

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
Advisory Board
May 21, 2021 Minutes

Members in attendance were Chairperson Tom Rennick, Roman Jefferson, Kenneth Quigley, Alan Klein, George Tripp, Lucia Story, Councilmember Arlina Yazzie, and Director of Parks and Recreation Dean Palmquist.

No guests were in attendance.

Chairperson Tom Rennick brought the meeting to order at 7:05 AM and welcomed everyone to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Advisory Board Meeting.

Minutes from the April 16, 2021, advisory board meeting were approved.

Old Business

- A. Update on Urban Forestry Program** – Roman Jefferson and Dean Palmquist shared that a presentation was made before the City Council at the Tuesday, May 11th, Council Workshop about reestablishing the Tree Commission with three to five members to run it and utilizing contractual services to get more tree work accomplished each year. The next step will be to move forward with an appropriate budget proposal before the City Management and Council for next year’s budget. Also, enough members need to be solicited in order to establish a Tree Commission.
- B. Update on 3rd Street Pocket Park Community Garden Project** - Dean shared that the development of the 3rd Street Pocket Park community garden project will be delayed until the middle of July, due to the labor shortage and not having the parks maintenance division fully staffed.
- C. Debrief on Arbor Day Celebration** – Dean shared that Recreation Supervisor Rosa Dimon videotaped a segment called “Ask an Arborist a Question” with Roman Jefferson serving in that capacity to answer questions and provide more information about trees and Ryan Cox, our area State Forester representative, acknowledging our 29th year of being a Tree City USA. Dean will send the advisory board members a link to view the video of the Arbor Day presentations. Dean mentioned that Rosa Dimon will be ordering water bottles to give out to the school children around Arbor Day. Dean shared that Rosa Dimon and George Tripp helped with distribution of the Arbor Day water bottles to the schools. Dean also shared that there was still an Arbor Day poster activity that was conducted at the schools and posted on-line and at the recreation center art wall for those students interested in doing
- D. Other Old Business** – George Tripp brought up about having a tennis wall at the Parque de Vida tennis courts. It was determined not feasible to move the existing one from the old tennis courts over, as it still gets some use by pickleball and tennis players. With the additional cost of material to construct a new one, it was recommended that

the tennis group may want to form a “Friends of the Tennis” group to assist with tennis court improvements. Also, the advisory board members discussed about having a sponsorship policy in the future for local business and civic club support with these type of improvement projects.

New Business

- A. Discuss Displaying Native American Art Panels in the Park** – Dean shared a brief conceptual idea of having art panels at Veterans Park and Parque de Vida to promote local and area artists and to attract more visitors to our parks to stay longer in Cortez and help with economic impact to the community.

- B. Tour Centennial Park Disc Golf Course Basket Expansion Project** – Dean pointed out some colored stakes in Centennial Park and shared that those will be where the new disc golf basket sleeves will be placed with approximately 14 sleeves added to the disc golf course.

- C. Other New Business** – Dean announced that “Art in the Park” Days will be held on June 12th & 13th at the Parque de Vida Skate Park with different street artists.

The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, June 18, 2021, at 7:00 AM at the Veterans Park Gazebo.

Adjournment—8:13 AM