TENNILLE ADAMS	JEFF BLICK	JOHN BONNETT	KEVIN DANE	ROLYNNE HENDRICKS	RYAN HORSLEY	BRENT JUSSEL	BILL MERRITT	PAULA BROWN SINCLAIR
		CHAIR					VICE-CHAIR	

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

TOM COURTNEY	**CITY MANAGER**
TRIP CRAIG	**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**
DENNIS BOWYER	**PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR**
MITCH HUMBLE	**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

TWIN FALLS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 14, 2009* * * * * 11:30 am * * * * * City of Twin Falls Council Chambers

Members Present: **Tennille Adams, Jeff Blick, John Bonnett, Kevin Dane, RoLynne Hendricks, Ryan Horsley, Brent Jussel, Bill Merritt and Paula Brown Sinclair**

Members Absent: **None**

Council Absent: **Trip Craig**

Staff Present: **Dennis Bowyer**

Staff Absent: **Mitch Humble**

Guests: **Martin Tilley and Dennis Huntting, Flight Stimulation Inc.**

MINUTES

Chairperson John Bonnett called the meeting to order at 11:38am. A motion was made by Paula Brown Sinclair to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2009 meeting. Bill Merritt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #1 Orientation of new members – Commission & Staff

Dennis introduced the new members to the Commission. Kevin Dane was a member of the Parks and Recreation Department about 10 years ago and has been an active member of the community serving on the Planning and Zoning Committee and the BID board. Tennille Adams had applied for the Pool Advisory Board but was an employee of the YMCA at the time so she didn't qualify. She is expecting her first baby and is excited to serve on the Commission. Ryan Horsley is the owner of Red's Trading Post and is also an active member of the community serving on the Planning and Zoning Committee as Chairman as well as the BID board. RoLynne Hendricks moved to Twin Falls 2 ½ years ago and is a marketing consultant. She worked for an architect company in Salt Lake City that designed recreation centers.

Item #2 Recreation Report - Staff

Spring soccer has begun but the numbers have been dropping. This could be a result of more kids participating in other sports. Youth baseball and softball registration is going on now and the deadline to register is on April 17th. Men's softball will be starting up. They had an organizational meeting on April 7th. Indoor soccer is in the middle of their season with 4 teams participating.

Item #3 Parks Report - Staff

Parks staff has been busy working on getting all the restrooms open and irrigation systems charged. They are continuing to work on the fencing at Sunway Soccer Complex. The CAM (Common Area Maintenance) has been contracted out. There are 12 different subdivisions that we manage on the maintenance of landscape strips. The new spray truck is completed. This will save a lot of time having the truck due to staff having to hand spray in the past. Staff is working on getting seasonal staff hired.

Item #4 Donation Policy Review - Dennis

Dennis reviewed the City's Donation Policy with the Commission. The policy was started in 2004 and was passed by Council. The United States Supreme Court recently issued a ruling on monuments in public parks. The community of Pleasant Grove in Utah denied a placement of a new monument in one of their parks. The issue went to the Supreme Court and their ruling upheld Pleasant Grove's policy to limit monuments in the park to those that "either (1) directly relate to the history of Pleasant Grove, or (2) were donated by groups with longstanding ties to the Pleasant Grove community."

Our City attorney Fritz Wonderlich recommended that we broaden the City's policy on memorial/donations. Dennis would like to form a sub-committee to work on broadening this policy. John asked if there have been any issues with our policy that is currently in place. Dennis stated that we have had a few because of the restriction of the wording on memorials. Currently, our policy states that "the phrases 'Dedicated To', In Honor of', or 'In memory of,' are the allowable text."

Kevin Dane, Bill Merritt, Paula Brown Sinclair and Jeff Blick volunteered to serve on the sub-committee. Bill Merritt will serve as Chair.

Item #5 Flight Stimulator – Martin Tilley – 12:00 noon

Dennis Huntting with Flight Stimulator Inc. presented a proposal to install a flight stimulator (zip line) at Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake to the Commission. Martin Tilley had made a similar request to the Commission in 2006 but the Commission did not approve his request at that time. Since then, the company has built a stimulator and has tested it at a site in Jerome. Even though the site in Jerome did not open, there has been a lot of publicity on it and the Twin Falls area in many publications.

Martin Tilley and Dennis Huntting are proposing to construct and operate at 3500 ft. Flight Stimulator starting at the parking lot at the ticket booth stretching over to Dierkes Lake. The ride would be approximately 2-3 minutes of flying. The biggest question that has come up is where participants would park. Dennis Huntting has talked to the owners of Sportsman's Warehouse asking if parking could be arranged in their parking lot. They have thought about having a shuttle that would take participants from the parking lot at Sportsman's Warehouse to the site and give a brief history of Twin Falls along the way.

