

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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 South Broadway of said City on Tuesday the 15th day of September, 2009 at 6:00 P.M.

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:

Charles Lucero, Vice-Chairman
Nola Kent, DWI Coordinator

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.

“Julie Durham moved to approve the agenda as presented.”

Seconded by Millie McLeod.
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Greg D'Amour, Chairman, called for approval of the Minutes of the Regular meeting held Tuesday, August 4, 2009.

“Carole Wheeler moved to approve the minutes from August 4, 2009 as presented.”

Seconded by Millie McLeod.
Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Sandi Gardner, President of the Bountiful Alliance, spoke about the newly formed Sierra County Health Cooperative.

Copy attached hereto and made a part thereof.

Sandi Gardner explained they want to work cooperatively with the Recreation Board, Recreation Department and community groups. The Sierra County Health Cooperative is seeking a memorandum of understanding with the City for five (5) acres below the Veteran's Home adjacent to where the new Senior Center is proposed.

Wendy Sager Evanson, Coordinator for the Sierra County Health Council, expressed her appreciation of the swimming pool and the efforts for a year round pool.

DWI/YOUTH
CENTER
UPDATE:

None

PROPOSED
MISSION
STATEMENT:

Millie McLeod read the proposed mission statement:

“The volunteers of the Recreation Advisory Board shall open their minds to the needs of the City Recreation and Parks Director and to the citizens and visitors to the City of Truth or Consequences to provide support, offer assistance, evaluate need and make recommendations from its findings to the City of Truth or Consequences City Commissioners for their consideration and action.”

Greg D’Amour and Julie Durham expressed their approval of the mission statement.

“Julie Durham moved to table action on the mission statement to the next meeting in October.”

Seconded by Millie McLeod.

Greg D’Amour suggested moving “citizens and visitors to the City of Truth or Consequences” before the “City Recreation and Parks Director”.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEEDS
ASSESSMENT/
RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
UPDATE:
Swimming Pool
Cover

Destiny Mitchell, Pool Manager, gave a power point presentation regarding a permanent versus temporary pool cover. A survey was conducted. Of the 35 surveys received 18 requested a temporary cover and not a permanent enclosure.

Copy attached hereto and made a part thereof.

Destiny Mitchell explained with the savings of a temporary pool cover the Recreation Department would be able to purchase accessories and make needed renovations to the existing pool facility.

Carole Wheeler informed the Board of two recreation grants that might be available if additional funds were needed in the future. We also need a master plan for recreation.

Greg D’Amour agreed a master plan is needed.

“Millie McLeod moved that the Board present to the City Commission this feedback from the ad hoc committee and the Recreation Board recommendation that the City move forward on a temporary pool cover. The Recreation Board will do some serious planning for improving other portions of recreation and eventually building a new sports complex with an indoor pool.”

Seconded by Julie Durham.
Motion carried unanimously.

Tennis Courts

Greg D’Amour stated there is still a debate between asphalt and post-tension concrete surface for the tennis courts. The community of tennis players is strongly recommending post-tension concrete. There is also

a consideration regarding the water from the community garden.

Ed Ragsdale recommended post-tension concrete surface and if new courts are put up there should be compaction testing.

Greg D'Amour stated the bid received by the City was for asphalt because of the concerns of cracking due to the underground surface; an asphalt surface will not crack.

Louis Armijo
Complex

Ed Ragsdale stated he met with the sub-contractor who will be putting up the lights at the ball field. The "C" field will be completed first, the lights are the worst and this field is used the most. The contractor will send a cost analysis and the City crews will do a lot of the work which will cut costs. These lights come with a twenty-five (25) year maintenance agreement, the bulbs are replaced every five thousand (5,000) hours, and it is a wireless system that can be controlled through internet access. This is computer aimed, green lighting. The energy cost will be one-quarter (1/4) of current cost.

Greg D'Amour suggested the Recreation Department also keep in mind a soccer complex for the future.

CALENDAR OF
EVENTS:
Arena
Softball
Swimming Pool
Soccer

Ed Ragsdale reported there was a barrel racing event last Saturday. Tomorrow night will be the end of softball season. The swimming pool will close sometime between October 2nd and 9th. Soccer starts this Saturday and will run through the end of October.

DISCUSSION/
OTHER
BUSINESS:

Millie McLeod asked about drinking fountains in Ralph Edwards Park and if the Recreation Board could recommend installing drinking fountains.

Ed Ragsdale stated there are no drinking fountains in any city parks. There was one in Ralph Edwards Park that was removed because of vandalism. With security cameras in place drinking fountains could be a possibility in Ralph Edwards Park.

Greg D'Amour advised that Ed Ragsdale could talk to the City Manager about that possibility.

Millie McLeod and Carole Wheeler talked about the possibility of a dog park.

Julie Durham suggested talking to Gina Kelley and the Healing Water Trail or the possibility of the Rotary Park.

Millie McLeod asked why the Farmer's Market is charged \$100 per year and they are not able to park on the grass to load and unload. The Fiesta and National Night Out vendors parked all over the park and they were not charged a fee.

Ed Ragsdale stated he did not set that policy and suggested Millie McLeod should contact the City Manager or City Commissioners regarding this issue.

Millie McLeod explained the current policy is a hardship to the Farmer's Market vendors. Also, the gate is not being unlocked until right at 8:00 am or later on Saturday mornings.

Ed Ragsdale stated he would look into load and unload possibilities for next year and the unlock time for the gate.

Carole Wheeler asked about the status of the buildings on the east side of the pool.

Ed Ragsdale stated the buildings were closed during the last renovation of the pool; they were to be torn down and made into parking.

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