

# RIFLE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES 2009

MONDAY June 8, 2009

RIFLE CITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT	YES	NO
Jim Boone	X	
Chris Coffelt	X	
Christi Gray		X
Mark Lapka	X	
Ryan Mackley		X
Tom Stuver		X
Ed Weiss	X	
Mildred Whitt	X	

**STAFF PRESENT:** Aleks Briedis, Tom Whitmore, Angie Wilkins

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> MEETING:** Mark made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ed asked for an amendment to be made to the sentence regarding sales tax totals. Jim 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING:** The motion was deferred to accept and approve the minutes of the May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting due to not having a quorum that was present for said meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None.

**SENIOR CENTER REPORT:** Mildred had nothing new to report. Jim asked if Mildred had a summer schedule. Mildred let the board know that there is not a set summer schedule. Mark wanted to know if the bus would be picking up seniors for the Farmer's Market this year. Aleks let the board know that the bus would not be picking up the seniors, due to the lack of interest.

**CENTENNIAL PARK UPDATE:** We received 14 submittals for Request for Qualifications and have qualified 8 of those for bidding. Bids will go out June 5<sup>th</sup> and are due back to us on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Ed wanted to know what the qualifications were for submittals. Aleks let the board know that they were the same qualifications as for the Parks Maintenance Building. He also stated that financials, similar projects, photos, safety rating, local vendor use, and budget and scheduling software used were requested. There will be pre-bid meeting this coming Friday. Ed wanted to know if the applicants were out of the area. Aleks let the board know that 3.5 locals were chosen from Carbondale, Glenwood, Rifle and Gypsum. Jim wanted to know if there was a surprise with only having 14 applicants. Aleks was very pleased with the number of applicants. Ed wanted to know the timing of the project. Aleks let the board know that the requests are due back July 6<sup>th</sup> and hopes to have Council award a bid on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Mark wanted to know if there were deadlines when there are grants being used. Aleks let the board know that there were deadlines for grant money being used but as long as progress has been made, the grant would not be revoked. He also stated that Xcel Energy will be moving the gas line on Wednesday. Ed wanted to know if the construction would be a conflict with the Middle School and their schedule. Aleks stated that the North end could still

be used by Middle School students and staff. Mark wanted to know about what was being done regarding the floods that take place in this area. Aleks let the board know that culverts and span bridges will be in place as well as stabilizing the banks. Tom W. stated that studies have been done regarding the flooding. Jim wanted to know if there was a lot of extra money that had to be put into project for these studies. Tom W. let the board know that yes there was money put into these studies. Mark wanted to know if it was going to change the flood flow. Tom W. let the board know that it would not change the flood flow.

**PARKS MAINTENANCE FACILITY UPDATE:** Tom W. let the board know that the slabs have been poured for the shop and rails on the mezzanine and stairwells have been installed. The shop roof is sealed in as well as retaining walls being complete and bollards installed behind the shop. Paving will hopefully be done by the end of July. Jim wanted to know what the odds were that the original bids could be lower with the economy. Tom W. stated that the contractor waited for the prices to go down. Jim wanted to know if the price of concrete had gone down. Tom W. stated that the price had not gone down.

**PARKS DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** Work on the raw water line is continuing, but there were delays due to issues with “The Farm” and damaged pipes not allowing adequate water flow to the cemetery. This week the line should be going under the street. Jim wanted to know who did the trenching at Macintosh Park because they hit a telephone line that shut off his service. Tom W. let the board know that Dago Underground did the work but that there was documentation that was obtained stating that the locates had been done, making it not the fault of the irrigation company. Moki playground is being worked on with timbers and wood chips still needing to be replaced when dirt work is

complete. Crews are working on ball fields, roundabouts, cemetery, and general park maintenance. Ed wanted to know if the Parks Department was fully staffed. Tom W. let the board know that the department is fully staffed; however the inmate crews are dwindling. Jim wanted to know who took care of the graffiti at the Rest Area. Tom W. let the board know that the Parks Department only took care of trash at the boat ramp.

**BUDGET UPDATE:** Budget could be down as much as 20% with the Park & Recreation Budget taking a possible hit of \$540,000. Ed wanted to know if there was money budgeted for park projects. Aleks let the board know that there was money allotted for park projects. Mark was concerned that other departments would come to the Parks and Recreation for loans to sustain their budgets. Aleks let the board know that there should be no asking of loans from other departments. Chris wanted to know if the sales tax funded the entire budget for Parks and Recreation. Aleks let the board know that the sales tax did support the budget. Jim wanted to know if the City would start asking employees to take furlough days, and stated that it would hurt hourly employees more than salary employees. Aleks stated that the City has not asked employees to do that yet. Jim also wanted to know if the lodging tax was helping. Ed stated that the hotels aren't doing as well as expected so the lodging tax is not contributing well to the economy. Aleks made a suggestion to the board to cut meetings for PRAB once a month to cut down on costs. Ed commented that there was a difference in the last 2 to 3 years with more projects and decisions that were needed to be made. It would be easier now with not as much going on to meet once a month. Mark wanted to know if the meetings would be at the first of the month or the last of the month. Aleks said that the board would

just pick the date they would like to go with, and in between meetings he would send out memos to PRAB members with any updates. Mark suggested monthly meetings until next budget review and then back to 2 meetings a month until next budget meeting. The board decided to make decisions on this matter when more members were present. Ed wanted to know if the bids had to be brought back to the PRAB members for review. Aleks let the board know that they would not have to review the bids, so there could be a cancellation of the July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**POOL UPDATE:** The pool opened on Memorial Day. Lessons have started and the partitions and lockers have been installed in the locker rooms. There have been many positive comments about the improvements. Business at the pool has not been as good as anticipated with the weather issues we have been having lately. Jim commented that he heard positive things about the pool. He also wanted to know about putting a sign up for advertising for Family Night. Aleks let the board know that the Building Department would not allow a sign to be put up, but that he could put an ad in Rec Roundup as well as channel 10. He stated that there were problems with the Building Department and the boilers at the pool. Mark wanted to know if there was money budgeted to replace the 2<sup>nd</sup> sand filter at the pool. Aleks let the board know that there was not additional money budgeted for that and the existing sand filter was still operational.

**ACACIA PARKING:** With T-Ball season upon us, Spevere Field is being used extensively. Participants received parking tickets this past week for parking in the bottleneck of the parking lot entrance. No one was parked on Acacia but they would have if parking was allowed. Staff has

been asked to bring this issue to PRAB. Jim wanted an explanation of where people were getting tickets. Tom W. drew a diagram of the area where this was taking place. Mark commented that this issue was not a concern of PRAB if people were parking in a no parking zone. He commented that there is a large parking lot to be used by participants. Ed agreed that there is sufficient parking for participants in the parking lot. The board consensus was to not act on this matter.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2009.

**OTHER:** Aleks let the board know that a resident from Pioneer Mesa contacted him regarding maintenance. Ed stated that all maintenance for Pioneer Mesa is the responsibility of the HOA and not Parks and Recreation. Chris commented that the Hershey Track meet held on Saturday went very well. Aleks commented that the School District did not show up to unlock the restroom facilities or the rooms for power. Mark wanted to know if there were going to be fireworks this year. Aleks stated that he hadn't heard if the Fire Department was putting on a show this year or not. Mark also wanted to know what was going on with the islands located on the river, if the City had done anything about acquiring them. Aleks stated that nothing had been done yet. Jim commented that he and his family had been at Metro Park over the weekend and noticed how unappealing the BMX track was with the Skate Park appearance. He suggested that there needed to be a better transition for this area. He also asked if there had been any progress with the Disc Golf Course. He stated that New Castle had one next to the river. Aleks commented that there is not a good location at this point that is ready for a course. Ed wanted to know when Farmer's Market was scheduled to start. Aleks let the board know that it would be on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Ed stated that Metro Park was a good location for it

this year. Mark wanted to know if there were only the vendors that participated last year. Aleks let the board know that there are more vendors than last year and any vendor is welcome.

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ed Weiss at 7:12 p.m.