Dennis Bowyer went over staff's recommendation of the proposal. Staff recommends for the Commission not to approve this proposal for the following reasons: 1) it is not appropriate for the Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake area; 2) lack of parking; 3) lack of a restroom facility; 4) it would distract from the beauty of the canyon and; 5) the liability issue. Dennis mentioned that they have checked with the City's insurance company and they said that if the City does not collect fees, then they aren't held as liable as if you do collect fees. Jeff asked Dennis if staff is against the whole idea of a zip line anywhere in the area or just at Shoshone Falls. Dennis stated that staff feels it isn't appropriate for that area and they aren't opposed to other ideas in the area.

The Commission discussed their concerns with building the flight stimulator at Shoshone Falls. Kevin Dane excused himself from voting due to his brother running the concession stand at Shoshone Falls. Paula Brown Sinclair suggested having the zip line go across the canyon at the Evel Knievel jump site and have a landing site in Jerome County. She mentioned that if the zip line was to be placed at Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake, drivers would be more focused on the zip line than paying attention to the road. Martin stated that the problem is anchoring a landing site on the Jerome side. Jerome County has been working on a proposed park there and may not allow the site to be built.

Ryan Horsley isn't against the idea but has some concerns of liability and has a few more questions about the proposal. He feels it is a safer, more controlled activity than BASE jumping. Brent feels the same as staff in keeping the area in its natural state.

Paula Brown Sinclair made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to not approve the installation of a zip line at Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake. Roll call vote showed Bill Merritt, Paula Brown Sinclair, RoLynne Hendricks, John Bonnett and Brent Jussel voted in favor of the motion. Ryan Horsley, Jeff Blick and Tennille Adams voted against the motion. The motion passed 5 to 3.

Item #6 New & Old Business – Dennis/Commission

Dennis reported that Council voted in favor of renaming the LDS Softball Complex and South Park to Oregon Trail Youth Complex. The City Council meeting was held at the Oregon Trail Elementary School and the vote was unanimous. The City is working with Lytle Signs for a new sign.

Dennis reported that Council did not approve DREAMERz request to have horse rides on the trails. Council approved the partnership of working with the Baseball Youth Trust on improving the Oregon Trail Youth Complex. Bill stated that the electrician's are putting up a test light on Friday.

Dennis mentioned that the request for maintaining the new park at the Grain Elevators has not gone to Council yet due to the owners of the land east of the elevators is having some issues with the construction work and debris.

Council approved the in lieu of request for Romero Estates. Dennis is able to put this on the consent calendar now instead of presenting to Council each request. He still needs a recommendation from the Commission on all requests for in lieu ofs.

Dennis updated the Commission on the improvements at Drury Park. All the playground equipment is in and we need to start working on the planning of getting it installed. The Commission had discussed getting the neighborhood involved in installing the equipment. Paula suggested contacting Beth Olmstead to see about getting a time set for the installation. Dennis will need to talk to the Parks staff to see when they can get the

prep work done. He suggested meeting with Paula to go over what needs to be done before setting any dates. RoLynne, Tennille and Paula will serve on the sub-committee.

Dennis reported that Council approved the request from Valley Christian Church for having their Easter Sunrise Service at City Park with amplified sound before 12:15pm. He hasn't heard of any issues that came up over the service.

The City Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 11th at 10:00am in City Park. This was the first year that plastic eggs were used. Each egg was candy filled. In years past, the Depot Grill has always cooked the eggs and Woodstone Retirement Center decorated them.

Dennis stated that they are working on the budget and it is due on Monday April 27th. He will e-mail the Commission the list of what capital improvements and projects have been done and what hasn't. The capital improvements are down to $90,000 from $300,000 but we still have the park development fund. There is money for a restroom at Sunway Soccer Complex but the project has been delayed due to Xavier building a new school and we will be able to tie into the water and sewer.

John asked the Commission if they would be available to meet in the evening next week to go over the budget. The meeting will be held at the Parks and Recreation office in the conference room at 7:00pm on Monday, April 20th. If members are not available to attend the meeting, John asked if they would e-mail him or Dennis what their priorities would be for projects.

Dennis handed out an updated Parks Facilities list to Commission members.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01pm.

The next meeting of the Twin Falls Parks & Recreation Commission will be May 12th, 2009 at 11:30am at the City Council Chambers located at 305 3rd Avenue East.

Christi Green

Christi Green
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation