

**PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

In-Person and WebEx

Location: Government Center, 2001 S. State Street SLC, Utah 84118

August 9th, 2023 | 11:30AM-1:00PM

In Attendance

Board Members: Jerry Cordova-Ong, Lynnette Wendel, Chris Hill, Carl Fisher, Robynn Masters, John Warnas, Connie Burgess, Soren Simonsen, Danny Shoenfeld, Jaren Cooper

Absent: Mont Millerberg, Nate Salazar, Lisa Dean

Staff: Jerry Brewster, David Johnson, Jon Ruedas, Andrea De Paz, Brent Laulusa, Martin Jensen, Jan Donchess, Doranne Pittz, Liz Sollis, Callista Pearson, Ryan Cutler, Patrick Leary, Julie Peck-Dabbling, Joey McNamee, Ryan Cutler,

Citizen Participation: Steve Van Muren,

CALL TO ORDER

Carl calls for the introduction of all attendees.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joyce Walker extends appreciation for the Parks' committee and Dimple Dell management group. Earth day's (April 22) support was phenomenal – additional staff that has been hired, many committee members showing up made it a great event.

BUSINESS ITEM – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve June 2023 minutes. Carl motions to approve, Jerry approves, Soren seconds the motion. Next meeting is set for September 13th, 2023.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Martin takes a moment to thank his staff for all the involvement within Parks and Recreation's constant moving parts, especially as we continue to grow.

Budget:

- Working to put proposal together, presenting to the Mayor in September. With the economy being uncertain for the future, indicators are that things could slow down. The direction we were given for the 2024 budget is conservative – if we need something new, we must find a way to pay for it ourselves.
 - Still a lot of support in trails and trail work and still getting additional funding from the 4th quarter transportation funds.
 - Growth on the ground – we're seeing a struggle in trying to catch up with all services being provided in terms of a website that can register people on their phone.
 - Point of sale system, software system are a couple of systems we are asking for in 2024.
- South Jordan Recreation Center – expanding its pool. We have all the funding in place, after speaking with the Jordan School District and South Jordan City. Issued an RFP for design and construction to be underway.

- Ribbon cutting for the Larry H. Miller Complex happened last week. It was a great day, a lot of people showed up and it is now up and running now.
- We are assessing the damage done to South Mountain Golf Course in Draper after the rainstorm last Thursday night into Friday morning. Only half the course is opened currently, we're hoping they can open by the end of this week barring safety issues.
- As we finalize our budget, we'd love to have board members support the budget at the Council/Mayor level – in previous years, board members have written letters and we always welcome that.
- Bingham Creek Regional Park Authority – new governmental agency that is recognized by the State of Utah that is made of 50% County and 50% South Jordan City. The board for that meets once a month and it's a joint partnership; the boundary of that oversees and schedules events there.

Martin and Jerry Cordova-Ong start a conversation about making our activities/leagues more accessible to the community as some don't realize or see the programs being offered. Martin mentions that the technology aspect of signing kids up versus using flyers as we've had done years prior, is a challenge sometimes as you're now needing to pay to advertise instead of handing out flyers at schools. We are getting the word out with our own flyers at our recreation centers and thinking of working with school districts to get the word out to each school district.

Martin also addresses an issue being heard in the media regarding a complaint being made about a men in the women's locker room. That's not what happened. The way we address locker rooms and restrooms is that people self-select where they'll go; we have a patron code of conduct and standards of conduct as well that if someone is acting inappropriately, they'll be removed from the facility. Each facility has change rooms (previously known as "family change rooms") but now they're just general changing rooms. So, whether somebody is transgendered, a family, or just an individual needing their own space, they can go in and use those. It's a much bigger issue than just in Parks and Recreation – it happens anywhere. We are coordinating with the Mayor's office and the district attorney as we want our facility to be safe and welcoming to everyone.

