

CITY OF ELKO
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
6:30 P.M., P.S.T. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS / CITY HALL
1751 COLLEGE AVE., ELKO, NEVADA

CALL TO ORDER

Colby Curtis, Chairman, called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: **Jim Conner**
 Michelle Smith
 Amber Fox
 Colby Curtis
 Fred Beitia
 Lynette Davis

Excused: **Danny Story**
 Andrew Storla
 Harmony Stahl

City Staff: **James Wiley, Parks and Recreation Director**
 Nikki Johnson, Aquatics Manager
 Joe Carr, Parks Superintendent
 Tobey Hancock

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 16, 2018 – Regular Session

**** A motion was made by Amber Fox, seconded by Fred Beitia, to approve the minutes from August 16, 2018**

The motion passed. (5-1 Michelle Smith abstained.)

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

I. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Review, discussion, and consideration of the concept of modifying the BMX Track located at Mountain View Park to better accommodate the use of remote control cars and matters related thereto. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

James Wiley, Park and Recreation Director introduced Curtis Phipps, Representative of the RC Car Community, James discussed having several conversations and meetings with Curtis in the past year regarding logistics and other issues to developing an RC track, it seems that the Mountain View Park - BMX track would be a good location, James believes they've come to the consensus that if there's a way to utilize the course to suite the RC track it would be a good way to go. Some basic grooming to the track will be required to make it more suitable for the RC Cars. Currently, there are other budget challenges, with other larger projects being a priority for accomplishment. So utilizing Mountain View Park's BMX course area seems be a good option for the time being.

Curtis Phipps, 547 Cari Way, discussed his experience with RC cars over the past several years and discussed the difficulty finding a place in the community for RC racing, he has reached out to sponsors for equipment parts and materials, and the sponsors are ready to get on board once a location is approved, his group is willing to groom and modify the track to suit their needs, they have been currently utilizing this space and said it's a great area to play but the area needs modification to be race ready. Currently his RC group has over 150 members and he is the founder of the Elko RC Enthusiast and the Elko Crawlers Group so there is a great interest in a track. He hopes to open a hobby shop in the future to support the spots growth.

A 200'X 100' wide area is typical for a track and this area at the park would be perfect after some modifications. Frontier has donated pipe to lay out a track, and Western Nevada supply has also offered to donate pipe if needed.

There is an option to obtain insurance if that becomes a necessity, insurance would help cover some personal liabilities and the cost is usually minimal. Some additional consideration for the future could be memberships, and special events could help to build revenue.

If the requested is approved one additional item that would be essential is a barricade to prevent standard vehicles and trucks from accessing this area.

Amber Fox questioned the actual location? And asked if there was a need or desire for the entire area? Mr. Phipps stated that it would be too big. She asked because the area isn't being used currently as they had predicted in the past.

Michelle Smith asked, if there would be issues with the RC track vs. The BMX track? Mr. Phipps answered that the track pipe would be removable, if bikes ran over the pipes it won't hurt anything.

Michelle Smith asked, Will there be any addition expenses required of the City?
Mr. Phipps stated the only expense he foresees is the issue of weed prevention.

James Wiley said we do maintain the weeds and we could give more attention to the weeds in that area, there's always going to be some cost to the City, this location seems like an ideal site for the time being, we don't necessarily have a Master Plan for this area, this seems like a good place to start and this should not be considered a permanent site at this time, however it's a good place to fill a need. We can work with Curtis on ways to get to the modifications done correctly.

Further down the road and in the future, Elko County has a tremendous parcel of land that is being considered for Motor Sports, Motor cross, BMX and other outdoor sports, in the future that facility might be a great place to incorporate an RC Track. We just don't know how long the development on this site may take.

The RC Track idea should be of minimal cost to the City, however we don't know what that looks like today, we wanted to present this to the board today for consideration and recommendation, Council may require more details. This is just the start of the process.

Amber Fox asked about insurance? How does that come into play? Could a car potentially come off the track and injure someone. Mr. Phipps stated yes, situations like that are a possibility, there are rules (established by ROAR) that require straight-away's longer than 40' have a catch net installed, this net can help prevent damages, he also stated that usually damages are minimal, such as bruises and scratches. Accidents are less likely in the designated track area's and controlled course, However insurance is available if a vehicle damages someone or something (ROAR) insurance will cover up to a million dollars, James Wiley stated that insurance is going to be necessary and all protocols will have to be met. A players fee or user fee maybe created (similar to soccer fees or baseball fees) to help maintain the program and fees incurred. There is the everyday use side vs. the special event side, so those items could be addressed in the future.

For now this will be a mixed use site, and we'll work through issues as they come up.

Curtis mentioned that YouTube has millions of videos on RC Racing if anyone has an interest in knowing more about the RC Racing sport.

**** A motion was made by Jim Conner, seconded by Michelle Smith to move forward with a recommendation of support from the City Council to modify a portion of the BMX track at Mountain View Park for the implementation of an RC track.**

The motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

II. REPORTS

A. Report from the Parks and Recreation Director

1. *James Wiley, Parks and Recreation Director reported on the current Sports Complex project. The Project is progressing nicely. They are getting ready to pour curb and gutter in the parking lot area. Lights and electrical conduit have been installed, our goal is to have the parking lot paved by the middle of November, and before winter. The backstops, dugouts, bull pins, and posts are in, the fields are really taking shape, footers have been poured on the Comfort Station, the foundation is in, plumbing is in, and electrical conduits are being installed, floors should be poured within the next two weeks and then the walls on the exterior should be complete. Again, the goal is to have all the walls up prior to winter so that contractors can work on the inside during the colder months. We are ahead of schedule on the project. Grading is almost complete, there are some minor touch up areas but the majority of grading is complete. We received permission from SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) and the USA ACE (Army Core of Engineers) to move into the historical buffer zone where the old pool foundation and hot hole lines trickle into that area, we are now able to go and grub and grade that area of land. All of the visible findings were previously cataloged with SHPO. There are concerns with sub surface findings when we find items we will contact the proper agencies and catalog those items as well. Most of the items are old concrete and pipes. Footers have been poured for the concrete wall along the residential area once those are set the wall will be up. We are working on getting the landscaper out to build the pump station, and we are hoping to get the seeding done soon, spring won't be a good time due to wet ground. The Budget is on track and we did receive the 2.1 million check from the Pennington Foundation last week.*

2. Report from the Pool Manager

Nicki Johnson Aquatics Manager, reported that the outside pool is closed for the winter, they had to shut the pool down early due to problems with the geothermal line. It seems the School District is having some problems and they're not sure why, so the Pool is pulling all the heat they can for the indoor pool, swim team is ongoing, and lap swimming is going well also. Next Friday they will have the Pumpkin-Bob scheduled with the Park & Recreation. Department with the Trunk or Treat event.

December 17th will be the Pool's official winter closure date.

Michelle Smith asked, what exactly are the closure / open dates?

Nicki answered, December 17th closure and reopening the first week in January, if the toilets, urinals and lighting get installed they may be able to open on 2nd of January.

3. Report from the Recreation Services Manager

Tobey Hancock, Recreation Service Manager reported that previously the Elko Explorer Program (aka Fun Factory) which is the after school program held at Mountain View Elementary had a previous enrolment of approximately 30 children enrolled since 2014 with a maximum of 64 children in 2005. Currently there are over 70 students enrolled, so that's doubled in the recent years in enrolment which they are very happy about. The department has a digital attendance and billing system that has been very popular with parents and staff. The department is considering a program extension in the Spring Creek area. Skate night has had a record attendance in September which has been great to see. Elko Hockey had an event on 10/6/18 it may continue monthly. We have another Skate Night scheduled for tomorrow 10/19/18. The Toast to Art has been fluctuating in attendance, so we will work on building attendance back up. The Trunk or Treat & Pumpkin Bob Event is coming up, it will be in the Pool Parking lot on Friday 10/26/18, we are hoping to gain some momentum in participation, there are a few other events scheduled at the same time, but the Department is looking forward to a great time with some fund raising efforts and to give businesses an opportunity to get involved with some family fun. Festival of trees and the Snow Flake Festival events are also approaching, we have partnered with Illusive Images for photography. Tobey said he has recently been meeting with the DBA about the Snow Flake Festival for this year and they want to incorporate some fun new things.

The Activity Guide was published on 10/1/18.

The Snow Bowl is also an item of attention, Tobey is working on developing and creating a regulation, inspection, and training log, Roche Bush is currently performing pre-season inspections and maintenance, we've had difficulties in recruiting help so we (James & Toby) have been assisting in maintenance efforts, we are hoping for some snow this winter so that we can utilize all that the Snow Bowl has to offer.

Basketball Leagues will start in late January, and interest is building up with that.

4. Report from the Parks Super Intendent

Joe Carr, Park & Recreation Superintendent reported, water is being shut off at various parks for the season, the portable toilets are being set up at various locations, and winter processes are in place. Tree removal and pruning will be happening in the next few weeks.

The Department will be suppling bleachers for the Presidential visit.

We're looking forward to the winter season responsibilities.

A small suggestion was presented by Colby Curtis.

Colby stated he helps coach soccer and he noticed the soccer field was really soaked just a few weeks ago, Joe explained that the daytime temps are cooler

and evaporation is slower. Joe did not get the sprinklers shut off prior to the weather changing, he has addressed the issue.

Jim Conner mentioned to the Board that he was pleased with the Centennial Tower, and he believes it looks really nice. He would like to see a dedication to the Park once it is completed. James Wiley explained that the Story Boards are in the process of being created, Jim Conner is really looking forward to the completion. James said he feels it's a great addition to our downtown area. We are hoping to get the train and caboose repainted soon. There is some discussion regarding the possibility of installing restrooms and a splash pad in the future. The official name of the park is Centennial Park. There is some talk about installing a rock, or the beveled stone that was considered for this area.

5. Reports from the Board

Lynette Davis announced that Elko will be hosting the Regional Baseball and Softball tournament next year which will be held in May. There will be 12 schools represented in this tournament. James stated unfortunately The Sports Complex fields will not be ready for this tournament. We are hoping to have the new fields ready in September for the Stephanie Tournament.

SCHEDULE THE NEXT PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.

January 17th 2019, at 6:30 PM

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

James Wiley
Parks and Recreation Director