

**Wasatch County Parks & Recreation SSD #21
Board Meeting
September 14, 2021
Minutes**

Attendance Live & Zoom:

Jeff Wade, Chairman	Tom Bonner, Director
Marilyn Crittenden, Vice-Chair (Zoom)	Heath Coleman, Asst. Director
Kendall Crittenden, Member	Laurie Duke, Admin. Assistant
Steve Farrell, Member	Amaria Scovil, Rec. Center Director
Danny Goode, Member (Zoom)	Erik Lappe, Rec. Center Programs Director
Mark Nelson, Member	Dustin Grabau, Interim County Manager
	Mike Davis, MIDA Coordinator
	Ben Marvin, IT Specialist

Absent:

Spencer Park, Member

Chairman, Jeff Wade called the meeting to order at 3:22 p.m.

Minutes:

Tom Bonner presented the minutes for June 8, 2021. (At the two previous meetings, July 13, 2021 and August 10, 2021 there were not enough board members present that had been in attendance at the June 8, 2021 meeting to ratify the minutes.)

Board Member, Kendall Crittenden made a motion to approve the minutes for June 8, 2021. Steve Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE:	Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE:	Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE:	Board Member, Danny Goode
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden (Absent on June 8, 2021)
	Board Member, Mark Nelson (Absent on June 8, 2021)
ABSENT:	Board Member, Spencer Park

Tom Bonner presented the minutes for the August 10, 2021 meeting. Board Member, Mark Nelson made a motion to approve the August 10, 2021 minutes. Board Member, Kendall Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE: Board Member, Mark Nelson

NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Board Chairman, Jeff Wade (Absent on August 10, 2021)
Board Member, Steve Farrell (Absent on August 10, 2021)

ABSENT: Board Member, Spencer Park

Warrants:

Tom Bonner presented the warrants for August 5, 2021 through September 8, 2021 in the amount of \$168,550.94.

Kendall asked if the Utah Tennis Association was for playing inside the Rec. Center and Tom answered that is was.

Board Member, Steve Farrell made a motion to approve the warrants for August 5, 2021 through September 8, 2021 in the amount of \$168,550.94. Board Member, Kendall Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE: Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE: Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE: Board Member, Mark Nelson

NAY: None
ABSENT: Board Member, Spencer Park

Approval of District Vehicle Accident Policy:

Tom presented the Parks and Recreation Special Service District #21 Motor Vehicle Accidents Policy. Jeff stated that this is the same policy that was just approved at the prior meeting for Wasatch County Solid Waste Disposal District. Tom confirmed that it is the same policy, just with the name change of Parks and Recreation Special Service District #21.

Board Member, Steve Farrell made a motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Special Service District #21 Motor Vehicle Accidents Policy as presented. Board Member, Kendall Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE: Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE: Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE: Board Member, Mark Nelson

NAY: None
ABSENT: Board Member, Spencer Park

Discussion/Consideration of Rec. Center and Event Center Sunday Opening:

Tom reported that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board has recommended that the Rec. Center and Event Center open on Sunday during the winter months, with limited hours. Tom explained that at our last Advisory Board Meeting on September 2, 2021 this was discussed again at length. Tom said that their main concern is the labor shortage, not just now, but also in previous years. He said that they have struggled just trying to get people to apply for these part-time jobs and even the seasonal jobs for the summer months. Tom stated that they are willing to try opening on Sunday. He commented that someone on the Advisory Board noted that in Park City they are hiring one full-time employee instead of three or four part-time employees in order to be open on Sundays. Tom said that could be an option for us, but we would have to go back and look at the budget to see if that would be possible and bring those numbers back to this council. Tom stated that he needed a decision on this so that staff can be instructed on what direction we are going to go.

Steve asked how many employees would be needed for Sundays and Tom answered that one full-time employee could probably handle it since there would not be any programs going on. It would strictly just be people coming in for open play and it would just be a limited schedule such as 10 am to 2 pm, mirroring what the Fit Stop hours are on Sunday. Tom believes that right now if we were to open on Sunday we would have to hire another full-time person. Steve asked how many people he thought would be coming in on Sunday and Tom responded that we just do not know, and have no way of knowing, unless we tried it. Tom reported that we have done surveys in the past, but that we cannot tell what the number of people using the facility would be. Kendall commented that he thinks people might say on a survey that they would use it and then not use it and Tom answered that, actually, the surveys showed between 85 to 90% of the responses said they would not use the facilities on Sunday.

Marilyn asked Tom what the motivation was to consider opening on Sundays. Jeff Wade answered that he has had numerous requests for the Event Center and, now more recently, requests for the Recreation Center to be open on Sundays. He said that he brought this issue to Tom about a year ago. Tom stated that over the years they have probably had this discussion five or six times.

Mark stated that he is against opening on Sunday. He feels that it will open a door that will lead to many other things that he does not think will be good for the county. Tom responded that it would need to be specified that we do not do events on Sunday.

