

CITY OF BISHOP

Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

April 27, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: The Parks and Recreation Commission met on April 27, 2011, the meeting was called to order at 5:15pm in the City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMISSIONERS Cheryl McDermott-Stanford, Kellie Hallenbeck, John Weatherford, Barry Simpson, Lee Cox

COMMISSIONERS  
ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Community Services Director, Keith Caldwell, Karey Poole, Recording Secretary, Dan McElroy, Parks Supervisor, and Waylon Cleland, Parks Facility Maintenance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Commissioner Simpson to approve the minutes for March 30, 2011. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner McDermott, approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

CORRESPONDENCE: **Petanque/Bocce Ball-**  
Skandar Reid explained a twist on the game of Bocce Ball called Petanque. The game is similar but uses a more aggressive game play than regular Bocce. The thought is to possibly build a court to play this style of game. The courts would be built in a simplified manner and use less expensive materials than the Bocce courts.

Skandar gave an overview of the status of the current courts, explaining that there has been aggressive play on the Bocce courts. The way they are set up for traditional Bocce Ball cannot withstand the aggressive play and have to have constant maintenance to remove divots and such that occurred from the aggressive play. If courts for Petanque could be built they would be basically maintenance free. The court would be 40 ft by 40 ft and would be built in a manner that would allow for several games to go on at the same time. Skandar feels now would be a good time to introduce this new game to the community while they are catching on to the original game. He has been working with local hotels and the Chamber of Commerce for ball check out areas. He has donated sets

already to the Chamber to allow for the public to be able to check them out to play.

Skandar explained that if allowed to move forward with the new build that signs would be put in place to differentiate the courts and both games would be promoted.

Keith reminded the commission that this was for information only and no action could be taken. Council approval would be needed.

**Dog Park Ordinances from other cities/counties-**

Copies of ordinances for other Cities and Counties were provided for review for Old Business discussion of the dogs in the park.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Community Garden-**

The most recent addition of to the park had a kick off on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Words of appreciation to Commissioners McDermott and Hallenbeck for representing the Parks and Recreation Commission at these events. Because of additions like this, a volunteer program will be implemented. With limited staff time it could be very beneficial and important to see what the community wants. They would not have any confrontations that would pose a safety issue. The skate park could be another good place to utilize this program during off staff hours.

**Dog Park/Dogs in the Park-**

Keith said the progression has begun. The goal is fall of next year. There are still issues with dogs in the park. They are still not allowed until an ordinance has been adopted. There are still some who would like to see the dogs allowed in the park on leashes. Discussion by the Commissioner ensued in regards to how to progress forward. The Commission decided to request the Council to review the current ordinance for possible changes to allow dogs in the park on leashes in specified areas.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Remote Controlled Cars –**

The Owensville RC Racing group has come forward with a proposal for a track in the rear of the park. Ed Merchant stood and spoke on behalf of the group going over a possible track plan that was laid out before the Commission. The proposal would call for an area 180 feet by 120 feet; the area chosen already has water readily available. They do not believe the noise would be an issue as the area sits 200 yards from Pine St and the Senior Center and only 20 feet from Hanby, leaving the noise levels minimal.

Ed said that currently they are at the Fairgrounds, however it is expensive for the public to use and the track is small and tight for users, thus breaking parts more easily on the vehicles. They understand that this is temporary due to the Master Plan options for building, but they would love to have a permanent place. They have all the volunteers to make the track and help maintain the track when it was needed. Their hope is that if they gain enough interest and willingness from the community that they may be able to find a more permanent place more easily.

Keith shared that DWP would have to give permission. He requested putting on the May agenda for a Public Hearing and allow the Commission to take action at that point. Commission approved.

**Volunteers/Friends of the Park-**

Keith let the Commission know that he has current information from JPIA and will be introducing a draft Volunteers Handbook at the next meeting for approval in hopes to implement it this summer if approved. Commission agreed to move forward

**STAFF REPORT:**

**Egg-Stravaganza-**

Waylon was excited to share the success of this first ever event thru the City. He shared is appreciation to the Commissioners and Council Members who attended and volunteered to help. He says a few adjustments and it will be perfect.

**Fish Camp-**

Dan is excited for the Fish Camp this upcoming weekend. Saturday is a clinic day and Sunday is a derby day. The cost is \$15 and with help of local sponsors, the children will take home roughly \$100 worth of giveaways. It is limited to 20 children in hopes to be able to expand that amount in the coming years.

**Learn to Swim-**

Keith went thru First 5 and was awarded a grant for Free Swim Lessons for children 0-5 years. This will allow families will young children to be able to participate that otherwise may not be able to due to cost or transportation. The classes begin May 17<sup>th</sup> with at least two sessions prior to regular season lessons.

**Program Guide-**

The first venture at putting all of our events and activities for the entire year is finally finished in our first annual brochure. There have already been two interests for sponsors for next year. The hope is to get enough local sponsors to have it pay for itself. Commissioner Hallenbeck asked if staff has looked into placing events into the local book calendar. Karey said that she has spoken with Craig and that everything for next year needs to be ready by July of this year for October printing. So the most popular and annual programs will be selected for printing.

**ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:**

Commissioner Cox had some concerns about Field 4, it was extremely dry. Dan McElroy said that there had been an issue that has been repaired. He also asked about football camp. Keith said that it went well, only positive feedback from the kids and coaches who helped put the camp on.

Commissioner Simpson said the school is hopeful to have Basketball Coaches for a camp and will get with Keith to set that up. Keith shared that Rock Baker has talked with Keith and Keith is willing to work with

him if that's okay to get the details set up. Commissioner Simpson gave his approval.

Commissioner McDermott asked about looking back into solar energy to run the pool, especially now since the cost of fuel is going up and probably not going to get any better. Keith shared that there may be some grants they can look into from some energy groups to make an attempt at this project. He also believes that those who would like longer swim time may be willing to pay more which would help raise funds to assist with the project.

Commissioner Weatherford told Park Staff that if they need some specialty equipment to let the Commission know so that they can look at it to present for purchase to make their jobs easier. Dan said that he appreciated that and also shared that there are several local entities that allow the use of their equipment to the City Park for temporary use. The City also tries to reciprocate when they can. Bishop Country Club allowed them to use a tool that helped them find a line that needed to be fixed in order to get the water back on Field 4.

Commissioner Hallenbeck said good job on another great ski season.

REORGANIZATION

**Vote for new Chair and Vice Chair-**

Commissioner Weatherford made a motion to re-elect Commissioner Hallenbeck as Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Commissioner Simpson. Approved.

Commissioner McDermott made a motion to re-elect Commissioner Cox as Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Commissioner Weatherford. Approved.

ADJOURMENT

The meeting was requested to be changed due to the Mule Days, Memorial Weekend Holiday. The meeting adjourned at 6:53p.m. to Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 5:15 p.m.

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Kellie Hallenbeck, Chair  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karey Poole, Comm. Serv.