

**Canon City Area Metropolitan
Recreation and Park District
575 Ash Street
Canon City, CO 81212
(719) 275-1578**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER The Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chairman, Jim Johnson, in the board meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Present: Jim Johnson
 Mike Sallie
 Nick Sartori
 Greg DiRito
 Brett James

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director
 Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Chris Moffit
 Warren Hart
 Tony Adamic

ACCEPTANCE OF CONSENT AGENDA

Board member Greg DiRito made a motion, seconded by board member Brett James to accept the consent agenda as written on the October 12, 2021 regular meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- No member of the public addressed the board.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Board member Jim Johnson stated that Kyle Horne is doing a great job on the recreation center presentations. In response to a news report aired on Channel 5 regarding the center, Mr. Johnson has received positive comments.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

- Programs staff is using the new digital sign as an effective marketing tool. Tashena McIntosh has taken the lead. Based on the sign, visitors stopped to buy tickets for Aftermath.
- The next five weeks will be busy with the fall events including the turkey bowl, turkey trot and Aftermath. The first night of the haunted house had 301 attendees. New marketing videos for this event will be going live this week. If any board member would like to volunteer for the events, please let Tawny know.
- There are new owners for a parcel adjacent to the Schepp Open Space area. They have contacted Kyle regarding a piece of the open space. The District had previously looked at that piece to use in a potential land swap to help create access from Dawson Ranch to Ecology Park, the open space, and South Canon Trail system. After a short discussion, it was determined that Kyle will contact the new owners, the Whitneys, and this topic will be a future agenda item with a related executive session.
- District maintenance crew members cleared three more homeless camps. One required the need to put out a fire that was built by the campers.

Dan Slater:

- Dan Slater had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Rob Brown of the Fremont Economic Development Corporation contacted Kyle to let him know that the Sonnenschein group is ready to move forward with the purchase and sale agreement prior to the election. Attorney Dan Slater had received a draft. He has edited it and added a contingency that the ballot issues must pass. A copy of the agreement was presented to the board. Attachment B is a standard real estate contract in Colorado. Dan has not received approval from Sonnenschein to the District's changes, but the resolution before the board would allow for minor changes. The assumption is that this is the agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-11

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING ENTRY INTO A CONDITIONAL PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT WITH SONNENSCHN FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Jim Johnson to adopt Resolution 2021-11. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

- Kyle has two more recreation center presentations scheduled. Members of REC (Recreation Enhances our Community) have been very active. He has seen half page flyers urging a no vote put on cars of those attending the presentations. Kyle has been contacted by a Boulder based solar projects company that is currently working on two projects in Canon City. The firm would like to show community support and loves the idea of a recreation center. The company has sent a letter pledging a donation of \$6,050 towards a capital campaign for the center.
The ballots have been mailed out. There are 19,200 voters in the District, and 600 ballots were mailed out to those who own property within the District who reside outside District boundaries.
- Chris Moffit and Warren Hart with RG Rio were present to discuss possible river permit possibilities. The opportunity to purchase a permit referenced in a prior board meeting fell through, but there is another option. It would involve going before the AHRA's citizens committee with an operating plan detailing the program to instruct rafting, paddle boarding and kayaking on the river. This on-water training would require an annual permit. The Recreation District would be doing the paperwork and the instructing would be done by RG Rio. Mr. Moffit is working with a local raft company owner and AHRA on the plan.
The board discussed this option. Board member Jim Johnson asked what the impact on the District's insurance would be. Mr. Moffit stated that affiliating with the American Canoe Association might provide coverage as they do for other raft companies, with a per user fee structure.
The RG Rio instructors would be highly trained, and the program would only operate from Pink House to McKenzie. Kyle stated that the town run is a great run to learn on. Board member Greg DiRito likes the idea of using a natural resource to expand the District's programming.
The board would like to hear more about the option once the operating and safety plan is more complete. Mr. Moffit and Kyle will contact AHRA and will be looking at costs to include in the budget.

NEW BUSINESS

- The board was presented with copies of the 2022 draft budget. In the front is a spreadsheet listing the proposed fees for 2022 programs, Kids Klub rates, and pool and rental fees. Also included with the budget is a proposed salary schedule for 2022. The schedule was developed from a meeting Kyle and Dawn Green held with board members Greg DiRito and Brett James. The District's salary schedule was compared with benchmarks from other recreation districts in the state as well as the City of Canon City. The District does offer a solid benefits package.

Within the budget is a transfer from the Program Activities fund to the General Fund to help with cost recovery. Programs staff used the information from the 110% project to address cost recovery in their proposed budget.

Information on how to account for the bond sale if questions 6A and 6B pass was received from the auditor today. With the election not yet over, the impact on the budget is to be determined.

There will be a budget workshop on November 9th starting at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided, and the board chose River Street to provide the meal.

Kyle reminded the board that the deadline to adopt the budget resolutions is very near the scheduled December board meeting.

There was additional discussion about the salary schedule. Greg DiRito stated that factors considered included looking at salaries from comparable districts, the inflationary rate, the ability to attract qualified replacements and the willingness to go to the mat for employees with the expectation that they will go the extra mile for the District.

- The board was presented with a draft list of the District's goals for 2022. Some are carryovers from this year. The board discussed the goals. Board member Jim Johnson stated that it is important to continue fostering partnerships.

Kyle has been speaking to a representative from Sol Vista about an option to have a ropes course instructor. He did inform him that the board had previously discussed phasing out the ropes course. (It has not been used for approximately two years.)

Kyle has also had four conversations with Joe Rall from the Lions Club regarding a project at Rouse Park. The El Pomar Foundation is willing to match donations. Kyle is waiting on the Lions to proceed.

Should the ballot measure pass, Kyle mentioned the possibility of using an owner rep to help construct the recreation center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Board Chairman Jim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dawn Green

Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

/s/ James Johnson

James Johnson, Meeting Chair