

**CHEROKEE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CMD PARKS COMMITTEE**

March 7, 2018

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the CMD PARKS COMMITTEE was held on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 6250 Palmer Park Blvd., Colorado Springs, Colorado at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Ms. Jan Cederberg

Ms. Linda O'Riley

Ms. Susan Meyer

Citizens Present at the Meeting:

Mr. Kurt Schlegel, General Manager

Mr. Jonathon Smith

Mr. Roger Stolz

Ms. Assunta Manning

Ms. Christine Berglund

Mr. Randy Wentling

ITEM 1:

The Meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m.

ITEM 2:

Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 3:

The Committee reviewed the Meeting Agenda and a motion was made.

MOTION: MS. O'RILEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 7, 2018 PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING.

SECOND: MS. MEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR.

ITEM 4:

The Committee reviewed the Meeting Minutes and a motion was made.

MOTION: MS. O'RILEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 7, 2018 MEETING.

SECOND: MS. MEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR.

At this time, District resident, Christine Berglund, was allowed to speak to the Committee due to time constraints in her schedule. Ms. Berglund lives across from the Dog Park on Shawnee Drive. At one time she was told there would be a hedge or wind block at the Dog Park to shield the neighboring homes across the street from the dust and dirt that blows over to their housing area. Ms. Berglund requested information from the Committee and Mr. Schlegel if this proposed hedge is still under consideration.

Mr. Schlegel informed Ms. Berglund that \$5,000 to be spent on trees was approved by the Board at the last Board Meeting. Due to the easement along that area, the trees will have to be planted inside the fence at the Dog Park. Mr. Schlegel stated the trees that are being considered are Pinyon Pines. These trees are a drought tolerant variety which are dense in nature and once established, will require very little water or maintenance. The District will be working in accordance with the Golf Course to purchase trees at a discount rate from a local nursery.

Mr. Schlegel also informed Ms. Berglund about recent price quotes for additional sidewalk for the Eastridge Park and about the GOCO grant that is being considered for assistance in installing a skateboard park in that same area.

The Movie in the Park was discussed. Ms. Berglund and her family enjoyed the Movie in the Park event last summer and wondered if the District would be holding the event this year as well. The Committee informed her the event will be held again this year and there were suggestions of vending machines, games and other family activities that might go well with the event. Additional advertising in local schools was an idea that was brought forth that will be considered when the event gets closer.

ITEM 5:

Several Park issues were brought to the attention of the Committee. Vandalism in the parks has become quite an issue. There have been incidents of graffiti at the Pavilion, the safety harness on the handicapped accessible swing at Eastridge was broken off, the sand digger at Eastridge has been broken and had to be removed by District Staff.

The Pavilion has been rekeyed for security purposes.

The trees in the Dog Park were in need of additional dirt and mulch. In order to keep dogs from digging and damaging the trees, fencing was installed around the trees.

The warped boards on the bleachers at the ballfields have been replaced in time for baseball reservations to begin.

A vehicle damaged six of the railroad ties on the streetside area of the Dog Park. The damaged ties have been removed.

The park benches that were purchased for the basketball court will be installed when the weather warms up enough for concrete to be poured.

The park dumpster has been restored at the Eastridge Park in time for future Pavilion Reservations.

A Facilities Maintenance person has been hired to service the Dog Park and trash stations at the various parks. This staff member will also be responsible for building maintenance at the District Office as well.

Complaints have been registered by several citizens about users of the Dog Park not picking up after their pets. The District has the status of the Dog Park in "YELLOW" currently due to the high volume of use at the park and the amount of dog waste not being disposed of by pet owners.

ITEM 6:

Mr. Schlegel reported to the Committee that he has researched additional signage for the Eastridge Park area instructing users of the park to keep their dogs on a leash. He has obtained two quotes, one for \$550 and another for \$400 with installation to be done by District staff. Signs will be placed near the entrance of the Dog Park and the entrance to the west side of the Dog Park. Reports of dogs running towards children and being aggressive in the park have occurred. With the starting season of baseball practice beginning in the next few weeks, leashed dogs outside the dog park are a necessity to keep children safe. Sign size is 12" X 18".

Mr. Schlegel obtained a price quote for an additional San-o-Let for the park area. This additional unit would alleviate District staff having to open, close and clean the bathrooms at the Park. Fencing would be installed around the unit, if the District decides to go that route. The Committee requested an additional bid for a cost comparison and Mr. Schlegel will get that information by the next meeting.

Mr. Schlegel reported the cost associated with an additional parking area at the Eastridge Park. For 24 parking spaces, the size of the lot will be 7,680 square feet. The cost quoted was \$29,000 to cut/fill and pave with a 3" to 4" layer of asphalt. Mr. Schlegel will get additional price quotes for the Committee to consider.

The baseball fields still need some additional work to replace the sand that was originally put in that area and replace it with clay. Mr. Schlegel is looking into that option but has not been able to reach the supplier. He will continue to research the project.

At this time, Pronghorn Meadows resident, Randy Wentling, addressed the Committee and Mr. Schlegel about questions he had concerning his neighborhood park's development. Mr. Wentling has spoken to the County and was made aware there was grant money available with matching funds for park development. The District would have to provide \$25,000 to obtain these matching funds.

The Committee members were aware this type of grant is available, but discussed that the funds the District has for park improvements are divided between all the parks since all District residents pay the same \$1.75 fee. Mr. Schlegel also reiterated that in order to request grant money, plans for development would have to be submitted and approved by the County.

There has not been a decision for the Skateboard Park from the GOCO Grant Committee. Mr. Schlegel will make sure to give the results to the Committee as soon as he hears something.

ITEM 7:

Ms. Cederberg commented she saw an exposed sprinkler head at the dog park that needs to be buried or capped.

Mr. Schlegel stated there is a County Wide Parks Working Group Meeting on March 14, 2018 at 10 am. Ms. Meyer and Ms. Cederberg will be attending the function with Mr. Schlegel.

There were no further Public Comments at this time.

ITEM 8:

The date of the next meeting is April 4, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

ITEM 9:

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.