

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, April 18th, 2022 @ 3:30pm

City Council Chambers - 26 N 100 E Kanab, UT 84741

In attendance: Candice Janes, Michael East, Mayor Colten Johnson, Danny Johnson, JR Quarnberg, Chelsea Perkins, Danielle Ramsay, Donnie Riddle, Saunders Clark, Clayton Cutler, Bucky Orton.

A motion was made by Danny Johnson and a 2nd by JR Quarnberg to approve the agenda for the April 18th, 2022 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Danny Johnson and 2nd by JR Quarnberg to approve the minutes from the March 21st, 2022 Parks & Rec Advisory Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

No public comments were made.

Discuss – Mission Statement: Michael spoke about knowing what the board wants to accomplish so he can approach City Council and city management for funding. Lights at the Little League baseball fields are a priority for Mayor Johnson. Kanab City Rec does a good job managing the rec programs but lacks participation in some sporting programs. Michael also mentioned having resources and facilities to make the programs successful. Clayton talked about getting more participation in programs, the result is more money. It's a way to justify the funding needs for the rec programs. Lights at the baseball fields gives the opportunity to host more tournaments. Michael also spoke about field availability being another issue baseball faces. Danny asked what programs are seeing low participation. Michael stated that baseball did in the beginning of registration, but once teams were selected, more players were added which created a lot more work for the rec department. Saunders talked about creating flyers and posting on social media and the different groups on Facebook.

Discuss – Current programming and facilities in the Parks & Rec Departments: Clayton spoke about other communities having an athletic director in their middle schools to facilitate their sports programs. Once players are in 6th grade, they should know more about the sport. Bucky talked about how we make a program for the kids that are accelerated once they are in 6th grade. How do we get baseball on track? The lack of facilities is a challenge. Bucky talked about less interested kids having the same advantage as the more interested/accelerated kids. How can we make that fair? Mayor Johnson said volunteers might be more willing to coach if they had the support that all kids don't get the same amount of playing time. We need to set guidelines when parents sign their kids up letting them know about playing time and expectations.

Since Danielle has been a Rec Director programs have been condensed. The board likes it that way because the more accelerated kids can go on and play in other leagues that are more

competitive. Candice asked about all star teams. JR said everyone is doing it a different way but it is being done. Tournaments are happening earlier which makes it harder because teams have to be formed earlier in the season.

Michael suggested we have all star teams again and that they are supported by City Recreation. We need to figure out how to get parents back supporting City League Baseball. Michael suggested we talk to parents and ask them give us one season where we can make it better for all kids – a hard reset. Danny said it needs to start at the younger levels.

Danielle suggested we add to our mission statement that our focus is the youth. A lot of what was talked about suggested fits better with Kanab City Rec's Policies and Procedures. Our mission statement should include giving our youth a quality experience.

JR talked about facilities needing to be a priority. Saunders asked about the current elementary school and what the plans are for that facility.

Candice suggested for the mission statement to prioritize positive experiences and partner with the high school programs. It was added that facilities need to be a priority as well.

Michael added that a positive youth and active adult programs experiences that centers around quality facilities. But he agrees youth should be our number one priority.

Danielle will send out the current mission statement to the board. Saunders added that we need to be thinking of how to incorporate other outdoor recreation opportunities.

Michael talked about budget and the restraints and what our priorities should be as far as facilities. JR said Ranchos Park is priority to him. Clayton said the Ranchos Park is already a space, it's not in great condition but it can be used. Creating a wellness center is makes more sense to him since we don't have that type of space already. Michael talked about the County being interested in building a wellness center, possibly in phases, but gyms in phase one. The Ranchos Park needs upgrades. We face challenges with the City budget restraints and the needs of the police department and other facilities. Mayor Johnson said that the wellness center is more of a county project. Lights on the baseball fields and the Ranchos Park are more in the City's control. A bid was given for lights in the past and it came back at around \$250,000.

Michael feels lights could done for less money and have local businesses help fund the project.

Chelsea asked how much we really need lights on the fields or more fields that can be used?

Michael talked about pickleball courts and the demand on there.

Bucky talked about how he appreciates the rec department and all they do.

Michael suggested we talk about revenue ideas at our next meeting. Raised taxes?? Bonds? RAP Tax generates \$80,000 annually. Would a property tax pass? What all do we need for recreation activities? Our city is growing. We got two million visitors every year. TRT revenue can be utilized.

A motion was made by Candice Janes to adjourn. A 2nd was made by JR Quarnberg. Motion passed unanimously.