

**City of Alamosa**  
**Recreation Advisory Board**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
6/13/2017  
**11:30am**

**I. Roll Call**

Present: Heather Brooks, Jon Brownell, Kristina Daniel, Josef Lucero, David Mize, Mark Pittman. Staff: Heinz Bergann, Jes Jolly, Andy Rice. Absent: Paul Duarte.

**II. Agenda Approval**

David moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mark; vote was unanimous.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Andy noted that the numbers for the MP Pavilion and Parks Building were transposed in the April Minutes. David moved to approve the minutes from April, minus the verbiage from that section, Kristina seconded; vote was unanimous.

**IV. Public Comment (none)**

**V. Presentations (none)**

**VI. Programs/Items**

**a. Joe Atencio Memorial Plaque at Lee Fields**

Jordan McIlveen wrote a request to have a plaque for Joe Atencio at Cole Park. She prefers Lee Fields, but typically memorial plaques are at parks near trees, on benches, or in dugouts. She is asking for an 18" plate, which is bigger than the 4"x8" plaque that is usually used. David asked if she wanted it on a certain field or on the main walkway. Andy noted that he would've played on Lee 4, for leisure games. Jon liked that the location on the walkway which allows for more space if any other people wanted to add plaques. Josef asked what the criteria was for memorial plaques and Andy disclosed that they must be submitted in writing, be a current or past Alamosa residents, it must be approved by the rec board, and be 4"x8". The board agreed to make the exception for this plaque and place it on the walk way at Lee Fields. David moved to accept the proposed plaque at Lee Fields, seconded by Mark; vote was unanimous.

**VII. Policy Discussion (none)**

**VIII. Staff Report/Announcements**

**a. Activity/Program Updates**

Jes went over the spring soccer season, emphasizing the 22 U6 teams (11 of ours, 11 Conejos). She considered changing the fall season to include a U7 team, for more advanced 6 year olds. Summer baseball and softball participation rose 5.6% from last year with a total of 264 kids. Girls Bronco has 2 teams (+ club team) and Girls Pony has 1 large team that plays with MV and Center. The club team

was able to play with our team in exchange for field time at OMS for Boys Pony games.

Basketball Fundamentals has a slight decrease from last year. The practices focus on player skill development; there are no formal teams or games. The Toddler to Preschool Sports Program has slowly waned with the weather changes, but the hope is to create a more formal/instructional program with an instructor later in the year.

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife will be working with us to do this year's Youth Fishing Day at Blanca Vista Park on June 15<sup>th</sup>. We will also be hosting the Rockies Skills Challenge on the same day at Lee Fields. Josef asked if they stock the fish regularly and Andy revealed that they stocked in mid-May and again for the event.

Adult softball increased by 7 teams this year and the fields were ready with a new scoreboard on Lee 4, new dirt fields, WIFI, field cameras, and motion-activated/solar-powered "night" lights. Heather acknowledged that IT did an exceptional job of setting up the WIFI at Cole Park before Summerfest and WIFI/cameras at Lee Fields before Ride the Rockies.

Josef asked why tackle football was set at such a young age (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade). Jes reported that the rec. center only does registration for the organization that runs the program. They have their own equipment and insurance, however, we still promote flag football in the fall. Heinz disclosed that it was like youth wrestling, where we are just the "middle-man" during registration. Andy reiterated that though it is not our program, we will support them and hopefully our programs will continue to grow. Mark asked what the ages are for flag football and Jes stated that they are for 2<sup>nd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> graders and they partner with the Boys & Girls Club. Andy emphasized that our role is to educate the kids, such as providing 2 weeks of baseball practices before the games begin.

Andy announced that there were over 2,000 people at the Ride the Rockies event over the weekend. Josef shared that he came to welcome the racers and send them off, but when he came early on Sunday morning, they were already leaving. Andy disclosed that 9 countries were represented. Josef shared that the only negative comment that he heard was about the hotel rooms. There was a lack of rooms available and the costs went up. He also heard from people that they had reserved rooms months in advance and when they came, the hotels gave their rooms away. Heather expressed that Jaime did a great job and Josef mentioned that the restaurants could have done a better job advertising their businesses. Mark said that with the Wildfire Academy, Ride the Rockies, All State, and other events this weekend; Adams had empty apartments they could've used.

Summerfest had a lower attendance on Friday because of the weather, Saturday more people came to the park and Sunday was about average. Heather reported

that ArtScape went well and only one sculpture was missing on the artist's end. She suggested changing the date next year, so more people can attend and not compete with the crowd at Summerfest. The annual Rollin Deep Car Show will take place this weekend (June 17-18).

**b. Inspire Grant Update**

GOCO recommended sending in a Tier 2 Application for the Inspire initiative. If the grant is successful, the city will request a walking underpass for the Levy at Hwy 160, a perimeter walking trail at Blanca Vista Park, and improved trails on the Alamosa Ranch and Wilderness area. Andy stated that they wanted us to “narrow your focus” and “come back with your own proposal.” There is also a request for an Outdoor Recreation Specialist and potential internship opportunities. There are 19 communities competing for the Tier 2 grant and we would be contributing \$100,000 toward trail improvements. We would also fund the recreation specialist after 3 years.

Heather thought that partnering with Chris from the Boys & Girls Club could be a big help since he already does the Weekends on the Rio and other big city events. Andy added that they do well getting kids to outdoor events and David like that they have a variety of camps throughout the year. Heather thought it would be good to ask for equipment and shoes for the grant as well.

**c. Archery Range/Disc Golf Extension/Dog Park #2 Update**

Since the archery project has not yet gotten approval from the Scout Master, the city will wait to move forward. Heinz mentioned that the next city council meeting is on July 5<sup>th</sup> and they'll need to hurry or they'll have to wait for the next meeting for approval.

Disc golf has received their new baskets and is moving forward with the installation. Ty Colman, Ken Marquez, ASU Upward Bound, and several other volunteers have begun clearing the range and creating signage. In addition, they have started to pay the 50% they said they would contribute for the baskets. There have been some inquiries about moving the location of the second Dog Park to the south side of Blanca Vista Park, since it would be a shorter distance to walk. Alan, the ranch manager, stated he's ok with either location. Andy noted that they were also planning on expanding the Blanca Vista parking lot and Heinz added that they already have the fencing materials for the park. David liked the location between the golf course and river better than both options at Blanca Vista Park. Jon wasn't too sure about the south side and Heather said they would draw out a map to see the proposed area.

**d. MP Pavilion and Rink/Parks Building Update**

Andy announced that they will move forward with the multipurpose pavilion will the budget of \$2.9M; \$2.5M to Alcon Construction. Heinz stated that he would get with Pat to update the budget and create a diagram for GOCO. Heather

expressed they sort of backed council in a political corner. They will repurpose one of the locker rooms for concessions and include bathrooms and locker rooms. They plan on completing the pavilion by December 31<sup>st</sup>. So far only banks are sponsoring.

Jon asked why there was only one on bid and Heather stated that they originally had two to choose from, but the other is doing the jail. Heinz announced that the price for the Parks Building went down from what was proposed last year. Heather reported they were only waiting on the chiller warranty before it's ordered. Josef asked for schematics or an elevation of some kind, so the community can see it for donations. Heinz added that Pat has a printed plan but he also needed to create a floor plan for GOCO. The Parks Building has \$200,000 in DOLA funding and the offices are being built.

**e. Water Smarts Team**

Andy reported the Water Smarts Team wanted to meet up to focus on minimal water usage, beautification, and budgeted funds. They were concerned about the 6<sup>th</sup> St. gateway, expanding the Carroll Park parking lot, and the old ice rink. They also wanted to minimize hand watering trees and implement an automated sprinkler system.

**f. Golf Course/Fairgrounds Misc.**

There have been some concerns about broken driving range poles at the Golf Course. Andy told the board that he would approach Xcel and see about trading something in order to fix them as soon as possible. Jon asked how many are broken and Andy said there are currently 3, but that could lead to more damage if nothing is done. Heather mentioned their contract ends at the end of this year and they were talking about the city assuming operations. The city will not contribute any money except the \$5,000 that is in the budget.

The Fairgrounds have acquired new bucking chutes and they are trying to install them before the rodeo next week.

**IX. Board Comment**

Andy introduced Jes to the board as the new Community Activities Manager. There are currently 8 candidates for her old position as Recreation Specialist. Josef asked if they could contribute something for under privileged children at the multipurpose pavilion. Andy noted that the NHL program could help, but since it is not capital, they would have to collect tournament revenue. Heather asked about the hockey equipment and Andy said that it is heavily subsidized. They can also apply for hockey scholarships. Kristina recounted an event at Summerfest where an older gentleman fell. The police came over and everyone nearby was friendly and helpful. Andy proposed a meeting in July to go over capital projects and the board agreed on the 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am.

**X. Adjournment**

Jon moved to adjourn; vote was unanimous.

Capital projects meeting: July 18, 2017

Next regularly scheduled meeting: August 8, 2017