

**Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District**  
**575 Ash Street**  
**Canon City, CO 81212**  
**(719) 275-1578**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 14, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER** The Canon City Area Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President, Nick Sartori, in the board meeting room located at 575 Ash Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members:

Present: Nick Sartori  
Brett James  
Joel Dudley  
Melissa Smeins

Staff: Kyle Horne Executive Director  
Dawn Green Finance Director

Attorney: Dan Slater

Guests: Luke Javernick Tony Adamic  
Jeri Fry Pat Freyda  
Judith Bridgeman Members of CAG  
Members of Friends of the Dog Park

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Board member Joel Dudley made a motion, seconded by board member Melissa Smeins to accept the consent agenda as written on the February 14, 2023 regular meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- Judith Bridgemen of the Friends of the Canon City Dog Park spoke about the community meeting to be held on April 22, 2023 at the Recreation District. Police officers and a canine behaviorist will be in attendance to discuss the issues of dog fights and aggression. She thanked district staff for removing the donation box and placing gravel

around the pavilion. The group recommends that the gate at the dog park be expanded. She distributed handouts on a consistent problem at the park- the sharing of dog treats and requested that a rule prohibiting this be added to the list of rules at the park.

## **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- Board member Nick Sartori has received comments requesting separate areas for larger and smaller dogs at the dog park. Kyle Horne stated configuring for that in the allotted space for the park is complex and that the District may likely receive complaints from other users who do not want the separation.

## **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Executive Director – Kyle Horne reported:

- Kyle Logan will be at the April board meeting to present the District’s annual audit report.
- Staff have been contacted by five students about capstone projects relating to the District. This creates some additional work for staff.
- The BASE program through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant is restarting with a new program administrator- Kerri Kingery. The focus is now on students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to high school. Working with Ms. Kingery, the District is looking for ways to enhance existing programs for this age group.
- Kyle showed photos of a recent homeless camp in the Schepp Open space that was cleaned up by parks crew members and himself. Heavy equipment was used to help haul away 4,000 lbs. of trash. So far this year the District has spent \$4,161.03 on homeless camp cleanups.
  - Kyle was informed that another camp has popped up by the DeWeese dam.
- Registrations for upcoming programs have been solid. There are a record 28 teams in Adult Volleyball, 10 teams for Men’s Basketball and over 400 kids signed up for spring soccer to date.
  - The next activity guide will be like the last, a pull-out in The Shopper.

Dan Slater:

- Dan Slater had no report.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Luke Javernick, of River Science, showed a two minute video of the modeling that has been done on the John Griffin Regional Park side channel project. He has met onsite with Kyle Horne and Don Hendricks, the water commissioner, to look at water rights and bringing water back into the channels. As a ditch owner, the Recreation District has the right to irrigate, and he believes there are several options to address the water rights issue. Mr. Hendricks will be looking at the historic records in relation to the modeling done by

River Science. A discussion followed about elevations, fishing habitat, recreational opportunities and next steps.

- Kyle provided an update on the Rouse Park Improvement project. The stadium lights are done, and he showed photos of the park taken at night during the light test, including the new light at the playground. The backstop on Field A is done and the pads for it should be shipped this month. The permits for the covered dugouts and the shade structure are in progress. G.E. Johnson has agreed to help with the construction of the covered dugouts. District parks crew members still need to do some tree work, and will be repainting and reroofing the storage shed. Kyle has spoken to Tezak about a donation for the boulders which will replace the fence on the west side of the main parking lot. He read a complimentary email he received from Mark Norman of Berwick regarding his work with Devin Everhart and the parks crew members.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- The last site audit of the pool was completed in 2018 and it needs to be updated to reflect the current condition of the pool. The District has budgeted funds in 2023 for a pool study. A document outlining three options for further study was included in the board packets. These options were provided by Mr. Connor Riley of Counsilman-Hunsaker, a reputable pool design company. The options include a light audit (\$4,500), a full audit (\$13,000) and a feasibility study (\$29,000). The light audit will update the previous audit, and it is the option recommended by staff. Staff also recommends including an extra \$3,000 to provide two generic renderings showing how a pool, which meets current programming standards, might look. To include a leisure component, such as a lazy river, zero entry and a six-lane lap pool it may take removing the volleyball court and basketball slabs adjacent to the Icabone pool. The audit work would need to be done in May when the pool systems are on, with a report to the board in June. The board discussed the options.

Board member Nick Sartori made a motion, seconded by board member Joel Dudley to spend \$7,500 on the light audit to include the option for two renderings. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

Kyle informed the board that the pool is scheduled to be open on May 8<sup>th</sup> for lifeguard training and school use. It is scheduled to be open to the public Memorial Day weekend.

- Jeri Fry of CAG (Community Advisory Group) discussed the Cotter Mill site cleanup. She distributed a brochure to the board and spoke about the history of the site, including that it was designated a Superfund site in 1984. The site is now going through remedial investigation to identify where the contamination moves. She is requesting that the District ask that the wells on District land be tested. There was discussion about the wells and springs on the Ash Street property and previous testing. Attorney Dan Slater asked about the cost. There should be no cost to the District. Ms. Fry is requesting that the District send a letter requesting that the wells on District property be tested to aid in determining contamination movement. More information about the process is available at the Department of Health.

Board member Joel Dudley made a motion, seconded by board member Brett James to request well testing for both wells on the property. Motion carried unanimously, all present voting aye.

Ms. Fry stated that CAG will be offering courses at the upcoming PCC senior college regarding Cotter.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Board Chairman Nick Sartori adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by:

*/s/ Dawn Green*  
Dawn Green, Finance Director

Approved as written or amended:

*/s/ Greg DiRito*  
Greg DiRito, Meeting Chair