

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO  
REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 3, 2009

TIME & PLACE The Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico met in Regular Session in full conformity with the law and ordinances of said Board at the Recreation Department Building, 2800 S. Broadway, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on Tuesday the 3rd of November, 2009 at 6:00 PM.

PRESIDING OFFICER: The meeting was called to order by Greg D'Amour, Chairman, and Ellen Lindsey acted as secretary of the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Upon calling the roll the following members were reported present:

Greg D'Amour, Chairman  
Carole Wheeler, Member  
Julie Durham, Member  
Millie McLeod, Member

Also Present:

Ed Ragsdale, Recreation Director  
Ellen Lindsey, Deputy City Clerk

Absent:

Nola Kent, DWI Coordinator  
Charles Lucero, Vice-Chairman

QUORUM: There being a quorum present the Board proceeded with the business at hand.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Greg D'Amour, Chairman, called for approval of the Agenda.

“Millie McLeod moved to approve the agenda as presented.”

Seconded by Carole Wheeler.  
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Greg D'Amour, Chairman, called for approval of the Minutes of the Regular meeting held Tuesday, October 6, 2009.

“Carole Wheeler moved to approve the minutes as presented.”

Seconded by Julie Durham.  
Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

DWI/YOUTH CENTER UPDATE: Ed Ragsdale stated Nola Kent is out of town and reported the downtown Halloween event was very successful.

Millie McLeod reiterated there were lots of kids in the downtown area for Halloween.

Carole Wheeler stated the Sierra Twirlers, square dance club, uses the Youth Center on Sundays. The youth center is a great building for this. The Sierra Twirlers is holding the state convention in May 2010, expecting 250-300 people from out of town. We have rented the Civic Center and the meal site. On January 16, 2010 we will hold a district benefit dance at the youth center.

PROPOSED  
MISSION  
STATEMENT:

The mission statement was approved at the last meeting. The board requested each member receive a copy of the mission statement and also new members receive the mission statement.

NEEDS  
ASSESSMENT/  
RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT  
UPDATE:

Ed Ragsdale reported an assessment of the swimming pool was performed. There are several items that have to be done before the swimming pool can open next season. None of the items on the list have been changed since the pool was refurbished in 1998.

Swimming Pool

- ACF-60 Cal Hypo feeder (chlorinator)
- Over seal kit for filters
- Replace media for filters
- Replace sand in filters
- Replace grating for drain
- Replace controller (automatic balancer for water)
- Replace vacuum
- Install deck drain (between pool and back house)
- Install dri deck (rubber matting in shower rooms)

The total cost of these repairs is \$23,473.95 dollars. Ed Ragsdale recommended this issue be taken to the City Commission and the funds be taken from the recreation loan.

Ed Ragsdale presented a re-cap of revenue and expenses from the 2009 pool season. Total expenses for wages, utilities, chemicals and uniforms were \$42,391 dollars. Total revenue was \$7,783. The difference is a negative \$35,207 dollars.

Ed Ragsdale presented an estimate for year round operation of the swimming pool. October through May open three (3) days a week eight (8) hours a day and June through September open seven (7) days a week fourteen (14) hours a day. A total expense for wages, utilities and chemicals is estimated at \$129,533 dollars. Total revenue estimate is \$10,400 dollars. The difference is a negative \$119,000 dollars.

Carole Wheeler asked if the swimming pool repairs might change the cost of utilities or chemicals.

Ed Ragsdale responded no. These are mechanical repairs that must be done.

Greg D'Amour reiterated if these repairs were completed there would not be a delay in opening the swimming pool next season.

Ed Ragsdale stated the swimming pool is a priority in the community and funds are available in the recreation loan. The deck drain is the only item that may impact putting a cover on the pool but it can be done last to accommodate whatever cover is chosen.

Julie Durham asked if the estimate for utilities includes costs incurred with the pool cover and heating.

Ed Ragsdale stated there is a heater in the pool but there would be

a cost to heat the inside air temperature of the enclosure which is an unknown. Also, depending on the type of cover it will have to be approved by the Department of Health and Environmental Department.

Greg D'Amour stated Destiny needs to honor the wishes of the City Commission, have access to Purchasing, and the support of the ad hoc committee and RoofUs. We need to get a master presentation on the swimming pool and cover.

Ed Ragsdale requested a presentation of the swimming pool needs be made at the next City Commission meeting regardless of the cover. These repairs must be made to open the swimming pool next season.

