

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
JULY 8, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeanette Utecht, Kevin Kodada, and Shelly Narum

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Laura Carpentier & Micki Ziskovsky

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Narum to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, and Naum; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Narum to approve the Minutes from the May 13, 2014 Meeting & the June 10, 2014 Main Street Plaza Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Event. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Review & Discuss the 2015 Parks & Recreation Budget and the 5-Year CIP

The Park Board reviewed an updated Parks & Recreation Budget & Capital Improvement Plan that listed both planned and “wish list” improvements and amenities. Baker mentioned that the budget list is virtually the same as in past years except that it shows the remaining “funded 2014 projects” pushed into the 2015 Budget. Baker said that the Park Development Fund is running on fumes and will be out of money after 2015. He went through and explained each proposed project for 2015, including: park signs, landscaping, trees, soccer nets,

and a fishing pier. Baker also ran through the list of “wish list” park and trails items. After reviewing the proposed budget and improvement plan, the Park Board members recommended forwarding the proposed list to the City Council for consideration during the 2015 Budget discussions.

b. Update on Safe Routes to School

Baker stated that Josh Pearson, of Region Nine Development Commission, held a Safe Routes to School meeting at Lonsdale City Hall on June 24th as part of the Planning Grant for Tri-City United Schools. Baker went through the 26-slide presentation with the Board, and he highlighted the infrastructure improvements proposed to intersections located along Co Rd 4 and near the elementary school. He also explained strategies that could be used to encourage parents and students to get kids walking/biking to school. All of the Board members expressed interest and approval in the initial Safe Routes to School Plan and potential future infrastructure grant funding. Narum stated that the TCU School District should encourage retired community members to help lead a “walking school bus” or be part of a crossing guard team. Baker said that it may take a part-time or full-time person to actually get the proposed plan and strategies off the ground and into action.

c. Update on the Veterans Memorial Project

The Board reviewed the current plans and fund raising documents for the Veterans Memorial Project. Baker noted that the info is now up on the City’s website and that there will be another Task Force meeting on July 9th.

d. Update on LiveWire Films – “Quality of Life” Video Project

Baker noted that LiveWire Films was in town on July 3rd to shoot pictures/video of the fireworks and Aces ball game. He said that LiveWire also drove around town getting pictures of “quality of life” items for a short 2-3 minute film that will be linked from the City’s website. He asked the Board members to email him with any action shots of kids playing sports or on park equipment along with seasonal interest pictures as well.

e. Update on the 2014 Historic 3-R Landmark School Project

The Park Board members reviewed pictures of the current 3-R Landmark Restoration & Exterior Remodeling Project. Baker noted that the roofing, siding, and window improvements should be completed by the end of July and no later than Community Days.

f. Update on the Linking Lonsdale Project & DNR Grant

Baker stated that bids for the Linking Lonsdale Project will be opened on July 16th. Baker explained that the DRS portion of the project will not be started until the DRS Sewer Project is first completed. The Board reviewed the plans for the Linking Lonsdale Project again along the plans for the DRS Sewer.

g. Update on the Kalina Park Concrete Work & Trail Project

Baker said that the concrete work in Kalina should be completed between July 16th– 27th. He noted that Ideal Paving was asked to start the trail paving portion on July 28th, after the concrete work was finished. Utecht stated that she recently got her stroller stuck in the mud while trying to get from the parking lot to the play area at Kalina Park.

h. Update on the Southern Trail (through the Business Park and Rezac Nature Preserve)

The Park Board looked at recent pictures of the Southern Trail being paved as part of the Lonsdale Business Park Project. Baker noted that the trail had only been paved from Connecticut Drive to the 9-acre pond at this time, and he said that the remaining portion trail, through the woods, should be completed within two weeks. The Board members commented on how nice the trees look along the berm and around the new stormwater pond.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- Kodada asked if any punch list work had been done yet by the contractor that resurfaced the trails with a new slurry seal product the previous year.
- Kodada stated that the Public Works Department needs to drag the ball fields and spray for weeds/crab grass at the Sticha Park Field and RayAnn Field.
- Kodada said that the water fountain at Jaycee Park Field No. 1 is not working properly.
- Kodada said that he recently received a complaint about the disgraceful status of the boardwalk trail (uneven surface and covered in weeds). Baker explained that the Linking Lonsdale Project would soon be under construction and the boardwalk portion of the project would be fixed at that time.
- Narum stated that some of the trail kiosks are looking kind of worn out and may need to be replaced soon.
- Baker provided an update on the plantings that look to be experiencing transplant shock at the Main Street Plaza. He said that Common Ground Lawn & Landscape is aware of the issue. Baker noted that Common Ground will soon be installing the fountain ring to complement the current frothy nozzle.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Narum to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner