

TENNILLE	LIYAH	JEFF	VACANT	TONY	KEVIN	RYAN	CARL	BILL
ADAMS	BABAYAN	BLICK		BRAND	DANE	HORSLEY	LEGG	MERRITT
VICE-CHAIR					CHAIR			

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

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

TWIN FALLS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 10, 2012* * * * * 11:30 am * * * * * City of Twin Falls Council Chambers

- Members Present:** Tennille Adams, Jeff Blick, Tony Brand, Kevin Dane, Ryan Horsley, Carl Legg and Bill Merritt
- Members Absent:** Liyah Babayan
- Council Present:** Greg Lanting
- Staff Present:** Dennis Bowyer and Stacy McClintock
- Staff Absent:** Mitch Humble
- Guests:** Marcia Lanting, Steve Vawser and Sally Overton

MINUTES

Chairperson Kevin Dane called the meeting to order at 11:39 am.

Item #1 Approve minutes of the December 13, 2011 meeting

Ryan Horsley made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 13th, 2011 meeting. Bill Merritt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #2 Parks/Recreation Staff Reports

Dennis went over the Parks staff reports. Parks staff has been working on regular winter maintenance in the shop. The swimming pool boilers have been repaired and a new heat exchanger will be delivered sometime in February. The construction of the Ascension restroom continues and tree pruning has begun and will continue through early spring.

Stacy went over the Recreation staff reports. Boys winter basketball will begin on January 14th. The numbers are down a little compared to last year but that could be from Canyon Ridge, Boys and Girls Club and Upward offering similar programs. Adult basketball begins January 10th for both the men and women’s leagues. This

year we have 35 teams, which is the same amount as last year. There have been some teams wanting to sign up late but with the season starting right away, we have not been able to accommodate them so hopefully next year we will see an increase in teams. Adult volleyball will be ending their season soon and everything has gone well with this league.

Hands On is still offering Storytime Pottery. Cabin Fever Day was held on Saturday, January 7th and was a great success. Pomerelle is still offering their ski packages. Right now there are approximately 50 participants signed up and registration will continue through Thursday, January 12th. Registration for youth wrestling has also started and the season will begin on February 27th.

Item #3 Recreation Center Committee Update

Dennis updated the Commission on the last Recreation Center Committee meeting. The meeting was held on December 20th. The Committee discussed seeking direction from the City Council on the size of a recreation center; a center just to fit the immediate needs for the Recreation Department or a large center to fit future needs of the community. Chris Scholes and Dennis will make a presentation to City Council on January 23rd.

The committee will not be meeting this month. Dennis is hoping within a few more meetings, the committee should have a final recommendation to present to Council.

Dennis introduced the Commission to the new mayor, Greg Lanting and informed the Commission their new City Council liaison will be Shawn Barigar. The City Council liaison's for the Recreation Center Task Force will be Shawn Barigar, Jim Munn and Chris Talkington.

Item #4 Facility Use Agreement with the Twin Falls School District #411

The current Facilities Use Agreement with the Twin Falls School District #411 expired last year. The proposed agreement is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2016. This agreement was included in the agenda packet for the Commission to review.

The Parks and Recreation Department uses the School District's facilities (gymnasiums) approximately 1200 hours each year at a minimal cost. The School District uses the following City's facilities: baseball field, tennis courts, parks and the golf course at little or no cost. This agreement has benefited the taxpayers of Twin Falls for many years as we shared the use of certain facilities, shared maintenance costs, shared equipment purchases and even shared some construction costs on facilities.

Dennis explained that staff is recommending for the Commission to recommend to City Council to approve the Facilities Use Agreement with the Twin Falls School District #411. The School Board approved and signed the agreement at their meeting last night. This agreement will be forwarded to City Council for their approval on Tuesday, January 17th.

Ryan Horsley made a motion to approve the Facilities Use Agreement with the Twin Falls School District #411. Tennille Adams seconded the motion. All those present voted in favor of the motion.

Item #6 Other Items from the Commission

Dennis informed the Commission that Council did approve the policy for Community Gardens. Greg mentioned that Council has directed staff to provide them with a list of City properties that could be used for community gardens. They would like the committee to deal directly with the County on using the property next

to Canyon View Hospital. Greg said the City would be willing to provide water shares for that property if needed.

Kevin stated that the committee has had great success working with the County on the land near Canyon View and they are working on finding an entity (preferably a volunteer group like the Kiwanis or Rotary Club) that will act as an organization for a 501C3 for tax purposes to move ahead with the project. The next Community Garden Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12th at the Parks and Recreation office.

Dennis also informed the Commission the YMCA is extending their hours in the afternoon through the end of March. They will be keeping track of the numbers during those hours and have been working on getting flyers made, PSA's out and the website updated to advertise their extended hours.

The Oregon Trail Youth Complex restrooms have gone out to bid. They are due January 24th. The City will be saving some money by using the City Electrician and the Public Works Department on getting water and sewer to the new building. They are hoping to have the restrooms finished by the first part of May.