Steve asked if our parks were all open on Sunday and Tom answered that yes, Southfield Park, Vets Park, and the outdoor arena are all open and available for use on Sundays. Steve commented that he feels like we have ample facilities open. Tom explained that the push for the Event Center and Recreation Center to be open on Sunday is for the winter months, November to February or March. Tom said that during the winter we extend our hours at the Rec. Center so we are open 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and open until 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The Event Center riding arena is open year round 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Tom stated that they would only be in favor of this trial for the winter months, because it would not make any sense to open in the summer when we are already very slow.

Jeff said that after the discussion at the Advisory Board meeting they were in favor of opening on Sunday, but understood the employee issues. Kendall stated that he agreed with the comments that Mark made. He said that with the extended hours he does not see a need for the additional few hours on Sunday. Marilyn commented that she thinks there is enough stress on our finances in Parks & Rec. right now for other areas that would probably address more of the population than opening on Sunday. Tom stated that he would like a decision on this one way or the other so they can move forward.

Board Member, Kendall Crittenden made a motion that we do not, at this time, consider opening the Recreation Center and Event Center on Sundays.

Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden seconded the motion.

Steve commented that we should table this motion so that if there is more justification it can be revisited. Marilyn stated that Tom has asked for a decision today. Kendall stated that a motion has been made and seconded and if it turns out that there is more justification later it can be put on the agenda and discussed at that time. Kendall said that we need to vote on the motion. Jeff agreed.

Motion passes 5 to 1 with the following vote:

AYE:	Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE:	Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE:	Board Member, Mark Nelson

NAY:	Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
------	---------------------------

ABSENT:	Board Member, Spencer Park
---------	----------------------------

Tom stated that he will notify the Advisory Board and if further issues come up, they will be addressed at a later date.

Director's Report:

Cowboy City: In regards to Cowboy City, Tom reported that Troy Ostler has all the information he needs and is going to give us an engineer's estimate so we can move forward on the RV Park.

Kendall asked if we had an agreement with the city regarding sewer hook-ups being transferred and Tom responded that we do. Tom stated that we will only be taking about 100 of the 300 sewer hook-ups. Tom said that there were about 300 full hook-up spaces at Cowboy City and that there will be between 200 to 230 spaces at the new area. Only 100 spaces will have full hook-ups and the rest will just have water and power. There will also be a 2-lane dump station. Tom will work with Dustin on sewer hook-ups being transferred from the city.

American Rescue Plan, (ARP) Funds: Tom reported that he has had discussions with Dustin Grabau in regards to the ARP funds. They have solidified numbers for the budget and the Parks & Recreation portion of the MOU. He said that he will probably bring preliminary numbers to this Board in October.

Fitness Court: Tom reported that he received a request from Mayor Potter regarding a grant that they have applied for to have a Fitness Court. It takes up about as much space as half of a tennis court. Their intentions were to put it at the Muirfield Park, but the group came back and said that wasn't a good spot because it is not very visible. Mayor Potter is requesting that they put it at Southfield Park. Tom commented that it would be a good amenity for Southfield Park but he has a few concerns: 1) The cost to maintain it. 2) The time and manpower to maintain it. Tom reminded everyone that we just discussed the labor shortage. 3) Vandalism, and 4) Parking issues.

Tom commented that the best place to put it would be just north of the restrooms by the skate park. There is a spot there that would work, but if there are any other programs or activities going on such as, soccer, flag football, or pickleball, parking is definitely an issue. He said that Mayor Potter agreed to pay the costs to maintain it, but Tom said he is still worried about manpower and parking. He stated that parking becomes a big issue when people are parking all over, and especially on Midway Lane, when there are so many children present as is the case with the soccer program. Tom said that another option would be to find a place at Vets Park where parking would not be an issue, but again Tom is concerned about manpower.

Mark asked if they have already applied for the grant and Tom responded that they have, but they need to have an answer on where it will be located by the end of September. Mark wondered why they would apply for a grant when they did not have a location for it. Tom reiterated that it was going to be at Muirfield Park and then their committee decided that wasn't a good place for it.

Mike Davis brought up a good point that we would need to check with our insurance provider. There are a lot of issues associated with this type of equipment that the District could be held responsible for since it is on our property.

Mark commented that Marilyn had previously suggested an ADA addition to our parks and felt that would be a better addition. Marilyn stated that she thinks the Parks & Recreation District need to develop their own plan for future additions instead of having to address things as they are brought to us. She said that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board are planning for the future and to have the funds as we move forward.

Community Redevelopment Agency, (CRA): Mark asked Tom if anyone from Heber City has talked to him about the CRA and their plans. Tom answered that yes, Matt Brower came to our Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, July 1st, and gave a presentation. He said that Matt did not go into specific details, but Tom felt he was looking for support from the District. Mark stated that both Vets Park and the Event Center are in that plan and so he wants Tom to be involved. Tom agreed. Mark's concern is that CRA's vision and plans are not consistent with the county's plan. Mark feels that for the CRA to succeed it needs to be a joint effort and plan. Tom agreed.

Jeff asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Board Member, Kendall Crittenden made a motion to adjourn. Board Member, Steve Farrell seconded the motion. Motion carries with the following vote:

AYE:	Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE:	Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE:	Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE:	Board Member, Mark Nelson

NAY:	None
ABSENT:	Board Member, Spencer Park

Meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.