

RIFLE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

MONDAY AUGUST 23, 2010

PARKS MAINTENANCE FACILITY

MEMBERS PRESENT:	YES	NO
Jim Boone		X
Chris Coffelt	X	
Betty Fitzgibbons		X
Christi Gray		X
Ryan Mackley	X	
Tom Stuver	X	
Ed Weiss	X	

STAFF PRESENT: Aleks Briedis, Tom Whitmore, Angie Wilkins

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 28TH MEETING: Ryan made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the June 28th meeting with an amendment being made with Ryan in attendance at said meeting and not absent. Chris 2nd the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

SENIOR CENTER REPORT: Nothing new to report.

DEERFIELD COMPLETION PLAN: Design Concepts gave a presentation of the final plan.

BOAT RAMP PRESENTATION: Members of the Visitors Improvement Fund gave a presentation on the proposal for a new boat ramp.

CENTENNIAL PARK UPDATE: The project will be substantially complete at the end of August. Final punch list walk through is scheduled for September 8th with the

Grand Opening being scheduled for September 25th. Sandblasting won't be done and the light poles were delivered late. Tom S. wanted to know if the sidewalk would be replaced at Pioneer. Aleks let the board know that it would be replaced. Tom S. also wanted to know if the South East corner with the Siberian Elms would be cleaned up. Tom W. let the board know that he would check into getting the O&M department to help with that project. Ed wanted to know how the opening of the park was being promoted. Aleks stated that ads were in all the local newspapers as well as a spot on the radio and flyers were going out with it also being on channel 10. Ryan wanted to know if the cleanup had taken place from the flood damage. Tom W. stated that it had all been cleaned up. Aleks stated that there was no structural damage. Ed wanted to know if the trail was open yet. Aleks let the board know that it was not yet open.

GRANT UPDATE: Staff is currently working on 2 GOCO grants, one for Deerfield Park and the other for the Rifle Creek Trail. Currently just the one for Deerfield is being worked on because the trail was not enough and Deerfield is going to be more expensive. The GOCO grants are higher this time and they are looking more at enhancing existing Parks rather than building new ones. It is due by Friday. Tom S. wanted to know if the funding from the school district was tied to the concession stand. Aleks stated that it was. Tom S. made a motion for the board to write a letter in support of the grant. Ryan 2nd the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

BUDGET 2011: Staff budgets are due to the budget committee on September 3rd and will be presented to council on October 6th.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Financial statements ending June are included in the packet. Currently we are below on expenditures and sales taxes are 7% down for the first 6 months. June had an increase compared to last June and is starting to level out and we are within budget.

2010 STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW: We will review the 2010 Strategic Planning for next week's meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday August 30 at GRHD. All Parks and Recreation staff will be in attendance.

OTHER: Aleks let the board know that Jenn Diven, Special Events Coordinator left the department at the end of July and he hired Blair from the chamber and she is currently working 20 hours a week. Aleks said he will keep her on until he conducts interviews. Ed wanted to know if it would be a full time position. Aleks stated that it would be a full time position.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Ed Weiss.

VISITOR IMPROVEMENT FUND

City of Rifle
202 Railroad Ave
Rifle, Colorado 81650

August 23, 2010

Parks & Recreation Board
City of Rifle
Rifle, CO 81650

Dear Board,

The Visitor Improvement Fund (VIF) Board was appointed two years ago by City Council with the task of dispersing funds for:

- Visitor Improvement and Attractions
- Historic Preservation
- City Beautification Projects
- City Promotion
- Special Events and Projects

With these ideas in mind, the **Rifle Boat Ramp** was one of the projects that came to the forefront that fits various aspects of our tasks. The Colorado River is the most under used natural resource we have – right outside our door.

The original site along Hwy 13, heading south as you turn into the Rifle Rest Area and Information Area has become an eye sore, complete with overflowing trash bins and commuter parking lot. It has also become difficult to maneuver onto the existing ramp due to changing river flows to the north above the 'new' bridge, making it challenging to go around the bridge pylons to reach the ramp.

Several members of the VIF Board and City Staff met with CDOT Staff to discuss the feasibility of relocating the Boat Ramp. After several site plans were presented, the present site was chosen. One major concern was to separate recreational traffic from existing truck traffic. This plan accomplishes that. The area contains mature cottonwoods creating lots of shade and contains natural vegetation indigenous to the Colorado River corridor.

As the site is owned by CDOT, a ROW Lease Agreement will need to be written, with prior clearances required such as 'Cultural Resource Evaluation' (Archeo, Paleo, and History), Threatened and Endangered Species Study and Wetlands Determination. Permits would include a 404 Permit with Army Corps of Engineers, and a NPDES Storm Water Permit.

CDOT staff reports the FHWA is in support of the project thus far, however increased bathrooms and drinking fountains may need to be addressed or phased into the project.

The VIF Board is asking for your support on this project. This may take several years to accomplish, but we need to start the process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Visitor Improvement Fund Board of Directors

Scott Becker, Chairman
Helen Rogers, Vice-Chair
Jim Voorheis, Secretary
Gil Frontella
Michael Langhorne
Trent Pierson
John Savage
Ryan Mackley