

**CITY OF CONNELL
PARK BOARD MEETING
February 13, 2018
Minutes**

Call to Order: 6:01pm

Attendance:

Present: Chairman Manny Choi, Board Members; Lilly McBride, Betsy Aleman, Sarah Gallo arrived at 6:02 pm and Julie Brown arrived at 6:20 pm.

Staff: Mayor Lee Barrow, City Administrator Maria Peña, Secretary Marissa Ortiz and Public Works Supervisor Ed Brown.

Visitor: Judy Booker

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Chairman Choi moved to approve the April 25th 2017 minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Board member McBride. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Chairman Choi moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Board member McBride. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Park Board Meetings-Time/Date

The Park Board meeting schedule was set for the 2nd Tuesdays of each month at 6 pm.

Appointments

Park Board members appointed Lilly McBride as Vice-Chair.

Basketball Court Discussion

The Park Board heard a presentation from Judy Booker. She requested the support of the Park Board for the construction of a basketball court at Pioneer Park. The idea was that the community would sponsor half of the cost with the City putting in the other half. The court would be full size, 70' x 80' with four hoops. The proposed site was the sand lot area where other sports were played on very rarely. She mentioned the children who live near that part of Connell do not have a basketball court. Mrs. Booker did research and collected cost estimates of the project. Overall she received positive feedback from the community. A flyer was created called "Hoops through life" she hoped to catch attention with it for the fundraiser; it was presented to all members. City Administrator Maria Peña stated the donations could be brought in or mailed to the City Hall. Staff would create a line item specific for incoming donations and then be able to keep track of. The approximate cost for the entire project was \$30,000.

Motion: Chairman Choi moved to make a recommendation to City Council to approve the construction of a basketball court at the Pioneer Park and for the City to provide 50% towards entire project cost. Motion seconded by Board member McBride. Motion passed unanimously.

CMC 2.20/Rules & Procedures

City Administrator Maria Peña reviewed Connell Municipal Code 2.20 and the rules of procedures of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. She informed all members of their role as a Park Board member. These rules of procedure were adopted in 2011 by previous Park Board members and could be modified if needed.

Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan 2014

Currently the full Comp Plan was being updated and needed to be adopted by June 2018. City Administrator Peña stated the Comp Plan for the Park & Recreation for a City this size was not a required element but for funding grants it was important. Grants were coming up and the City would be applying for them. She suggested that during the City's budget season discussion it would be best to include the Park & Recreation Board along with the Public Works Department. Both could discuss ideas, maintenance and the future of the City parks.

Other

The maintenance of the Ball Fields was brought up by Board member McBride, who was responsible? Public Works Supervisor Brown said the City had an agreement with The Little League Coaches to keep the fields maintained. The City would need to have better communication with the Little League Committees.

Board member McBride inquired about the Pool water slides and their future. City Administrator Peña stated there were different options. Because the slides were donated the contract stated they needed to be used if they were operational. Since they were operational the City needed to comply and if not operational then the City would need to justify the reason. Public Works Supervisor Brown replied that the red slide was not operational due to leaks but it could be sealed and fixed. An option was to remove the slides but the City would need to put in something else in their place. A splash park was an idea; it would not need to be manned. Overall for pool season 2018, the yellow slide was in good condition, the red slide was not and the blue slide was in question. City Administrator Peña would contact RCO Grant Agency to notify them of these issues and gather more information.

City Administrator Maria Peña reported an email was sent to Mayor Lee Barrow from the State Senator. They asked if any maintenance was needed at the City Pool. Possibly a \$25,000 grant was available towards maintenance on the pool. The City applied for this grant, but had not heard back yet.

City Administrator Peña stated The Port of Pasco economic development project was in process of making a final decision on how the allocated money, (\$250,000) would be spent in the City of Connell. The vision was that a welcome center/visitor center be built and it would include bathrooms and an information center. The site proposed was an abandoned railway property on Columbia Ave. between East Ash and East Birch. The parcel adjacent to that site was owned and in the past the owners had approached the City about selling the land. Staff was waiting to hear back from the property owners as to whether the parcel was still available for purchase.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.