Greg D'Amour agreed these repairs must be done but did not see the urgency until we have a complete plan put together.

Ed Ragsdale stated he needed the permission from the City Commission to spend the money; scheduling the repairs can be made anytime before the opening next season. There is \$16,000 dollars set aside for the deck drain and it will not cost that much. I just purchased an \$800 dollar slow release valve to control the flow of the water going into the pool.

Greg D'Amour reiterated it would be our recommendation that the City set aside the money based on quotes to do the required pool repairs that don't impact the pool enclosure but are needed prior to the pool opening.

Greg D'Amour stated he was disappointed there was not more information available from Destiny about the pool cover. The change in the City Manager, lack of follow through from City Administration, there has not been the support for what the City Commission asked. I think we should go to the Commission with the total plan and not one piece at a time.

“Carole Wheeler moved to recommend the City Commission approve the items required to open the pool next season and the funds be taken from the recreation loan.”

Seconded by Millie McLeod and Julie Durham.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Greg D'Amour reiterated there needs to be follow up with Destiny on the pool cover; that she is working with the ad hoc committees.

Ed Ragsdale stated he working on getting the regulations from the Environment Department for enclosed pools.

#### Tennis Courts

Ed Ragsdale stated NCA Architects submitted a proposal for the tennis courts that did not include dirt work, reconstruction or grading for about \$85,000 dollars. I have a second quote with no demolition except the fence; resurface the courts with post-tension for about \$190,000 dollars. A third quote for about \$205,000 dollars includes total renovation; lights, fencing, wind screen, post-tension court, dirt work and grading.

Carole Wheeler gave Ed Ragsdale a quote that was from September 2008 for \$170,000 dollars.

Louis Armijo  
Complex

Ed Ragsdale stated he had three contractors look at the lighting for the main field at Louis Armijo park. All three contractors use the same light system. The quotes ranged from \$186,000 to \$219,000 dollars for a turn-key operation.

Greg D'Amour asked if the contractors considered lighting for a sports complex.

Ed Ragsdale stated this system can be upgraded to include other fields. My recommendation would be the company from Las Cruces who quoted \$186,000 dollars.

Greg D'Amour asked about the cost for lighting the other fields.

Ed Ragsdale stated a second field would cost \$129,000 dollars for the south field. The north field would cost \$178,000 dollars. It is cheaper to do two fields at the same time.

Greg D'Amour reiterated this is another example of needing to put together a total plan to present to the City Commission.

Bleachers

Ed Ragsdale stated the bleachers have been condemned. The City Commission did not want to make a decision on purchasing new bleachers until there is something firm about the pool cover. The quote for nine (9) new bleachers is under \$20,000 dollars.

Carole Wheeler stated the bleachers should not be paid from the recreation loan.

Greg D'Amour stated we need to know how much is in the recreation loan and put together a total package to present to the City Commission. There is not a rush to spend the money.

Ed Ragsdale stated, for the record, we need bleachers, lighting, upgrade playground equipment, and improve existing park facilities such as the bathrooms and gazebo, ADA access into the parks. These are things the majority of citizens in the community will enjoy and benefit from. Spending \$400-500,000 dollars to cover the pool for 20-30 people does not make sense especially when it will cost \$119,000 to run the pool year round. We have 300-400 people in the parks all year round. I think the money in the recreation loan should be spent for the needs of the majority of the community not for a select few.

Greg D'Amour asked Ed Ragsdale to make a list of needs assessment which includes these items to add to the total plan.

CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS:  
Arena  
Soccer

Ed Ragsdale stated NBAHA barrel racing is scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup>. Soccer is going good.

DISCUSSION/  
OTHER  
BUSINESS:

Greg D'Amour asked if the City has received any applications for the vacant position.

Julie Durham and Carole Wheeler asked that Charles Lucero's resignation letter be read.

Ellen Lindsey read the letter and explained there is an advertisement for the vacancy which will run for four (4) weeks.

Greg D'Amour stated at the next meeting we should have a plan

put together which includes the pool cover, tennis courts, lights, needs assessment and money available. We should put out a couple of statements to the public requesting their input.

Millie McLeod asked about the temporary basketball court.

Ed Ragsdale stated he is ready to put up the goals but has not been contacted by the Urbach boys. The courts must be cleaned before they can be used and I will meet them any time.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVAL: PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009, on motion duly made by \_\_\_\_\_, and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, and carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg D'Amour, Chairman