

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes May 21, 2015

Robin Roberts - Chair
Brent Edgington

Board Members Present
Bryant Livingston - VChair
Bruce Snow

Ross Salmon

Claralyn Hill
Bill Fillmore

Board Members Absent
Marian Monnahan

Bill Bridges

Gary Winterton

Municipal Council Members Present

Roger Thomas
Kari Van Wagner
Bryce Mumford

Staff Present
Scott Henderson
Penn Almoney

Doug Robins
Thomas McKenna

Welcome: Robin Roberts

Minutes

Bruce Snow made a motion to approve the April 16, 2015 and April 30, 2015 minutes, Bryant Livingston seconded the motion. It was approved by all in attendance.

RAP Tax Update and RAP Tax Work Session with Municipal Council

At the last Board Meeting, the Board Members mentioned that they wanted more research done on the differences between bonding for the full amount expected from the tax or waiting and only using the amount received each year. Doug Robins reviewed both options looking at a possible 4% interest rate on the bond. The total interest rate over 10 years would be about \$2 million. Looking at the historical construction cost index, the increase over the next 10 years would also end up being around \$2 million. Reviewing both options, Parks and Recreation staff members do not recommend one option over the other and will be fine with either method of funding.

Gary Winterton commented that some Municipal Council Members have expressed concerns that the current allocation for the tax dollars is about 95% going towards parks projects and about 2% going towards arts. Scott Henderson commented that he feels that right now there have not been any art projects that have been quantified that are awaiting funding. Scott supports funding the park projects and updates that are in need of funding and would be helped by the RAP Tax revenue. It was mentioned that because the money coming in is not a set amount, any excess in revenues received could possibly go towards more art projects.

Gary Winterton also mentioned that there are some concerns with the timing of the RAP Tax because the Municipal Council is looking at a property tax increase for the coming year and water and electric rates are also going up. Bryant Livingston made a motion to endorse putting the RAP Tax on the November 2015 ballot with future discussions on the possibility of bonding. Bruce Snow seconded the motion and it was approved by all in attendance.

Soccer vs. Available Fields

Penn Almoney, Sports Supervisor, gave a history of the current sports field rental practices. Teams currently approach Penn starting in January with their needs for soccer fields. Groups are required to fill out a contract and provide proof of insurance. Half of the fields rented by Penn are on School District Property. Two years ago the School District took over the renting of some of those fields. Due to the new School District Bond being passed which started construction on school projects, the

School District stopped renting on most of their fields. The City's soccer programs have been growing, which adds to the problem of the loss of field space. A lot of focus has been put on the soccer group Utah FC which rents fields from the City. They have maintained the facilities they have rented and have been a responsible user becoming partners with the Sports Division. This has caused some people to accuse Provo of favoring this one group and discriminating against other groups during this time of very limited field space. Penn is now analyzing the entire process looking at best practices and evaluating fair distribution of the fields available. Penn feels there is a tragic field shortage at this time. Scott Henderson commented that this is a big issue for Sports right now and once the analysis of the process is done, the results will be presented to the Board.

Adjourn