Item #5 Dog Off Leash Neighborhood Meeting Update

Dennis gave a brief presentation on the neighborhood meeting that was held on January 4th to discuss having a temporary dog off leash site at one of the softball fields at Frontier Field. Staff, members of the Magic Valley Canine Social Club, three Commission members and one neighbor attended the meeting. Dennis also received calls from three neighbors that were opposed to the temporary site. They were all concerned about dog owner's allowing their dogs off their leash on CSI's fitness trail. Dennis explained that they selected Frontier Field as a temporary site because the softball fields can be locked up and there are not as many neighbors that might be impacted. People are already using the fields to train their dogs and the softball fields are not being used until spring and summer.

The proposal is to provide an off-leash dog site for a trial period from the middle of January to the middle of March. The proposed hours of operation would be from sunrise to sunset, seven days per week. Steve Vawser with the Magic Valley Canine Social Club is requesting from the Commission a recommendation in allowing a temporary dog park at Frontier Field.

Sally Overton, a neighbor in the vicinity of the proposed dog park, voiced her concerns of having a temporary dog park at Frontier Field. She has lived in the area for 40 years and has not had a problem with the ball fields being close to her house. She says the noise of the ball fields is not a problem but her concern with a dog park is the contamination of urine and feces and she is also concerned that dog owners won't clean up after the dogs. She also asked who would be responsible if dogs become aggressive and bite someone. Dennis mentioned that one of the rules is that dogs must be removed from the area if any signs of aggression occurs.

Dennis also stated that the goal is to eventually have a permanent site developed for a dog park. Marcia Lanting expressed her view of a dog park. She is a huge dog park fan and after becoming retired has been able to experience dog parks in different areas. She has been working with Dennis the last two years to try to develop a dog park in this area. Marcia announced to the Commission that in memory of her brother that passed away, she will donate \$10,000 towards a permanent dog park in Twin Falls. Dennis informed the Commission there are two possible sites that are being considered for a permanent dog park. One is owned by the County off Eldredge St near the Snake River Juvenile Detention Center. The other is City owned property north of the animal shelter. Greg commented that he is leaning towards using City property north of the animal shelter.

Stacy McClintock suggested using the smaller Carter Gibb field because of the large amount of use of the larger two softballs. This field is fenced in and would have plenty of room for dogs to use.

Discussion followed.

Carl Legg made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to allow an off-leash temporary dog park at Frontier Field to include large dogs on the larger field (Field #2) and small dogs on the smaller field (Carter Gibb). Tennille Adams seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all those present voted in favor of the motion.

The Commission discussed the rules and regulations of the temporary site.

Ryan Horsley made a motion to approve the following rules and regulations with the addition of restricting two dogs per handler, no spiked collars and staff will determine the size limitations of the dogs:

Rules & Regulations for Off-Leash Dog Area

This site is open from sunrise to sunset

This temporary off-leash site will be closed permanently Monday March 12th

This site is for large dogs, 35lbs or more

This site is for small dogs, 35lbs or less

1. The off-leash dog area is for dogs, their handlers and those accompanying them. No other use is allowed.
2. Handlers are legally responsible for their dogs and any injuries caused by their dogs.
3. Handlers must remain within the fenced area at all times.
4. Dogs must be leashed prior to entering and upon leaving the area. Gates to the area must remain closed at all times.
5. Handlers must immediately clean up after their dogs. Failure to do so can result in a fine up to \$300.
6. Dogs must be removed from the off-leash dog area at the first sign of aggression.
7. Spike collars are prohibited.
8. An adult must accompany children under 12; young children must be closely supervised.
9. Puppies under four months old and female dogs in heat are prohibited.
10. Only two dogs per handler are allowed.
11. Do not bring human or dog food inside the park. Small dog treats are permitted.

12. Dogs must be watched at all times.
13. Cooperation between dog owners is essential.
14. All dogs must be legally licensed and vaccinated, and shall wear a visible dog license.
15. Users of the facility do so at their own risk. City of Twin Falls shall not be liable for any injury or damage caused by any dog in the off-leash area

Tennille seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all those present voted in favor of the motion.

Staff will provide signage for the rules and regulations, doggie bag dispensers and multiple trash receptacles at the site. Magic Valley Canine Social Club will provide sign-in sheets to track the number of users. They will also provide volunteers to help pick up during and after the trial period.

Dennis also informed the Commission that a two question survey is available on the City's website asking for the community's thoughts on a dog park. The two questions are: 1) Would you support the city of Twin Falls designating a park area as an off-leash dog park? and 2) Would you utilize an off-leash dog park in Twin Falls? As of today, 230 participants have taken the survey with 83% answering yes on supporting the city in designating a park area as an off-leash dog park and 73% answering yes on utilizing an off-leash dog park in Twin Falls.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm.

The next meeting of the Twin Falls Parks & Recreation Commission will be February 14th, 2012 at 11:30am at the City Council Chambers located at 305 3rd Avenue East.


Christi Green
Transcribing Secretary
Parks and Recreation


Lisa Strickland
Recording Secretary