

29 October 2008

Minutes of the Alpine City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PRO) Committee meeting held October 29, 2008 at Alpine City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The following committee members were present and constituted a quorum:

Larry Brown, Dave Fotheringham, Evertt Williams, Bryce Higbee

Staff: April Riley, Ted Stillman, Shane Sorensen, Ron Devey, Jay Healey

Others: Lars Anderson, Jannicke Brewer

100 SOUTH PARK MASTER PLAN

Ted Stillman said Lars Anderson can go through the three alternatives of the master plan he has developed. Jim Tracy, the City Council representative to the PRO Committee, was unable to attend, but sent some written comments.

Lars Anderson introduced Alternative A that shows a road coming out of the subdivision to the north and connecting to 600 East across from Center Street.

Alternative B concentrates that play areas in the middle on the west side and has a road running north-south through the park. The pathway around the perimeter was more of a nature path and showed a water feature using Dry Creek instead of a splash pad. Evertt Williams asked why Alternative B was not a hit with staff. Ted Stillman said we have the same thing at Burgess Park where it is split by a road and that it wasn't a great situation having kids running back and forth across the road.

Alternative C shows a road coming out of the subdivision to the north and connecting to 600 East across from 100 North. It shows a 2400 square foot splash pad that would cost probably at least \$500,000. Dave Fotheringham said he talked to someone in St. George that has put splash pads in a lot of their parks and said their only regret was not making them bigger. Splash pads are extremely popular. Lars Anderson said in the left top corner has a splash pad detail on the plan. Evertt Williams asked what the cost of the splash pad is in comparison to a swimming pool. Lars Anderson said an Olympic sized pool costs about \$1 million so the proposed splash pad would cost about half of that, but you also get about half of the square footage. Lars Anderson said a lot of cities are going to the pass through system which uses a lot more water, but cuts down on the health risk. Ron Devey asked what the gallons per minute was and Lars Anderson said he thinks it was about 60 gallons a minute, but he would have to double check. Lars Anderson said the health code doesn't require fencing because the water isn't deep enough, but he showed one to keep dogs and animals out. He said a lot of cities are putting fences in to assist in enforcing things like small children wearing diapers, people wearing shoes in the splash pad.

Lars Anderson showed that the open space in Taylor Meadows is also being incorporated showing some landscaping. Alternative C shows two restrooms, including one large one near the splash pad. There is also a well house on the north end off of 600 East with vehicular access. The path way is 10 feet wide and follows the perimeter of the park and has several off shoots that create various loops in the park.

Evertt Williams asked why Alternative B showed two basketball courts and Alternative C only has one. Lars Anderson said that was just to show different options and stated that some City staff indicated that tennis is more popular than basketball in town. Ron Devey stated over at Burgess Park the tennis courts are always jammed and the basketball court is usually open.

Jannicke Brewer asked what happened to the parks facility for City staff that was going to be included in the park. Lars Anderson said that was moved to the City property over on 300 North. The property could also include a regulation sized soccer field for 10 year olds.

Evertt Williams said he had heard Jim Tracy mention the idea of moving Alpine Days events to the park and wondered if the area noted as future development would have to be leveled. Lars Anderson said it

could be used and leveled and grassed. Lars Anderson said he left trees out of that area noted as future development because we don't know what will happen there and there are other areas in the park that were created to have places to picnic, etc.

Evertt Williams asked how parking was determined. Lars Anderson explained his methodology for the parking shown in Alternative C. Evertt Williams asked how this tied into the City's trail system. Jannicke Brewer said there really isn't much of a trail system in that area. Shane Sorensen pointed out the sidewalk on the north side of Piccadilly Circle is wider and was designated as a trail and does show as connecting into the trails in the park.

Dave Fotheringham asked about the pavilions thinking on busy days if they would all be occupied and if we needed more or larger ones. Lars Anderson said there was a larger pavilion in Alternative C, but it was changed out for several smaller picnic type of pavilions to show another option.

Lars Anderson explained that in the play area there is an area that is more advanced for older kids (above 6) and the other side for smaller kids. Lars Anderson said he included three 3-D illustrations of some play area options. Evertt Williams asked if volleyball should be added. Ron Devey said that may be a good idea to explore as the existing volleyball court is used quite frequently. Evertt Williams asked about maintenance on the volleyball court. Ron Devey said it's minimal and most of it is done by volunteers. Lars Anderson estimated a sand volleyball court would be less than \$5,000.

Evertt Williams said at one point there was an idea of having an exercise station and asked if that was addressed. Lars Anderson said that was accounted for in Alternative B as it was even more passive. Lars Anderson also showed that Alternative A had a mulch, natural type of path along the creek. He said that was taken out after talking with staff as it was a maintenance issue. Ron Devey said the higher usage in a park like this is the likes of a mother pushing a stroller and said we have natural trails in many other locations that people can use. Jannicke Brewer said the paved trail in Burgess Park is very popular and is used year round.

Evertt Williams asked if the pavilions had barbecue areas. Lars Anderson said that item can be added if wanted. He stated some cities have issues with them because of fire hazards. Ron Devey said there were some at Burgess Park and we haven't really had any issues with them. Larry Brown asked about having another small pavilion on the north end north of the road that is shown coming through the park.

Lars Anderson explained the location and types of trees shown on the plan. Ron Devey said one problem we have in Burgess Park is when it was developed and the trees were put in they were put to close to one another and now they've grown and some trees are going to have to come out. Jannicke Brewer pointed out that having shade around sitting areas, especially playgrounds, is nice for people that want to sit and watch their children play and be comfortable. Shane Sorensen said there is a shade cover that is available that can cover the entire play structure. Some cities have them and take them down in winter.

