

18 March 2009

Minutes of the Alpine City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PRO) Committee meeting held March 18, 2009 at Alpine City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. The following committee members were present and constituted a quorum:

April Cooper, Evertt Williams, Larry Brown, Dave Fotheringham, Bryce Higbee

Staff: Ted Stillman, Kip Botkin

Others present: Scott Kenney, Jannicke Brewer, Jim Tracy (City Council representative to PRO Committee)

A. 100 SOUTH PARK

Ted Stillman explained that the 100 South Park plan has moved on to the City Council. The Planning Commission failed to make a motion that passed. Ted Stillman explained that even with a failed motion we take the item on to City Council. The Planning Commission recommended that a water feature be included in the plan, not necessarily a splash pad. The Planning Commission did not recommend any changes to the parking configuration. A sled hill was added to the plan and recommended by the Planning Commission. Larry Brown asked if the overall design stayed pretty much the same throughout the process and Ted Stillman confirmed it had. City Council has not decided anything yet. Ted Stillman said the Utah League of Cities and Towns will be having their annual conference in St. George in April and the City Council will be attending that conference. Ted Stillman said he is hoping the City Council will visit the splash pad in St. George. Jim Tracy added that Highland City is also adding a splash pad near their new city hall.

Ted Stillman said there was also a lot of discussion on the skate park with a lot of negative comments. Kip Botkin, Police Chief, was asked to contact other police departments to get their comments and opinions on skate parks and that will be taken back to City Council for information. Bryce Higbee asked what the process was for recommending a different location for a skate park and if that would come from the PRO Committee. Ted Stillman said it could and explained there were other options for skate parks to consider. Ted Stillman explained he had forwarded information to the City Council this week regarding modular type skate parks. These features could be located as different venues scattered in several parks. Jim Tracy said one option right now was to do a test pad with a couple small modular features based on age groups. Jim Tracy suggested that if these types of features were scattered in different parks it would discourage congregating in one area. Larry Brown thought this could be a good compromise. Jim Tracy reiterated this is just one idea. Bryce Higbee asked how many other communities have the modular skate parks. Ted Stillman said there is one located in Clinton. Jim Tracy said he's seen several in California. April Cooper said the appearance of a modular type skate park is far more down-scaled than a full-fledged skate park. Jim Tracy said another advantage of the modular style is if it is successful you can budget for future additions. Jannicke Brewer said it has been difficult because both sides of the arguments have found statistics and incidents to support their position. Bryce Higbee said his understanding was that the Committee voted to have a more passive park and wondered if including all of these items has gone away from that vision. Jim Tracy said the City Council had made a motion before the PRO Committee even discussed the plan to look at the option of including a skate park in this park. Ted Stillman said the City Council will be discussing the plan again on April 28, 2009 and Dave Fotheringham suggested they wait and see what the City Council does. Jannicke Brewer said she thinks the park as a whole has been well received and that there have just been a couple of controversial issues. Dave Fotheringham asked if there would be any work done on the park this summer. Ted Stillman said that currently the plan is to only do the curb and gutter along 100 South this summer.

B. RODEO GROUNDS RENTAL POLICY

Ted Stillman reported that Evertt Williams was working on a rodeo grounds use policy to help manage the use of the park. Ted Stillman also reported a group has come to the City Council wanting to do a bull only rodeo during Alpine Days. Jim Tracy could not remember the name of the group, but said they have a combined experience of 50 years of rodeos. Their proposal to the City was that the City would take care of the weeds,

cut the grass, sell the tickets, take care of concessions and provide parking and they will do everything else and will give the City 25% of ticket sales and 25% of sponsorship. Jim Tracy said most of the risk is in their court. The group would like to start and end earlier so lighting would not be needed.

C. PRO COMMITTEE SUB-COMMITTEES

Jannicke Brewer said the Planning Commission is working on the Trail Committee ordinance that would eliminate the ordinance establishing the committee and changing the PRO Committee ordinance allowing them to create subcommittees on an as needed basis. Jannicke Brewer said the Planning Commission was a little surprised this came up after they worked so hard on creating the ordinance and no one was appointed. Ted Stillman said the City only received a couple of emails from people interested in working on the Trail Committee. Ted Stillman said one came from Bruce Argyle who runs the Frozen Hog Race in Lambert Park. Mr. Argyle proposed the idea of a bike skills park in his email. Another email came from Matthew Chipman that mentioned a similar type of idea. Ted Stillman said these are issues a trail subcommittee could work on. Bryce Higbee said he talked to Rob Miller who expressed interest and was willing to work on a trails committee. Ted Stillman asked Jannicke Brewer if Craig Skidmore was still around. Jannicke Brewer said she has not been able to get in touch with him. April Cooper said she has seen him around. Bryce Higbee said Ron Devey would probably also like to be involved with the trails in Lambert Park. Jim Tracy asked who should contact these people and invite them to be on a committee. The PRO Committee agreed Bryce Higbee could take care of that in his committee role over trails. The PRO Committee also discussed membership of the rodeo committee as many of the members had quit. April Cooper asked if there was a limit to the size of the subcommittees. Jim Tracy said there was not a limit. Dave Fotheringham asked what the Committee thought of taking one subcommittee a month and discuss how they expect it to function, etc. The Committee agreed this would be a good idea and suggested they begin with the trails committee.

D. RIDGE DRIVE BMX TRACK

Ted Stillman explained that a group of residents have constructed a BMX track on Patterson Construction property on the corner of Ridge Drive and Silver Circle. This group talked to the Mayor and City Attorney about the idea that the City lease this property and have a public BMX track on this property. The proponents of the track will maintain the track. The property owner is concerned about the liability associated with the track. Concern was expressed on the other side of the City having the liability for it. The City talked to its insurance carrier and they will inspect it. Ted Stillman said he had emailed David Church's comments to the PRO Committee. Ted Stillman said the key with liability for us is having a safe environment – we cannot create unsafe conditions. The PRO Committee decided not to make any recommendations on this item yet and wanted to wait until more information was received from the insurance carrier.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.