

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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 8, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER** The Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Nick Sartori in the board meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members:

Present: Nick Sartori  
Melissa Smeins  
Andrew Palmasano

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director  
Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Larry Morse  
Members of the Fremont County RC Club  
Brett James

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Melissa Smeins to accept the consent agenda as written on the August 8, 2023 regular meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- Larry Morse of the Fremont County RC Club (chartered in 1978) addressed the board regarding a proposal to use part of the land under agricultural lease at Pathfinder Regional Park to create a runway and park as a base for their remote-controlled flying club. They were flying at Fremont County Airport but due to new FAA regulations they had to

move. They moved to Shadow Hills Golf Club, but that has recently sold, and they are looking for a new home for their club. Club members understand the rules and regulations and they want to help educate people in Fremont County about flying these devices. He went over their proposal, copies of which were included in the board packets, and asked that the board consider it when the lease expires. The location they are requesting is approximately 3 acres of the southern portion of the land currently leased to Mr. Joe Lippis. They would construct a runway, and add signage, a parking area, flight stands and safety fencing. In their proposal, they included making a payment of four and half percent of the lease value to Mr. Lippis. Kyle spoke to Mr. Lippis about the proposal, and he declined. Mr. Morse stated that the club is “in it for the long haul” and asked the board to revisit their proposal after the lease expires. Kyle stated the lease expires in February of 2025. Attorney Dan Slater spoke about potential issues regarding the matter: how it fits into the lease process for the land and into the master plan for the park, the impact on the avigation easement with Fremont County, and the proximity to the Department of Corrections facility. Kyle approached Commissioner Dwayne McFall to look at another potential area on the County side of Pathfinder Regional Park. Board Member Nick Sartori said the board would continue to have it on their radar.

## **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- Board member Melissa Smeins stated that she has talked to a lot of people about the pool. Board member Andy Palmasano said some people have asked about redoing the pool in stages and Board member Nick Sartori stated he has heard positive feedback about the sales tax funding option. He also relayed compliments about the track meet.

## **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

- The School District has modified their facility fee schedule. The indoor facility charge is changing from \$5 an hour to \$10 starting with the school year. As Recreation District staff clean the facilities used, the School District is waiving the custodial fees. The School District is looking at cost recovery, as the Recreation District needs to, therefore the programs staff are raising rates on indoor programs. Board members were presented with a rate sheet with the changes for Adult Indoor Volleyball and Soccer, Youth Basketball, Youth Volleyball and Open Gym. Kids Klub fees are also increasing, and those rates are listed in Jaimee Southern’s report. Parents were notified of the change and no complaints were received.
- Dawn Green completed a GOCO grant application to have the Mile High Youth Corps construct the connector trail in the South Canon Trails area. Grants are awarded in December. Kyle has informed the Whitney family of the grant application.
- Kyle stated that this Saturday will be a busy time at Recreation District facilities. There is an archery shoot to raise money for the range, a fishing derby as part of Outdoorsman Days at the Pathfinder Park Pond, the youth football league clinic and a high school capstone project- a softball clinic- at Rouse Park.

- Kyle referenced Tawny McCall's report regarding the Adult Outdoor Soccer League and the difficulty in finding officials due to player conduct. Team managers were notified of one option offered- reduce the fee and have the team managers designate a volunteer official. There has been no reply and the league may not happen.

Dan Slater:

- Dan Slater had no report.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Copies of the Request for Proposals for a pool feasibility study were included in the board packets. There is a pre-proposal meeting at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow for interested firms. Kyle was notified by BRS that they will not be submitting a proposal as they are too busy, but 24 companies are looking at the request. Kyle is looking for guidance regarding the budget for the project. There is \$2,500 left in the pool study line. However, the Recreation District did plan to subsidize and use CTF dollars for pool operations this year. There was discussion about funding assistance from other agencies. Kyle has spoken to Ryan Stevens about a potential match from the City. The County should be approached as well as the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park. The School District has a question on the ballot to keep mills to fund BEST Grant projects and will not be assisting. Board member Nick Sartori said the pool is "our baby" and we want to have control.

Kyle went over the timeline. Questions are due by noon on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Proposals are due at 5:00 p.m. on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Interviews, should they be needed, will be conducted August 28<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup>. He asked if any board members would like to join the interviews. Both Melissa Smeins and Nick Sartori may have time available.

- The Recreation District can purchase a used Caterpillar Motor Grader from Fremont County. The District has been looking for this piece of equipment for a long time. According to the County the grader has 6,000 hours on the motor after it was overhauled. Brett James drove it and said the blade is tight and it runs well. He also stated that the County did a phenomenal job of maintenance and upkeep on the grader and highly recommends the District purchase the machine.

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Andy Palmasano to buy the grader from the County for \$26,400. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

Mr. James has offered to drive the grader from the County's shop to Pathfinder Park. Mr. Tony Adamic has agreed to train Recreation District staff members Devin Everhart, Jim Fuhr and Matt Parker in how to drive it.

- Due to the Special District Association Conference dates, the regular meeting date for the Recreation Board needs to be changed. Kyle requested the meeting be moved from September 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. The board members present checked their calendars and believed it would work.

- The Board moved into executive session at 8:30 p.m. for legal advice under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b). The session ended at 8:49 p.m. The board then returned to the regular meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Board President, Nick Sartori, adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved as written or amended:

*/s/ Dawn Green*

*/s/ Nick Sartori*

Dawn Green, Finance Director

Nick Sartori, Meeting Chair

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES  
August 8, 2023**

Executive Session was called at 8:30 p.m.

The substance of discussion during executive session was legal advice under C.R.S. section 24-6-402(4)(b) regarding the Pathfinder Park rental house.

The executive session adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Submitted by:

*/s/ Dawn Green*  
Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

*/s/ Nick Sartori*  
Nick Sartori, Chairperson