

## **PROST board meeting minutes**

### **11/28/2023**

Jessica Downing, Kristy Falcon, Rob Simpson, John Terbush, Jess Smith, Stacy Falk and Rob White

Staff – Diesel Post, Nate Mohrmann, Anissa Caiazza, Maggie Clark

Guests - Wendy Gorie, Lisa Walner and Ben Gilling

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

Roll call

Minutes approved for 9/26/23 – all approved

Addition to the minutes:

- CTF funds for SPOT

#### **Public Comment**

No public comment

#### **New Business**

##### **General**

CTF (Conservation Trust Funds) – can be used for very specific projects. SMT gets \$10k per year for approved projects.

We approved the underpass project – Underpass project is not dead but it's on the State's timeline. What else could SPOT use the money for. Possibly purchase of supplies for a pocket park in Poncha Springs. Fencing behind the pocket park. Lighting? – a bigger project than we have funding for. SPOT has taken over the 4<sup>th</sup> grade helmet program in partnership with Absolute Bikes. Could we use the CTF funds for the Poncha Park. Nate- could we use the \$ for a water bottle fill station (\$5-6k uninstalled). Diesel showed several visuals of the corner pocket park on Poncha Blvd and Holman (NE corner). Equipment needs to be ordered and reimbursed before the end of the year.

Rob White – proposal to use the \$10k funds for the pocket park on Poncha Blvd.

Jesss – abstain. All approved – motion passes.

Two new council members that were elected since we last met

- Aaron Stephens and Suzanne Fontana
- Ben Gilling

F st. closure – survey results are in 1200 responses.

Budget has been approved for 2024 with a few rollover projects (hot water line for the pool – project will start in February and the Scout wave readjustment, wayfinding sign projects). These are all project that were delayed and will end up in 2024.

New staff evaluation has been rolled out which is more thorough than what was previously used.

**Aquatic** – year to date numbers through October compared to the previous year

- Recreation program revenue – up 36%
- Daily admissions – up 10%
- Pass memberships and sales – up 23%
- Access scan – up 38%

Hot pools have reopened

Registration is open for youth wrestling and basketball

Registration is open for New Years day 5k

Working on the ski bus plan for this winter – trying to find a driver still

Implemented fall/winter hours in September – having the closure in the middle of the day has been largely positive with very little pushback from the community.

We still have staff constraints on the weekends and thus we've had to go to waitlists based on American Red Cross standards. Just hired a new head lifeguard.

New lap lane policy based on customer feedback – open lap lane that is not reserved- if it's not used then the drop in person can use it.

Fee schedule – 30% over 3 years (10% per year). It will go up in February. After 2024 the hope is that it would just increase at a more moderate rate of ~4%. Private facility rental has been \$60 an hour since 2011 – it costs us \$250 an hour to run the pool. The year that Salida school district went to a 4-day a week school schedule the parks and rec department received a grant to run Friday programming.

**Salida Swim and Soak** – Wendy Gorie & Lisa Walner

Presented to City Council on 10/16/23 – bring Salida Swim & Soak and outdoor soaking pools into a common conversation. We would like Salida Swim & Soak to be an official subcommittee of PROST. Once the pool and soaking pools are built then Salida Swim & Soak would likely dissolve.

The builders that we received the quote from for the soaking pools are going to come to Salida in December. Councilwoman Naccarato recommended that we sign a GOCO MOU.

Significant conversation around updates to the existing master plan (10/2019) for Centennial Park. City Council recommitted \$900,000 to the soaking pools. If another group came to us like the ice rink group came to us would we be obligated to pull together another subcommittee? Jess Smith is the PROST appointee for this subcommittee – approved via vote. Uncertain at this time of who will serve as the representative from City Council.

**Parks and Facilities**

No update this evening based on time

**\*\*Next meeting will be on January 23 @ 6pm\*\***

**Member update**

Rob White – was contacted by Scott Sandell from the youth swim team Salida Cyclones pay \$6k for the use of the pool. He mentioned that all other teams within the league are not charged any fees to use the pools. Would the city of Salida consider reducing the fees – last year they made the fee but it was very difficult. Diesel showed some charts and the actual cost is *substantially* more than the charge of \$6k.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm