

RIFLE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES 2008

MONDAY December 8, 2008

RIFLE CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Weiss at 5:32 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	YES	NO
Jim Boone	X	
Rich Carter	X	
Steve Carter	X	
Christy Gray	X	
Mark Lapka	X	
Tom Stuver	X	
Ed Weiss	X	
Mildred Whitt	X	

STAFF PRESENT: Aleks Briedis, Angie Wilkins

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 10TH MEETING: Rich made a motion to approve and accept the minutes of the November 10th meeting. Tom S. 2nd the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote with Steve Carter abstaining due to absence.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

SENIOR CENTER REPORT: Mildred reported to the board that the new shuffleboard table would be delivered on Tuesday and installed soon. Aleks let the board know that it was a 16 foot shuffleboard with a scoreboard. Mark wanted to know if it was a coin operated. Aleks let the board know that it was not.

JOHN SCALZO/WAR MEMORIAL: John did not attend the meeting; however Aleks did give an update. The Veterans would like to install some new features at the War Memorial at Deerfield Park. The plan was brought to the Recreation office and then taken to the Legion. The plans were not 100% yet but could include possible pillars with etchings from local veterans. Tom S. asked if they were using local professional help to design and complete this project. Aleks informed the board that they were using some local help and stated that there would eventually be parking at the memorial. Tom S. had concerns that they only had a local tombstone etching company doing the work. He recommended that there be professional landscaping and doesn't want to approve the project without a design. Mark asked if there needed to be a plan first. Tom S. let the board know that a plan would have to be

submitted first before approval would be given. Rich let Aleks know that he could be contacted to help with his services for the project. Ed wanted to know if John had several sources for funding. Tom S. said that he had discussed the project with Community Newspapers and they favored that sculptures be added to soften the artillery. Ed suggested that the board wait until a final plan was submitted.

CENTENNIAL PARK UPDATE: Plans are continuing to move forward. Aleks let the board know that SGM and Design Concepts would not have anything new until after the holidays. Ed wanted to know if City Council had been kept up to date on the project. Aleks let the board know that Council saw the plans when Design Concepts was here. Ed also wanted to know if there was a committee for the Centennial Park project. Aleks let the board know that there was not a committee but that the board was considered part of a committee.

SHAWN PRIDEMORE/RIFLE MOUNTAIN PARK: Tom W. was contacted regarding Rifle Mountain Park. Shawn would like to see the creek mowed all the way up to the banks. Board discussed such matter and does not support the mowing.

PARKS BUILDING UPDATE: Construction continues and there was a meeting with utilities and the architect with everything going well. The helical piers and grading have taken place and the site is improving. Tom S. asked if a compost site was going to be on site. Aleks let the board know that it possibly could be at the O & M site. Christy wanted to let the board know that she had been hearing complaints about the Parks building being built and not a Recreation Center.

APPRECIATION DINNER: Staff has reserved the Senior Center for January 12th. The hospital has not responded to requests to cater the dinner. Staff had quotes from Rib City Grill and suggests we go with them. Ed suggested that the board go with Rib City Grill for catering with a short meeting at 5:30. Aleks let the board know that the shuffleboard table and pool table would be available for use at the dinner.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for December 29th. With the meeting falling during the holidays, staff would like to propose cancelling or rescheduling the meeting. Ed asked the board if there were any objections to cancelling the meeting. Board had no objections. The next meeting will be January 12th before the Appreciation dinner.

OTHER: Christy commented on how well the Roundabouts looked with the Christmas lighting. Aleks let the board know that the REDC would like a meeting with PRAB on January 26th to update them on the Health and Wellness Center. He also let the board know that Betsy Rice will be contacting the Community Foundation to ask for funding for the football program. Tom S. asked if the bill had been paid for the Recreation fees. Aleks let the board know that the fees had not yet been paid and will be extending credit to them until next year when the funding should be in. Jim wanted to know if school employees could ask for assistance with the Community Foundation. Tom S. informed the board that they could but it is City Funding and schools usually get district wide funding. Ed commented that Jonathan Rice opposed the fees during the City Council meeting, but understood why there was a need for them. Jim asked about the decline in youth participation in programs and if it could possibly be because of fees. He also wanted to know if the baseball program had enough participation to make enough teams. Aleks let the board know that there is typically not enough participation for the older

groups. This could be because those ages are working during the season. Ed commented that with the wide range of activities for kids to participate in, this may be taking away from traditional sports. Rich suggested that there be a pilot sport or activity that would be free and see how attendance numbers change. Christy suggested that a soccer camp be brought in. Aleks let the board know that there is a soccer camp that is held in New Castle every year. Jim was wondering if there was a nationwide study showing the effects of children with the decrease in recess time and extracurricular activities. Mark wanted to know if the upcoming 3 on 3 tournament could be the activity that was free of charge. Aleks let the board know that registration has already taken place so that would not be possible. Mark also wanted to know about the new members and when they would be meeting with Council. Ed let the board know that he will be submitting an application to be a board member next year but would suggest someone else being the Chairman.

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ed Weiss at 6:22 p.m.