

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 9:30am

Logan Community Recreation Center Conference Room

Present: Russ Akina, Dan Blakely, Jake Powell, Val Christensen, Mike Wolford, Melissa Dahle, Rachel Behm, Mayor Holly Daines

Absent: Ed Stephens, Alyson Ward, Eric Eliason, Sylvan Needham, Mike Johnson

Approval of Minutes:

- Not enough members to approve minutes. Will review at next meeting.

Update on Laub Plaza Ice Rink Operations:

- Dan provided data to Board Members
- 11419 Skaters
- \$69,835 in Revenue
- \$8700 in Utilities
- \$40,348 in Payroll
- Typical for number of skaters to drop after mid-February.
- This year, end of season is March 3rd
- Next year, 4pm skating session will be dropped due to low numbers.
- Sunday sessions will be revisited as skaters are low
- On snow days, it takes about 10 staff to clear out snow from Plaza.
- Eric suggested heated mats for snow removal.
- Plaza will continue to be staffed during warmer season for self-directed activities, phone calls and in person public assistance.
- No private rentals of facility will be authorized. All performances, scheduled events, will be city sponsored events.
- Starbucks has sponsored a Valentines Night at the Plaza and is planning to sponsor a concert during the Cruise-in on July 6th.
- Board members discussed how much of an improvement the Plaza has made downtown. Especially since all the upgrades to Center Street.
- Plaza is considered an Urban Park and part of our city parks system.

- Even though plaza may be a loss financially, it is a gain to the revitalization of Downtown.
- There are already 3 Saturdays in the month of September, that are booked and Center Street will be closed for special events- Latino Festival, Giant Pumpkin Fest and Top of Utah Marathon.

Logan River Settling Basins Sediment Removal and Trail Repair Project:

- Board was given a summary of upcoming work. Will update as work progresses.

Update on Outdoor Recreation Complex and 200 South Projects:

- Russ briefly updated board members
- Parking lot, trails for park and overall area, parking lot for dog park and disc golf course.
- Currently working with Cache Landmark on neighborhood park bid that includes playground, pavilion and parking.
- Landfill needs one more year before they can close out.
- March 20th is next neighborhood council meeting.

Rec center Transition plan:

- Russ updated board on Oversight meeting that took place on Monday
- Still under same Joint use agreement until June 30, 2025.
- That will be the last fiscal year that the city will contribute funds to the joint Rec center account
- Beginning July 1, 2025, department will have limited use of space at the Rec Center.
- Evening and Saturday use only in limited areas of facility
- 3-year lease agreement will include no payments to School District during the 3 years.
- Board members would like to ask mayor to put former monetary contribution (380,000) to joint account to go into a future of rec center reserve fund.
- Russ advised the first step is to make the recommendations to the mayor.
- Board members agreed a joint formal letter (PDF) will be prepared with signatures for the Mayor.
- Rachel asked if evening/Saturday facility use is for programming only.
- Only gym that will be available to department will be Leisure arts gym.
- NO weight rooms, locker rooms, main gym or multipurpose gym.
- Board members discussed outcome and thoughts on previous future of rec center meeting.
- Next meeting is February 22nd at noon. Hoping intent of meeting is to formalize and structure a committee.

Recreation Superintendent Report:

- Jr Jazz, adult basketball going on, doing well.
- Puzzle Palooza was a huge hit, had request to continue it every month.
- Aquatic Center locker room floors have been resurfaced.
- March 1 begins all spring and summer registrations.

Parks Superintendent Report:

- Doing what they can outdoors, staff busy working on equipment and snow removal.
- Only restroom opened is Hyrum Gibbons for the sledders.
- Seasonal job postings for parks are now available.

Open Forum:

- County Council approved open space application.
- 20 million was approved in the election for open space bond.
- There is not enough trail access along Bear River.
- Smithfield and Hyde Park are aggressively looking to go along the BST Trail
- Mayor has asked Russ to look for funding to connect Trapper Trail to Kunzler conservation.
- Access points to trails and waterways are critical to First Responders.
- Board talked about trails being talked about around the valley. Specifically, Mendon Trail Road.
- Russ handed out packets of Cell Tower proposal to Board Members.
- There has been a letter to the Editor from residents not in agreement with the location.
- Verizon will lease from the department the land use around \$1000/month.
- This is the 3rd location that Verizon has proposed.
- Russ thanked all board members for their efforts and participation in the community wide meetings.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 21, 2024

Location: Logan Recreation Center

Meeting Adjourned: 11:09 am

Minutes Submitted by: Gloria Chacon