Larry Brown asked if the PRO Committee had decided altogether to eliminate the skate park, even a modular one. Dave Fotheringham said the Committee had decided to eliminate that. Larry Brown asked what staff's position was on that from a maintenance perspective. Ron Devey said he has not really had an opinion either way. Jim Tracy had mentioned in his emailed comments wondering if some area should be set aside for the possibility of a modular skate park that could be taken down if needed.

Dave Fotheringham said he was pleased with the concept so far and asked if they need to take this to City Council as a next step. Ted Stillman said if they are happy with where things are at, Lars Anderson could take the feedback from this meeting and revise the plan accordingly and that we can talk about having another public meeting.

Ron Devey stated that the banks on the detention basin need to be flattened out like 5 or 6 horizontal to 1 vertical slope. Flattening the banks out will facilitate easier maintenance.

Evertt Williams asked if this was developed in phases, how would it be done. Lars Anderson said you could group the splash pad area as a phase and then go through the rest of the park and draw a line and group that way. Ron Devey suggested that the City be careful with this decision. In his experience, he has seen parks phased and suggested that the City will end up spending more money in the long run by phasing and that you won't get the quality as things really don't ever match up, etc.

Lars Anderson asked if the Committee wanted to change the number of basketball and tennis courts. The Committee likes the current number in Alternative C and see no reason to change that. Lars Anderson stated that the lighting isn't shown yet, but is something that would be added once the concept is in place and you know what you are going to have in the park and where.

Ron Devey said that Burgess Park is really dark and thinks that lighting should be considered down the middle of the main parking lot. Evertt Williams said the police would probably share that concern and maybe they should have some input as to where lighting should be located.

Larry Brown said he had a note that the Committee had talked about a rock climbing wall and wondered if that was correct. Ron Devey said he's seen them built into play equipment. Evertt Williams said he thought the intent was for older kids – the same age group that would be using the volleyball courts. The Committee discussed the liability and safety issue of a rock climbing wall and decided to leave a rock climbing wall out as we had the sand volleyball courts to add that would probably serve the same age demographic.

Ron Devey said in the play areas that he's seen the chips that are in the bottom get scattered and maybe we need a small wall around the play areas to keep the chips in. He said he thought wood chips were a good option. Ron Devey said he's not against the rubber chips, but he's seen that their mowers pick them up and spit them around.

MOTION: Dave Fotheringham moved to approve Alternative C adding another large pavilion near the south parking lot and a sand volleyball court in the same area, a small pavilion in the NE end of the park, barbecues for the large pavilions, flattening the banks of the detention basin to at least 5 or 6:1, swings and a cable net dome playground in the play area. Evertt Williams seconded. Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Dave Fotheringham, Bryce Higbee, Larry Brown, Evertt Williams voted aye.

Shane Sorensen asked if we needed anything on the 300 North property. Evertt Williams said he thought the soccer field demographic was great. Shane Sorensen said the reason staff suggested including this as part of this process was so that people knew it was coming if the facility was not going to be located in the 100 South Park.

MOTION: Evertt Williams moved to approve the plan for 300 North as proposed. Larry Brown seconded. Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Dave Fotheringham, Bryce Higbee, Larry Brown, Evertt Williams voted aye.

RODEO GROUNDS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Evertt Williams stated the Rodeo Grounds Committee met this month and moved forward on a couple of things. Evertt Williams said running power to the rodeo grounds had previously been approved by the City Council. Ted Stillman said that Shane Sorensen and Ron Devey met with Rocky Mountain Power and the City will put the conduit in. Evertt Williams said he thought Dana Beck had a spot in mind that line should be dropped. Ron Devey said that is something the City will work out with the power company.

Evertt Williams said the biggest change was Dana Beck and Bob Chatfield proposing to move the rodeo to a two night event, eliminating the youth rodeo on one night and having a 20 or so minute opening with youth under the new format. It is more economical to have the rodeo for two nights. April Cooper said a lot of people go to the free rodeo the night before and don't go back and pay. Jannicke Brewer suggested this be discussed with the Alpine Days Committee. Evertt Williams said the Rodeo Grounds Committee was concerned about pricing and that will be discussed at their next meeting.

Ron Devey asked if the marketing was to bring in people from other cities. He suggested there are a lot of things that come with enlarging the rodeos. Parking will be an issue, we will have participants who will want to stay here overnight and have all the things that go with it. He asked if going to two nights is really what Alpine wants or is it what the Rodeo Grounds Committee wants. Evertt Williams said those are legitimate concerns. Bryce Higbee said the best rodeo he thinks the City has had was having the Buckaroo on one night and the bulls the next night. He wasn't sure there was enough interest to make it really commercial with a lot more participants and events.

Ron Devey said the rodeo grounds isn't heavily used right now. Evertt Williams agreed and said part of that is that there hasn't been any facility use regulations in place.

Ted Stillman said the Rodeo Grounds Committee set a schedule to meet on the second Wednesday of the month so that recommendations can be made to the PRO Committee and suggested this item could go back to the Rodeo Grounds Committee for further discussion.

MOTION: Larry Brown moved to table the recommendation and send the item back to the Rodeo Grounds Committee for further discussion and information regarding the infrastructure that would be required to expand the rodeo to a two day event and the associated costs, and to recommend where the funding would come from. Dave Fotheringham seconded. Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Dave Fotheringham, Bryce Higbee, Larry Brown, Evertt Williams voted aye.

MOTION: Larry Brown moved to adjourn. Evertt Williams seconded. Vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Dave Fotheringham, Bryce Higbee, Larry Brown, Evertt Williams voted aye.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.