

TENNILLE	Vacant	Vacant	TONY	KEVIN	RYAN	CARL	Vacant	TOM
ADAMS			BRAND	DANE	HORSLEY	LEGG		REYNOLDS
VICE-CHAIR				CHAIR				

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

TRAVIS ROTHWEILER	CITY MANAGER
SHAWN BARIGAR	COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE
DENNIS BOWYER	PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR
MITCH HUMBLE	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

**TWIN FALLS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

April 15, 2014* * * * * 11:30 am * * * * * City of Twin Falls Council Chambers

Members Present: Tennille Adams, Kevin Dane, Ryan Horsley, Tony Brand and Tom Reynolds

Members Absent: Carl Legg

Council Present: Shawn Barigar

Staff Present: Dennis Bowyer, Stacy McClintock, Mitch Humble and Nikki Miller

Staff Absent: N/A

MINUTES

Chairman Kevin Dane called meeting to order at 11:36 am.

Item #1 Approve minutes of the March 11th, 2014 meeting

Ryan Horsley motioned to approve the minutes of the March 11th, 2014 meeting. Tennille Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #2 Parks/Recreation Staff Reports

We have completed registration for soccer and games will start on Monday April 14th. The season will run through May 8th and all games will be played at the Sunway Soccer Complex. We had more participants enroll this year which was up 21 participants from last year's 717. Baseball/Softball regular registration began Monday March 31st and will end Monday April 28th.

Men's & Coed Softball rosters will be due on Friday May 2nd. The men's league will consist of 16 games with a double elimination tournament to follow and the coed will consist of 10 games with a double elimination tournament. The cost is \$810 for men's and \$650 for coed, which

includes game balls and scorekeepers. Games will start the week of Tuesday May 27th and run through the 2nd or 3rd week of August.

Hershey's Track Meet will be held at Canyon Ridge High School on Saturday May 10th from 9am to 1pm. We will be working again with the Twin Falls Kiwanis Club to offer this free event for boys and girls from the ages of 7-14 in the Magic Valley.

Spring/Summer Recreation Guide is currently at the printers, so look for it soon at the Parks and Recreation office, Hansen Building, City Hall, Library, YMCA and the Y/City pool. The Recreation Guide will also be available on line at www.tfid.org.

We are currently taking registration for our **"Sporties for Shorties"** program. This program is designed for 4 and 5 year old boys and girls. This program is designed to introduce the fundamentals of all sports, soccer, basketball, football and baseball in a non-competitive environment. Each Saturday, participants work on skill development while having fun. There are no designated teams or coaches and parents are required to participate with their child. Each participant will receive a t-shirt.

Success Martial Arts is a fun and positive way to give kids a head start. Students learn the benefits of discipline and confidence as well as developing coordination, strength and flexibility. These skills will prove valuable in all areas of life. This program is designed for all ages and levels of ability. Season begins May 5th. The cost is \$89, includes uniform.

Currently we are prepping the softball and baseball fields for **Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth** baseball/softball.

Dr. Ward from Ward Orthodontics will be sponsoring the baseball/softball shirts this year.

Staff has purchased a storage container at the Sunway Soccer Complex, so we will not be renting from Apex container anymore.

The past month the Parks Department has been working on the following projects and regular maintenance:

- Baxter's Park is under construction, PI line has been installed, pump house concrete pad has been poured and the pump house has been placed. More grading and rock removal is being done. Seeding will take place later this month.
- Two pre-fabricated restroom and two picnic shelter permits have been secured and the contractor will be Doug McCoy Construction.
- All the restrooms are now open. These restrooms are cleaned first thing in the morning and then again in the late afternoon. Some restrooms require more frequent cleaning based on usage in the summer hot time.
- 19 trees have been planted at Shoshone Falls Park and 22 trees have been planted at Baxters Dog Park.
- Pre-emergent herbicide applications are complete.

