

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, April 13, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at the Buena Vista Community Center, 715 E. Main Street, Buena Vista, Colorado. Earl Richmond called the meeting to order at 7:36am.

Members present were Co-Chair Earl Richmond, Co-Chair McKenzie Lyle, Marcus Trusty, Luke Urbine, Lisa Ortega and Dan Hamme . Also in attendance were Parks and Recreation Supervisor Emily Osborn, Recreation Program Coordinator Ashley Davis, Mayor Joel Benson, and Trustee Dave Volpe. Amanda Krost was present from from Mt. Princeton. Trails Board Members Ed Eberle, Lois Walton, and Kathy Horlein were present, as well as Kevin Meadows, owner of River Runners.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Luke Urbine moved to approve the February 2016 minutes. Dan Hamme seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: McKenzie Lyle motioned to approve the agenda. Lisa Ortega seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mary reported that they would like to clean up some things before the Rodeo happens this summer, such as painting, laying some gravel, and other projects. Mary gave Greg Maggard a prioritized list of things to be accomplished and then the Recreation Board can possibly help out with the remaining items. Earl asked what time of year would be best to begin these projects and how we could structure them. Mary left it pretty open ended for when we can possibly complete these items, however, she stated the sooner would be better. Currently there is about \$850 allocated to Rodeo Grounds improvements.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- I. Discussion re Adventure Hub (Boat Launch): Earl gave a bit of background on Kevin Meadows who runs River Runners and now the Adventure Hub in South Main. Kevin is present to explain their business model and give a bit more information on what River Runners is planning to do. This is their first year down in South Main and he has been approached with some issues including restrooms and congestion for the River Park area. They are planning to use their own restrooms in their business, and they will not be utilizing the area by the Whipple Bridge. He is hoping that they can pull out for the Numbers trip and the eddy in South main and be able to walk their boats back up to their business. He doesn't see this as a congestion issue, but rather an encouraging thing to recreation opportunities. The AHRA doesn't have any requirements for put ins/take outs as long as proper permission has been received from the land owner. He is hopeful that it would be a quick process, and they wouldn't be staging on trails or blocking trails to accomplish their needs. They will still be using their Riverside property in Nathrop for the Brown's Canyon Trip, the South Main location will be mainly focusing on taking out for the Numbers trip and launching a happy hour trip from South main to Nathrop. Lois Walton expressed some concern about social trails being created by these boaters that are causing some erosion issues. She is also concerned how this will go with other companies expressing interest to do this in the future. She asked how many boats and how many trips per day. Kevin believes 3-5 boats per day is a pretty accurate. Later in the season they tend to not use the Numbers trip when the water drops. There is a possibility of Lakota trips using the Adventure Hub as a tenant like last year, but he's curious about special permits, what the rules are, and how we can remedy these issues. Emily

reported that in the code under commercial boat code that there must be a permit applied for and Town added to insurance policy. If we open it up to River Runners at this site, per Town decision, we would have to open it up to all companies, even if that doesn't seem like a logical place for other people to be putting in and taking out. Earl believes we should gather information today and then make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to make a decision. He thinks that this verbiage in the code came before there was public access in the South main area. Kevin would like to get a policy in place for if they can or cannot, as well the possibility of creating a permit that would allow special use since their business is located in South Main. Ed Eberle spoke from a Trails standpoint is that Kevin stated they will not be lingering on the trail as well as the vibrancy that it will bring for the recreation world and the excitement that comes from these activities being seen. Kevin has a few options for staging areas, either doing them at their business location, or walking to the North end of the park that South Main owns to do their staging and information talk. They could also just head straight to the river and do the talks in the boat. Luke brought up reports in the past from the public over concern for how busy the Whipple Bridge area was getting and perhaps this could be the solution to alleviate that use. He also believes that if it does open up to the public that there maybe should be some limit to vehicle size allowed in South Main. Joel reported that due to the coordinates in the code it would be hard to state that the code is "silent" in this matter. Because it's Town property, the Trustees can make the designation or not to add a launch location. After it was discovered that boats were being launched there last year, contact was made with Selby to discuss this. He also stated the conversation with the Board of trustees would be to allow this as a commercial launch site, however, they can add stipulations on vehicle allowances, stipulations on staging, parking control, and among other things. Kevin questioned if there was a possibility of a special use permit depending on what businesses would be interested. Joel stated that the recreation advisory board should come up with a recommendation including some of these things to present to the Board of Trustees. Marcus questioned what the business model for the Adventure Hub is and if River Runners is an exclusive contract with them, or if there would be possibility to another company doing the same activities. Currently, Kevin reported that Lakota would probably be the only other contracted business for that location. Earl stated that we should not charge another fee as long as the normal boat launch permit was obtained. Luke agrees that permit should be obtained and possibly limit the vehicular use in South Main.

The Recreation Advisory Board would like to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to designate South Main as a commercial boat launch for the 2016 season with the stipulation of review before the 2017 season. This includes obtaining a regular Town permit as well as limited access to South Main in terms of parking and staging to be determined further by the Board of Trustees. Some ideas to include are: no staging on trails, no parking access, no bus/trailer traffic (vans only), and access through Arizona Street only.

- II. Discussion re Part-Time Recreation Position: we are need of umpires so find us people. We have about five applicants for the part time employee and it will close at the end of month to be started mid-May.
- III. Discussion re RFPs (Four Project): Emily is asking for comments about the project information provided. Marcus questioned why all four are together instead of separating them. He thinks we can do a community build, why is there no community input. Emily stated that there will be input but ultimately the Town will make the decision. Marcus asked why there is no conversation with the Turner Farm garden people instead of building a whole new one when there already is one. McKenzie is asking if there is a company that can handle all four projects. Mckenzie asked that Emily take the Rec board recommendations to the meetings

with Brandy since most of them can't attend. Joel stated that we do need to look into the Turner Farm issue and that perhaps we can change the priorities of these items listed. Ashley questioned when we presented the Community Center park as a priority that it wasn't received, but Joel responded that we could change wording in Rec Master Plan to change our priorities. Luke questioned the reasoning of the school to own the land in the River Park or if we could do a long-term lease for a yearly fee like the other organizations do. Marcus and McKenzie believe we should break these projects apart to focus on each one differently. Luke believes this is a communication piece again and that we have not been allowed to review these projects before they go to the Board of trustees and now it's the other way around. Dave suggested that if it is an agenda topic that someone from the recreation board be present to answer questions and be there to present on behalf of the rec board. Joel stated that the items would be sent to the Board before budget talks for next year unless we can find it in the budget for this year. Lisa asked if we can save some dollars by doing the process the same as mcphelmy where we brought the ideas forth before the process last year. Marcus is going to draft and email with mckenzie's help to address these issues and then we'll be present at the BOT on April 26.

All other agenda items have been tabled until the May meeting. Emily Osborn will send the updates on other items via email.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned by Earl Richmond at 9:12am.

Respectfully submitted:



Earl Richmond, Co-Chair



Ashley Davis, Recreation Program Coordinator