

**Canon City Area Metropolitan  
Recreation and Park District  
575 Ash Street  
Canon City, CO 81212  
(719) 275-1578**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 10, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER** The Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Board Treasurer, Scott Johnson, in the board meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members:

Present:                Scott Johnson  
                              Mike Sallie  
                              Nick Sartori

Staff:                    Kyle Horne        Executive Director  
                              Dawn Green      Finance Director

Attorney:                Dan Slater

Guests:                 None

Board member Scott Johnson made a motion, seconded by board member Mike Sallie to excuse the absence of board members Jim Johnson and Kalem Lenard. Motion carried unanimously, all aye vote.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Mike Sallie to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting on August 13, 2019 as written. Motion carried unanimously, all aye vote.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Board member Scott Johnson made a motion to accept agenda as written, seconded by board member Nick Sartori. Motion carried unanimously, all aye vote.

## **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Board reviewed the monthly financial statements and accounts payable. There was additional discussion about the Black Hills charges for Rouse Park. Kyle has received some information on available rebates for switching to LEDs, but not on current usage rates. Board member Scott Johnson asked if there are options for program scheduling that might reduce the need for the lights. With adult participants having to work, it is difficult to schedule game times too early in the day.

Board member Scott Johnson made a motion, seconded by board member Mike Sallie to approve the financial matters. Motion carried unanimously, all aye vote.

## **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- There were no members of the public present.

## **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- Board member Scott Johnson attended a meeting at the City last week regarding the possible formation of an Urban Renewal Authority (URA). This would have an impact on the Recreation District's tax revenue. In order for the authority to be formed, the area in question must have blight, a third-party survey would have to be completed and the boundaries drawn. The City is looking at areas which might include the river and highway corridors and Main Street. The URA would be funded through tax increment financing. The URA would have to negotiate with the other taxing authorities within the boundary. Each property gets a base taxable value and as property values increase a negotiated portion of that increased tax revenue would fund the URA. The URA would be managed by a 13-member board appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The Authority would last 20 years. Board member Scott Johnson suggested that the board members research Urban Renewal Authorities and tax increment financing to learn more as the City moves forward.

## **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

- The Eagle Scout Project to install perimeter fencing at the Eagle Wing Trailhead parking area has been delayed until September 13-14. The project is short on funding and requested assistance from the Recreation District.

- District staff and teachers and students from Canon City High School recently planted 240 native seedlings and 21 large plants in John Griffin Regional Park to complete the work on the grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Kyle thanked the students for their hard work.
- The District is planning to seek a Great Outdoors Colorado Grant to update the playground at Rouse Park. The equipment is no longer supported by Miracle, the playground's manufacturer, and according to them needs to be removed. A public meeting was held, and District staff attended McKinley Elementary's open house to seek feedback. Additional comments will be sought at Rouse Park during youth football games on Saturday. Miracle is offering a 40% rebate on new equipment that can be used as match. District staff is reaching out to the County, the City, the School District, Newmont Mine and the Canon City Rotary to ask for match funding. District staff time to remove the existing playground and prep the site will serve as in-kind match for the project estimated to cost between \$200,000 and \$250,000. The board will have to approve a resolution in October in support of an application for the grant, which is due October 24<sup>th</sup>. Kyle has recently learned that the County also plans to seek a GOCO grant for improvements at Pathfinder Park.

The board discussed the project, its size, the playground's use and the state of the current equipment. Although it does see periods of inactivity, it does get used by children whose parents are playing sports and it creates a family atmosphere.

- Kyle posted a video on the District's Facebook page today explaining where the District receives its revenue. The board discussed possibly taking future posts outside to keep it fresh and to highlight the District's facilities.
- Kyle and Dawn Green met with the representative from CEBT, the District's health insurance carrier. The medical portion of the coverage will increase 3.5% for next year. Kyle recommended to the board that the plan be renewed for 2020 at the same level of coverage.
- The Special District Association Conference is next week, and Kyle, Dawn and Scott Johnson plan to attend. In October Kyle and Ken Burger will attend the annual Colorado Parks and Recreation Association conference in Vail.

Dan Slater:

- Dan Slater had no report.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A representative from Parker Pools completed an assessment of the pool's mechanical equipment. He stated that the boiler needs to be replaced. The sand filters are 25 years old and close to being rusted out. New filters would cost an estimated \$20,000 each, the boiler between \$30,000 and \$50,000, and the plumbing for them would need to be redone (approx. \$20,000). The pump would need replaced as well. These repairs would have to be done early in the year for the pool to open next summer.

The board discussed the state of the pool, its financial status and the funding it would require to complete the necessary repairs. Board member Scott Johnson would like to review the overall budget for the District to assess the impact. He requested two draft budgets be presented, one that includes the pool and its repairs, and one that does not include operations for the pool. Board members would like to have input from the public prior to making a decision. It should be part of the budget discussion, a public hearing for which is held in November. Attorney Dan Slater stated that if the board was inclined to close the pool, a specific resolution should be on the agenda.

- The next meeting of the REC (Recreation Enhances our Community) committee meeting is September 19<sup>th</sup>. Steve Kaverman of the Fremont Tourism Council has expressed an interest in joining that citizen committee. Deana Swetlik of the City of Canon City will not be available until September 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss next steps in the process.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- District staff is gathering information for the 2020 draft budget. Executive Director Kyle Horne asked the board to provide input on goals and facility improvements for next year. Board member Scott Johnson requested that the District look at options to remove the invasive species in John Griffin Regional Park, not just the Russian olive, but plants such as the kochia weed by perhaps partnering with the extension office. There was discussion on improving Arkansas Riverwalk Trail access-connecting the trail to Reynolds Ave. and 9<sup>th</sup> Street access during highwater. Other items include creation of a pump track, installing a public shower/restroom, improving security at District properties, switching to LED lights at District facilities, replacing tables and chairs and improving the acoustics in the community room. The program staff suggested the replacement of the sign out front with a digital one. The board discussed this last item and issues raised included its effectiveness in generating public interest and revenue for programs, the brightness of the sign and how it might affect wildlife and neighbors, and the need to comply with the County's sign ordinance.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Board Treasurer Scott Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved as written or amended:

  
Dawn Green, Finance Director

  
Meeting Chair