Dennis also indicated that the City Council has approved a contract with International Mountain Bike Association and they are down here right now at the BMX bike park. They hired a company and they are out there moving dirt around. Bikers are already out there biking. Bob Seastrom with Cycle Therapy has a lot of volunteers working out there, Dwaine Loosli and his company are out there working and Dennis mentioned he has also seen a local fireman out there doing some welding.

Item #3 Underwater Park at Dierkes Lakes Proposal

Dennis introduced Paul Melni, the master scuba diver trainer and he is also currently s volunteer diver for the Twin Falls County Sheriff's search and rescue team. We viewed a PowerPoint presentation for his proposal to create an underwater gallery of objects to be used as an attraction for recreational scuba divers. Underwater parks are becoming very popular. He would like to make Dierkes Lake a scuba park and a fish habitat.

Currently in Dierkes Lake there is a scuba platform that is identified by a buoy, there are also a couple of sunken row boats, a metal outline of a shark, and a couple of hula hoops and the most prized item is a toilet. The toilet is used in search and recovery training.

The objective of this proposal is to create an artificial fish habitat and enhance the recreational diving experience. It will also improve fishing opportunities by developing an offshore reef.

Paul's PowerPoint presentation included various areas that have these underwater parks. Other artificial reefs include tanks that have been sunken of the coast of South Carolina, the USS Oriskany, the world's largest artificial reef which is off the coast of Pensacola, Florida, there are two underwater national museum's off of Mexico, there are over two hundred statutes in one of them and Louisiana State reef foundation is using old oil rigs and riggings for artificial reefs. British Columbia just sank an old 747 plane for a tourist attraction as well. There is an F4 Phantom is resting at the bottom of the Sparks marina outside of Reno.

There are environmental benefits to these underwater artificial habitats such as allowing for new spawning grounds. In cooperation with the Idaho Fish and Game we will be putting what looks like artificial Christmas trees down there for the fish to congregate and the items we would like to put down in Dierkes Lake. All structures will be environmentally safe and checked by DEQ or the EPA and the US Waterway department.

Paul went to explain the safety of all the structures and how they will be fixed to the bottom of the lake permanently. He also talked about cost and time. All structures and installation are going to be donated. Paul has been in contact with the Idaho Sculptures Association in Sun Valley and they will be helping with some sort of structure. All air and tanks will be donated by River Rat for all who will be donating their time and services. In regards to cost we are asking to have a sign placed at Dierkes Lake and have recognition for those who donated and helped as well as some safety rules for diving and specific diving rules for the underwater park. The time portion will be limited for installation. Paul would like to break it up into two phases with the first phase being the airplane and the second phase being in cooperation with the Fish and Game by placing the fish habitats and to do an annual check.

Paul showed where the underwater platform and sunken items are. He showed the proposed area for the underwater park. It is approximately ½ mile circumference and located out where the underwater platform is located.

The marketing plan is to get help in getting objects for the park and help in getting the word out. Paul will be getting with KMVT to get some of them involved in some dive training and hopefully get a story going. An airplane has been donated for the park plus some wings from another aircraft and parts of a helicopter.

Questions in regards to the location of the park were raised. The park will not interfere with anything that is already there, the springs, the platform or the orchard. It is right out in the middle.

How will the items be secured to the bottom? The items will be secured to a platform that will be secured to the bottom of the lake. This platform will be immobile and the items will be bolted to it.

Dennis indicated in his staff report he listed the appropriate government approvals and Paul was in line with those. He also indicated that costs were discussed and seems minimal and we will need to take this proposal to City Council. Long term maintenance will need to be talked about and figure out who will be checking the park.

Tennille asked if we had an idea of the number of scuba divers in the area. Paul does not actually have a number, but it does seem to be growing. Paul certifies about six new divers a month in the winter with a little more in the summer. With the loss of Dive Magic there was nowhere to get air for the tanks. River Rat has invested in a compressor so air is now available. The dive community is growing. Wednesday night is free air night which is bringing more divers.

