

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, July 18th, 2022 @ 3:37pm

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

In attendance: Candice Janes, Daniel Johnson, Michael East, Colten Johnson, JR Quarnberg, Clayton Cutler, Chelsea Perkins, and Danielle Ramsay

A motion was made by Clayton Cutler and 2nd by JR Quarnberg to approve the minutes from the June 27th, 2022 Parks & Rec Advisory Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Public Comment – No public comment was made

Park Director Report: – Donnie wasn't in attendance. Mayor Johnson gave report on lights on the baseball fields. There is someone that wants to donate money to install lights on the baseball fields. Bids came back and to install lights on two fields, the cost would be \$88,000. The cost for all four fields would be \$176,000. This is only for materials and supply – not labor. Mayor wants to contact Garkane to contribute to the project. Michael East mentioned that South Central has a pull truck that could possibly be used. Mayor also updated the Board on the MOU for the rec center project. It's going to be on the City Council agenda on July 26th. He encouraged board members and community members to attend and show support for the MOU. The MOU is an agreement for the concept of a rec center. We don't know what the rec center will include at this point. The MOU is an agreement stating what the City & County is willing to provide as far as funding and ongoing operational and maintenance expenses.

Recreation Director Report: Danielle Ramsay – Fall Sports registration is now open. We have good numbers for tackle football – 39 so far on the 7th/8th grade team and 20 on the 5th/6th grade team. Kanab City Recreation received the grant for \$4,340 through the Utah Healthy Community Grant. It will fund a new yoga program and other recreation equipment. Football helmets are in production for re-conditioning and are expected to be delivered the week of July 25th. Equipment is getting harder to order and get shipped. New City Manager, Kyler Ludwig, talked about the archery range update. The Planning commission will be reviewing an archery range and if it should be allowed within City limits in their next meeting. It's not specific to a location, it's just allowing a range in town. It will then go to City Council to be voted on during the August 9th City Council meeting. Specific locations will be discussed at later meetings. Danielle will send out the flag football rules to JR and Danny to review prior to the season. The high school football team is hosting a youth football camp as a fundraiser on July 20th & 21st. We hosted our annual swim meet on July 9th with close to 130 Kanab swimmers. Our team took 1st place at the meet.

Discuss – Finalize priority list of projects as a Board – Michael spoke about the survey that was discussed in the previous meeting. He believes there is a possibility that there will be a tax increase associated with the rec center which is a voter approval. He feels the survey will be a good thing to do to get input from the community if that is the case. Mayor has some concerns with the survey. His hesitancy is that if we initiate a survey, the County gets flooded with requests for the rec center which results in frustration to make all the requests happen. Mayor feels that the Parks & Rec Board’s job is to advise on what they feel should be priority projects. He fears the survey takes the Board’s advisory role away. He also feels that survey will cause the City to lose focus on the needs we know we have and put pressure on the City Council, misinformed pressure.

Michael pointed out that it’s going to take a tax increase to do all of the projects that are being requested. He feels that survey is a way to get insight from all of the demographics in the community. It allows us to be armed with information then the City Council can make educated decisions based on the survey results.

Clayton added that our big push right now is with the youth. The survey can be advertised that way. We have a major gym and open field space shortage. Candice is worried that certain demographics won’t fill out the survey, so the date we receive might not be an accurate portrayal of what is really needed. Danielle feels that is where the Parks & Rec Board can really influence people to complete the survey between all of the different demographics. Michael added that the City needs to do a better job at controlling the narrative and getting information out to people.

Danny asked what in the survey would we be worried about? What all is included in a rec center that might be of concern? Mayor would like to give options instead of open-ended questions. Michael added that we need to be sure to include demographics so we get a clear picture of what is priority for each demographic.

Kyler gave input on how to conduct the survey to get the most accurate data. Danny added that if the public has to vote on a tax increase, the survey will be of a benefit. Danny asked what the RAP Tax is funding? Michael answered by saying it’s funding the Parks & Recreation Departments, but not specific projects at this point. The City has been collecting the tax for almost a year and is projected to collect around \$100,000 annually.

The Board also discussed the demand for indoor and outdoor pickleball courts.

The Board finished the discussion by creating a priority list of projects:

1. Recreation Center
2. Ranchos Park – phase 1 (open field space)

Clayton wants to get organized as a Board so we can advocate for the rec center. It should be our top priority.

Our guidance to Michael as our City Council liaison is to tell the City Council that our #1 priority is the rec center. JR feels that all open field space should be a priority and can include the lights at the baseball fields.

Danielle asked the Board if recreation equipment can also be a priority. We’re still playing catch up from previous years.

Michael added that we need to listen to all demographics and make sure everyone feels supported.

The Archery Complex project was discussed and Danielle explained that the overall project would be done in phases. The goal is to enhance the entire area; the trailheads, have a completed archery complex, paved parking, restroom facilities, etc. The Outdoor Rec Grant we received for the Archery Complex is 50/50 matching grant, meaning Kanab City is responsible for 50% of the project cost and part of that can be in-kind. When applying for the grant, the thought was the entire area near the trailhead and where the Archery Complex is planned to go could all be improved and enhanced.

Board Member Updates – There were no board member updates.

A motion was made by Clayton Cutler to adjourn. A 2nd was made by JR Quarnberg. Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT