March 11, 2010, at 5:30 pm. It was questioned whether the board should continue to meet monthly and the consensus was yes at least until the town budget process is completed.

Public Input

David Menzies reported on the YCC and Aldo Leopold students that he is working with on the wetlands restoration project. The first meeting had been a safety talk and orientation. He said they will be working on the restoration project each Friday from 8:45 am to 3:00 pm until May 17th and if any of the Parks and Recreation Board members would like to come to the site to observe, they would be welcome. He is concerned about ATV tracks, erosion control and trash clean up and will work with the Town and the GCEC Outreach Coordinator to help. He said that 6,000 feet, the whole perimeter of the restoration project, will be fenced.

Member Reports

Ms. Finn said the 5-2-1-0 health project posters have been put out around town including at the library, city hall and the county building. She also mentioned that the county commissioners have challenged the town to walk together every Saturday morning. She had some brochures from the visitor's center for use in preparing the recreation directory and said that there is \$12,000 in tourism publication funds being returned to the town from the Chamber of Commerce that could possibly be used for the directory. Ms. Baxter commented that Rachel Kutcher is working on something similar. Ms Stanford

said she told someone in Alamogordo that the board wanted to copy their directory and they will send her two copies.

Ms. Neely met with Alex Brown and gave him the brochure on non-toxic building materials for playground equipment. He told her the NMED had visited the old landfill to test the water and for methane. Methane monitors may need to be installed on private property in the area and when the town approaches landowners regarding those monitors would be a good time to talk with them about helping to monitor the fences and ATV damage.

Regarding Penny Park, Mr. Brown said that if the town uses volunteer labor, the insurers will only pay half the amount they would pay if a contractor is hired. He also said the money raised by donation was specifically for the rebuild and could not be used for the proposed mural. Ms. Stanford suggested that if the town hires a contractor to do the work, maybe donors and townspeople could be asked if they want to use the donation money for the rebuild, the mural or for other projects.

Old Business

Worthy Projects List.

Mr. Brown said to keep working on the worthy projects list to be presented to him and then to the council when there is money available. It was suggested it might also be put on the town's website. Ms. Finn expressed confusion about the role of the board in making recommendations when the town management seems to function independently of the board, such as in the case of starting improvements on the Virginia Street Park..

The worthy project list discussion was tabled until the next meeting when the most effective way to keep the list will also be discussed.

Follow Up Procedure

Ms. Finn moved and Mr. Hargrave seconded a motion that was unanimously approved to accept the following follow-up procedure when an application has been presented to the board.

1. Discussion by the board about the project and vote should be recommended to the council or not
2. Letter to Alex Brown outlining the project and the board's decision
3. Report to town council, if appropriate
3. Follow up letter sent to applicant or presenters

Goals for 2010

The directory and worthy projects list were accepted as goals. It was decided to postpone further discussion until the next meeting after a motion by Mr. Hargraves and a second by Ms. Baxter. The vote was unanimous.

Directory

Members were asked to choose which sections they would like to work on and it was hoped to have the directory done by May. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

The discussion on partnering, fund raising and future projects was postponed until the next meeting.

Ms. Finn asked the two new members to bring their ideas to the meetings.

Adjournment

Mr. Hargrave moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Baxter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Submitted by Luan Mitchell

Approved by Cindy Neely, Chair, on _____2010
