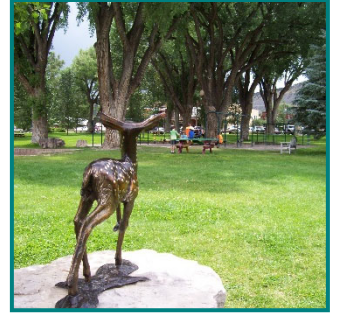
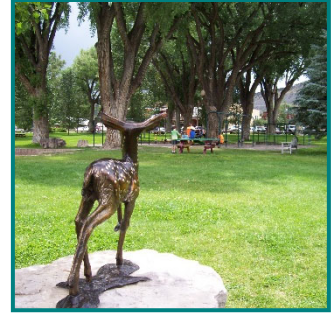

PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 5TH, 2019
6:00 PM
TOWN HALL



Committee Member Meeting Packet

Agenda Item #2:

PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2019
6:00 PM
TOWN HALL



Committee Present: Jared Coburn, Nick Williams, Lois Zeimann, Town Councilor Robb Austin, Sue Husch, (Erin Smith)

Town Staff: Chase Jones

I. Call to Order

6:09pm

II. Approval of meeting minutes from May 7th, 2019

Jared moved to approve the minutes

Robb seconded the motion

All committee members present voted in favor

III. New Committee Member Nomination – Erin Smith

Chase introduced Erin Smith to the committee and she shared her brief history and relevant experience, including running a landscaping business.

All present agreed she would be a good addition to the committee and voted to recommend her appointment to Town Council. This recommendation will be presented during the next scheduled Town Council meeting.

IV. Review upcoming events in public parks

No concerns arose over what was listed on the Town calendar for park events.

V. Athletic Park baseball field improvements

Chase shared discussions previously held with a number of residents about improving the baseball field at the Athletic Park. The topics which were discussed include;

- Improvements are not in 2019 budget nor is maintenance and upkeep,*
- Funding/materials/labor would have to be donated for improvements to happen short term,*

- Residents could approach Parks Committee to request improvements
- Town Council would need to include improvement cost in 2020 budget
- Shared that they'd need to reach out to conflicting user groups
- The school has a field available on Sherman/Elizabeth
- Backstop is already in place and area was originally planned to be a baseball field
- Program is volunteer run and 50+ local kids are involved
- There are 7 local adult teams with 4 being from Ridgway
- Weather is better in Ridgway than Ouray during the summer and allows for later play
- The school field has limited parking, no restrooms, unsafe ground conditions and the long-term future of the field is uncertain
- An estimated \$8,000-\$10,000 needed in material and labor for improvements
- Ouray spends roughly \$1,500 a year to upkeep their field
- Teams pay fees to Ouray and Montrose to play

Helen Disco and Charlie Scoville were present to voice their support. Supporting signature sheets were provided in the committee meeting packet. Helen and Charlie also shared that the field needs to be safe, bases cost \$750, base spacing should be for most teams to be able to play on, 40 yards of specialty infield dirt delivered from Cooper Soils is \$2,500, roughly \$7,000 estimated in labor needed, and baseball season starts 3 weeks after soccer so there would be little conflict.

Robb voiced that the Town should focus on improving the current field before considering building a new field, which is present on the Town's list for Capital Improvement Projects.

A discussion regarding maintenance needs and responsibilities was held. Helen requested that the Town upkeep the space as the residents don't have the needed equipment. It was suggested that the baseball or softball coaches should be in charge of striping much like the soccer association is for their fields.

Nick inquired if the group would require storage space to which Helen and Charlie replied that they would not.

Jared moved in support of requesting Town Council to budget for baseball field improvements in 2020, with a cost not to exceed \$10,000 and that future line striping is to be done by team coaches.

Lois seconded the motion

All present voted in favor

VI. Condition of signage at Dennis Weaver Park

Chase shared Rick Weaver's concern and emails over deteriorating wooden signs within the Dennis Weaver Memorial Park and requested replacement with metal maintenance free signage. 10 new signs would be needed for an estimated \$500-\$600 dollars not including installation. Rick also requested a new sign stating "Park Closed at Dusk" to be placed at the parking lot. Chase discussed the possibility of closing the park at dusk with the Marshal's Department prior to the meeting. The

Marshal's stated that such signage would be unenforceable because the Town did not have a curfew or anything in the municipal code to prevent residents from using the park after dark.

Nick mentioned plasma cut signs may have better life span and also considered trail closures during snow/rain.

Brief discussion was held over the above topics and it was eventually decided to proceed with metal signage and no park or trail closures since it would not be enforceable.

Sue moved to request Town Council to budget \$650 in the 2020 budget for new metal signage in the Weaver Memorial Park.

Lois second the motion

All present voted in favor

VII. Permanent water bowl for dogs at the Athletic Park bathrooms

Vicki Hawse requested that a permanent water bowl be installed at the Athletic Park restroom for dogs. A dish was present in the past but recently disappeared. Materials, plumbing, costs, freezing and potential health hazards were discussed. Ultimately the committee determined that this feature should be recommended during the new pavilion design. For the time being dog owners would need to provide their own bowl and are welcome to leave one under the water fountain for communal use.

VIII. Athletic Park Pavilion Donation

The committee was updated on the status of the Athletic Park Donation to build a pavilion; an anonymous donor will match funding 3-1, potential stakeholders have been contacted and held a meeting, the Town received bids for design that will be reviewed this week, and the Towns webpage now has a dedicated page and ability for individuals to donate to the project.

Nick suggested the Town also advertise in the Watch and Plain Dealer.

IX. Heritage Park Site Plan

Diedra Silbert with the Town and Hilary Lewkowitz with the Chamber of Commerce were originally looking for questions or comments on potential Heritage Park plans during the July Parks Committee meeting. Town Council had asked that they consult with the Parks Committee during their process. Since a quorum was not present in the July 2019 meeting, general feedback was provided and the project proceeded do to time constraints. Comments and suggestions included; the need to address commuter parking, thinking about scraping or retrofitting building, physical barrier to divide playground from highway, signage with surrounding peak names, and lead paint or asbestos concerns.

X. Christmas Lights in Town Park

Topic was postponed to next meeting

XI. Develop 2020 Budget Requests for Town Council

The Parks Committee developed the following requests for Town Council's consideration during the 2020 budget process:

- Athletic Park Baseball Field improvements - \$10,000*
- New Signage in Dennis Weaver Memorial Park – \$650*
- Doubling of tree maintenance budget to \$20,0000 with consideration of an annual increase set by council*
- \$4,000 to expand tree inventory and management plan*
- \$500 for incidentals if the Town is awarded the Youth Conservation Corps grant from GOCO*
- \$250 for new holiday lights*

XII. New Business

Sue Husch was welcomed as new member

Jared expressed mag chloride concerns with plant and human health

XIII. Old Business

Deanna Drew is working on committee structure.

Solar Ranch Trails – Initial SOW was only Cottonwood and Trails connecting to Chipeta, added on East/West trails going to/from the athletic parks.

XIV. Adjourn

8:07pm