OUTCOMES AND INDICATORS UPDATES

Liz mentions the customer experience survey back in 2022, primarily by email to our subscribers of about 70,000 people. We've made stickers that were also placed in centers, golf courses, and around town. We had about 67% satisfaction rate from that, and we continue to push quarterly participation which has been a great tool for any complaints or to notice trends that patrons mention that we can consider for a FIF project in the future. This last quarter, satisfaction dropped a 13%, so our intern Ryan is doing a deep dive and saw that we had only received less than 30 responses so that it wasn't enough for an actual statistic. Also, we have run into the same people taking the survey and that can skew the feedback. We want to conduct a different way to conduct a survey so we can get more feedback – QR codes, etc.

2024 BUDGET PROCESS UPDATE

Brent mentions that we are in between meetings with the Community Services Department; after that, we will meet with the Mayor's office and then she will present her budget for the Council's deliberation – a lengthy process.

Overview of the needs that we are trying to address in this cycle:

- Inflation: has hit every sector. Natural gas has hit us particularly hard, although prices have stabilized and the County has locked in wholesale prices for next year. Golf carts, sports equipment, officials and referee associations fees, software and credit card fees are all going up as well.
- User experience: knowing about programs, being able to communicate online, signing up. This is a technology structural need in order to improve the user experience.
- Capital projects: pool maintenance – we have a lot of bodies of water that need constant maintenance, new plaster, play structure. Ice sheets with chillers and the controls as well.
- Standard concerns: compliance to ADA guidelines, parking lot security cameras, security and fire panels.

- RFP has gone out this month as well to bring a consultant in to help look at our organizational structure to look at the number of employees we need in order to continue to provide services that we have and will have.

Martin mentions that we received 34 million in funds for deferred maintenance which we are taking a chunk of this year and applying it. TRCC and ZAP fund are also extremely helpful, and with the board's help, we are hopeful that they pass again for future needs.

BUTTERFIELD CANYON TRAILS AND TRAILHEAD

Jon Ruedas presents on the progress of Butterfield Canyon:

- Phase 1 Trails: 14.5 miles of trails built, only under 2 miles left to build.
- Construction of trail that connects Yellow Fork Canyon to Butterfield Canyon was constructed.
- We've partnered with Rio Tinto and they've donated money to go towards an overlook and some signage which we are working on with them now.
- Ribbon Cutting is coming up on August 31st at 2:00PM, which we would love to see everyone at.
- We have a new contractor under bid and had a preconstruction meeting which they are mobilizing into this week. Unfortunately, we couldn't afford the equestrian parking lot this time but we will incorporate it into the next phase of construction.
- Temporary parking: we hope to accommodate 40 cars until the trailhead is constructed, which it won't be at this time. Equestrian parking will be at Yellow Fork and they can use that connector trail to get into Butterfield.

FIF PROJECT ADJUSTMENTS & OUTDOOR POOL UPDATES

Doranne gives updates on pool updates and FIF project adjustments:

- Outdoor pool season was a huge success this year – lots of attendance and very little incidents, but pretty successful and safe summer.
- Closures coming up – neighborhood pools closing August 13th. Regional pools will remain open with modified hours during the weekday. South County and West Jordan will stay open until the 20th of August. Taylorsville will be opened until Labor Day; Draper, Salt Lake Sports Complex open until the end of September.

The next item on the agenda mentions that it is informational, but it's actually an action item, which we need your approval for. So, we will probably have to have a special meeting prior to the budget meeting in September. Doranne still presents the FIF adjustments to the board:

- In June, we did address the Facility Improvement Fees. This last quarter we have seen an issue with our presentation in a lot of our LEAD (leadership, energy, and environmental design) certified facilities, specifically Northwest which needs a complete landscape overhaul. We've hired a contractor to do this hard work, even though our staff and Doranne have been trying to tackle it in the meantime. We are asking for an adjustment to use FIF money to address the landscaping issue – not only for representation, but the cost to repair it later would be more than the initial investment.

BOARD BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Lynette takes motion to adjourn, Connie seconds.