Kevin asked if we need any type of legal agreement in maintaining the park. Paul is an independent dive instructor and has an LLC and is also employed at River Rat. Dennis will check with Fritz on any legal issues.

Ryan Horsley motioned to make a recommendation to City Council to approve the underwater park by Paul Melni at Dierkes Lake. Tennille seconded the motion. Chairperson Kevin Dane called for a roll call vote. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Item #4 Naming the Proposed Plaza and Splash Park Downtown

Terry McCurdy is representing the Twin Falls Community Foundation in the naming of the proposed plaza and splash park downtown. They are requesting that it be named “The Downtown Commons”. The request meets all the criteria in regards to the naming policy. Leonard Anderson the new chairman of the Twin Falls Community Foundation was also present. Ryan Horsley made a motion to recommend to the City Council for the naming of the proposed plaza and the splash park as the “The Downtown Commons”. Tony Brand seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Dennis requested Terry come back up to discuss the timeline of the proposed plaza and splash park. It had planned to start in late August, but with the proposed infrastructure projects Urban Renewal Agency is planning downtown, such as sidewalks, curb, gutter, and sewer and water lines, they are delaying the work on the plaza so everyone can work together.. Terry anticipates 2015 to be a great year.

Item # 5 Openings on Commission

We have two openings on our Commission. Interview committees will consist of the Mayor, Council Liaison, City Staff and chairperson of the commission. We have interviews tomorrow and Friday. We have six applicants for our two positions. Dennis is confident that Liyah will be reappointed at the same time. After the interviews are completed and background checks are done, the recommendations will go to Council.

Item #6 Arbor Day Celebration

The 18th Arbor Day celebration will be on April 25th, 2014, at 4pm at Vista Bonita Park. The Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley along with employees of Cactus Petes - Ameristar will be helping the City with the celebration. We will be planting four trees. Ameristar donated \$500 for two trees and the City received a \$300 grant from the Idaho Department of Lands. This year is the 16th year the City have received the award of being a Tree City USA through the National Arbor Day Foundation. Dennis will send out a personal email to the Commissioners. .

Tony asked that Dennis remind the Commission and others that the Parks and Recreation Commission have absorbed the Tree Commission duties. Dennis indicated that about five years ago the City Council decided to dissolve two commissions and the Tree Commission was one of those. They wanted to appoint someone from the Tree Commission and that is how Tony got on this board as we did at that time have an opening. Dennis does not bring much to the Commission for tree issues, the department handles that internally. The code enforcer for the City helps resolve tree issues as well.

Item #7 Other Items from the Commission

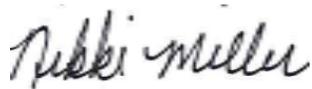
Dennis indicated that we will be doing a pilot program for the recycling project in the park. The neighborhood parks will be easy to do it is the larger parks that might be a little difficult. We are working with the Magic Valley Soccer Association; they are going out on their own to get a large recycling bin out there during their tournament in May. We are still working with PSI and there will be a cost on having recycle containers at the parks.

Tennille commented on the all-inclusive park at Frontier Field. They will be doing a kickoff event in May to let the community know what the plans are to make Frontier Field an all-inclusive park. During the summer events locally, the group plans to staff a booth to sell pickets in the fence that will be surrounding the park. They will be working with the schools in September to come up with some ideas that students would like to see and then have a design day kick off in September. Dennis indicated that Hailey Barnes is leading the charge on that and has already got a donation for that. This is going to be a very unique park with up to 10,000 square feet of property to work with. The goal is to have it done in a year. We are hoping to have the fund raising started in September to reach the goal.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 19, 2014. This is Dennis's 34th year of being involved in the event. We have 1000 eggs per age group and the Twin Falls Optimist Club disperses the eggs and there are six special eggs per age group that will have a coupon to redeem for a gold coin dollar donated by Zions Bank.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 13th, 2014 at 11:30am located at the City Council Chambers, 305 3rd Ave E.

Nikki Miller

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nikki Miller".

Administrative Assistant