

North Fork Pool, Park and Recreation District
Board Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2022

The Board of Directors of the North Fork Pool, Park and Recreation District (NFPPRD) met in person on Monday, September 12, 2022

Board Members Present: Sven Edstrom, Becky Ela, Michelle Pagone, Daniel Ihnot and Sara Sharer

Others Present: District Administrator Lenore Cambria, Board Clerk Niki Richardson, Public appearance by Randall Chapman and Elsie Edstrom

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Review of Agenda: The agenda was unanimously approved.

Excuse Absences: There were no absences.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2022 – Becky Ela made a motion to approve minutes. 2nd – Michelle Pagone. The motion passed.

Pay Bills

Michelle Pagone made a motion to pay the bills as presented. 2nd – Becky Ela. The motion passed.

Public Appearance – Randall Chapman and Elsie Edstrom presented their proposal for a Climbing Gym. Elsie described that her children have made it known to her that there is an interest in climbing in this community. Elsie wanted to come see if the NFPPRD would be supportive of some sort of indoor climbing opportunities.

Randall joined in to describe the other climbing opportunities and TNC questionnaire which indicated that climbing is an interest for the children of this community. If there was a facility, they could provide more education. There is not enough time in the year in school gyms between other sports. Randall expressed an interest in some other kind of facility. There would be availability to do adaptive climbing as well. Things that make it great for adaptive users make it great for everyone.

Sara asked if it was for kids and adults or just kids. Kids are revenue producers with parties and camps. A proper facility wouldn't need to be that big - 5-7 ropes with a little bit of a bouldering area. 1,500 feet would work. You do need a certain height for ropes. 20-25' is a good range.

Elsie described the ideas they'd have for space - Heritage Hall might be an option; the Hotchkiss Shop Building would also be an idea. Hotchkiss Town has an RFP out right now. Since Hotchkiss is the center of the county, it allows people from all over to use it. There is a climbing wall at the middle school in Cedaredge but it is hard to get to because that gym is used for other purposes.

Climbing is a way for kids who aren't engaged in traditional sports to get into a sport with all the benefits that go with that.

Sara asked if the school district would be supportive of a team. Randall answered that the district is supportive but there is only opportunity to practice one night a week and they'd need two to be competitive.

Because of the population density, it isn't feasible for a commercial gym to come in so it would need to be a municipality or special district would need to be involved. Randall has 20 years experience with adventure sports and 10 of those with adaptive sports.

Sara concluded with thanks and that the Board would consider it as they discuss their long-range planning. Elsie offered her assistance with grant writing or legwork. Elsie requested a letter of support.

Randall explained that an existing building would be \$60-\$80k for pads, walls, ropes, bouldering area.

Lenore suggested that the school district should turn the tennis court into a building. :) Sven asked if they had spoken to the county. Yes, they have. Liability is no longer a deterrent to having a climbing wall. It is easy to diffuse that with a risk management plan.

Sven expressed support for something at the Heritage Hall including popping the top with an alcove to make it a taller space in the NE corner. He reported that Robbie LeValley had also expressed a green light to the idea.

Pool Report

- **Soccer Field Sprinkler leak** – The leaks in the fields have been fixed with the help of Darnell from Red Dog Enterprises. It was initially installed in a more complicated fashion than it needed to be! Chris is following up with Munro to learn how to turn down the pressure. Chris is painting the pump room, fence around the dumpster and the shade structures.

- **Pool Statistics** - We had about 500 more people this year than last - with a 10 day closure! Lenore has ordered 2 new picnic tables and a few more umbrella tops and a rope for the deep end. There have been requests from the guards to get a Keurig coffee maker.

Sara heard from 8 people who didn't feel they got what was advertised to them from Memorial Day to Labor Day that there was poor planning on our part to not have it open on all those days. Sara thinks we need to plan ahead to make sure we keep the pool open. What can we provide? Incentives?

- **Program Coordinator** - Teresa had to resign because a fulltime job she had applied for came through after all. She is still working her 2-week notice. Lenore and the hiring committee offered the job to Max Heepke. Daniel thought the 2nd candidate was a good candidate and was the most expedient to try him before we open the position up. Max was happy and accepted the position. He is in Fort Morgan with his family and will need to be there for a month or two. We could offer him some duties now or wait until he is back in town to begin.

The Board thought that since soccer is already rolling, he could do a soft-start now to brainstorm and make contacts and build on Teresa's initiative via telephone and email. Daniel suggested that by a decided deadline we could require that he be in the valley. Teresa had met all the people and now he will have to re-meet them.

Old Business

Work on Skatepark Grants, no update

SAM# no update

Watershed Management, Wright Water Engineers - Sven talked to a foreman on a construction project and explained our project to him. His recommendation was for long-term planning and liability we should pursue a civil engineer and come up with a legitimate plan then someone else can do it. The certified engineer stamp will help cover the District.

Lenore called Wright Water Engineers. She talked to Scott Schreiber, Certified Flood Plain Manager. For \$5k he would do a site-visit, develop the hydrology flow rate, compare with rainfall event, do a Lidar

map of the site and write a memorandum outlining the approximate cost of the advised project. After their visit it would take 20-30 days for the Memorandum. A motion was made by Sara Sharer to initiate a contract with Wright Water Engineers, Michelle Pagone 2nded, the motion passed.

Bo Nerlin letter to property owners Bo has not written a draft yet, nor has he called back. Lenore may need to write a letter herself and have him look it over.

Action Plan Next Steps

Sara proposed that tonight we spend 45 minutes to come up with 3 things for 3-year plan, 5-year and 10-year. We came up with 8 priorities. Next month we will stretch each item out in time.

Next Meeting - Our next board meeting will be on Monday, October 3rd to accommodate preliminary budget deadline.

New Business

- **Property Tax Estimates** - We are estimated to receive \$265,304.93 for 2023.

- **Salaries for Review** - Lenore provided the SDA salary overview from Recreation Management Magazine

- **Western Colorado Community Foundation grant**

Michelle presented the WCCF Grant. She filled it out, and passed it onto Adam to submit. She hasn't heard back from him if he has submitted it.

- **New Gator Recommendations**

NFPPRD is in need of a new Gator - Michelle is on the hunt for a used one with a dump bed. Michelle will bring an estimate to our next meeting

Sara will bring paper next month

- **Preliminary Budget due 10/15** - that's why we're moving the meeting to October 3.

Administrator's Report

- P&L & W/C Renewals (Profit and Loss and Workers Comp)

- GOCO Grant Youth Corps project work submitted by Ben

- New bank account for soccer. Lenore suggested we get an account at a different bank than we already use and she suggests First Bank Colorado on 4th and Bridge.

- Niki to get estimate for proposal from Jake Hartter for a habitat plan, and for office furniture.

Marketing – Niki Richardson

Ads & press releases

Treasurer's Report – Daniel presented the financials.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Niki Richardson, Board Clerk

Approved: _____ Dated: _____