



“Creating a Community Legacy through Parks and Recreation”
Zoom Meeting
Work session & board meeting April, 14, 2021

Board Members Present: Tim Power Smith, Leroy Duroux, Bonnie Scott, Kirk Schneider, Jenn Riffle

Staff Present: Becky Wagner, Nate Grinzinger,

Public Present: Mark Godomsky, Mary Kenyon, Jeff White (Zoom), Ted Bristol.

4:00 Work session called to order at 4:05pm

4:05 Becky reviewed the mission, vision, and values of the park. Discussed the top local health issues in the country and locally. According to information from Garfield County Annual Report 2018 and Vail health report, the top 5 health issues locally are vaping, alcohol abuse, suicide, food insecurity and a senior population with two or more chronic health issues. According to the US census the combined population in Carbondale, El Jebel, & Basalt is 15,357 with 843 new housing units going in 2021 at 2.5 estimated/household that is 2107 people added within a 10 mile radius of the park. Increasing the population by 13%. We currently have 285 parking spots between Crown and the EC building, but pedestrian paths, parking and circulation all need to be considered prior to adding additional amenities to the park.

The bond: The bond is paid off December 2022. On average the bond generates 450k annually. Cost \$7.61 per 100k for residential properties and \$30.86 per 100k for commercial properties. Top reasons to extend the bond is forest service land acquisition and/or forest service building renovation. Do we want to consider asking the community to extend the bond?

Leroy asked if our new mill levy that passed in 2018 allows for capital projects. Becky mentioned we can spend our mill levy money on both maintenance and capital projects. The issue is our maintenance continues to climb as the population size continues to increase therefore less money for large scale capital projects.

Forest Service Land: The farm bill expires in 2023. Under this program the Forest Service has the authority to enter into a long-term lease agreement on qualifying administrative sites in exchange for cash or in-kind consideration. The 30 acres of land being developed Crown currently uses 9 of those acres for large events. The parcel is key for circulation, parking, and adding potential amenities in the future. How does everyone feel about acquiring a piece of this property?

Jenn feels the land should be for affordable housing and doesn't feel the park needs additional land to take care of. Leroy expressed interest in acquiring the property. Bonnie feels there is too much building going on and more residential buildings would be unsafe for pedestrian access to the park. The board agrees we should be in the conversations regarding the land as it is adjacent the park and will have great impacts on the park.

Abandoned Forest Service Buildings: There are three abandoned forest service buildings currently outside of Crown's lease with Eagle County. One building is the pump house, this building is key to the operation of the entire irrigation system and needs to remain intact. The small building between the existing office and the main building houses the electrical system for the park this building could be removed and the electrical should be updated in another building. The main building is 16,000 sqft and could be a potential spot for recreation facilities. Multi entities are interested in the 16k sqft building. The price tag to fix the building depends on what's under the roof it is estimated at 1.5 million dollars. The most time sensitive issue with the main building is fixing the roof; the price tag to replace the roof in 2020 was 186k. Another challenge with the building is the location and circulation. There is no circulation or parking around the building. This would need to be addressed prior to the community utilizing the building. Tim asked if our existing offices could be moved to another location. Becky mentioned that is a possibility. Both Jenn and Bonnie mentioned partnerships with AVSC or the Aspen Youth Center. The board agrees to remain in the conversations with Eagle County on the buildings.

Baseball fields: Potential baseball field up-grades in the future include, permanent fencing, lights, better seating areas. The board would like Becky to look into grant opportunities for lighting. Lighting will cost roughly 300k to install.

Pond (Greenbelt): The goal this year was to get our existing infrastructure up to date regarding the pond and ditch. Those changes have been made. Adding additional irrigation to the ditch area and creating a greenbelt is something the board is heavily interested in moving forward with in the future.

Playground: The board agrees on the 2025 replacement date on the playground

Bathrooms: The board agrees with looking into restrooms by the soccer fields in the next 3-4 years.

Bridging Communities: The board likes the idea of the bridge connecting Crown Mtn Park to the Rio Grande Trail, but feels someone else need to spearhead this movement.

Parking & paths: The board would like to see a cement walkway attaching the mile loop to the tennis parking lot in 2022. Becky recommended we spend

money on curb, gutter and cement walkway and leave the rest of the parking lot road base in 2021.

5:55 Tim motions to adjourn. Jenn seconds. All in favor.

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6:00 Board meeting called to order at 6:05pm

6:05 **Approval of Agenda**

Jenn moves to approve the agenda. Kirk seconds. All in favor.

6:05 **Nominations of board seats.**

Bonnie nominates Kirk Schneider for president.

Kirk nominates Leroy. Bonnie seconds.

Kirk nominates Leroy Duroux.

Yay: Jenn, Bonnie, Kirk.

Nominations for Kirk to remain Vice President.

Yay: Tim, Bonnie, Jenn, Leroy

6:22 **Public Comment:**

Jeff White is here to thank Crown for doing a great job. He complimented the bike park and spoke to how many kids are here from all over the valley. Jeff would like to comment on the Forest Service land for sale. Jeff thinks we should control the 9 acres. He completely supports Crown purchasing that land. He is very worried about letting some unknown party purchase that land that is so vital to our community.

Approval of January, Board Meeting Minutes

Bonnie motions to approve. Leroy seconds. All in favor.

Jenn requested to be added to present at the top of March minutes on the day she was late. Board approves.

6:15 **Approval of March payables.**

Jenn asked about the large Green Electric bill that came in. Becky commented that the invoice came in 2021 and is now it's on this year's budget but was supposed to be in 2020's budget.

Jenn asked why we have spent hundreds of dollars on hats. Nate replied that we are selling Bike Park hats on site as well as selling locally in stores. This will drive revenue and increase exposure and branding of the bike park. We are essentially making money to advertise our park.

Jenn asked about the Mid Valley Metro bill. Becky commented that we did not anticipate this significant of a bill to add the restrooms to their service.

Tim motions to approve the payables. Kirk seconds. All in favor.

Directors Update:

Pond & Ditch: The agri-drain has been installed by the pond, we saved 10k on putting in an agri-drain versus a concrete structure. The headgate at the Robinson ditch has also been installed. We have had conversations with the people maintaining the ditch system about our pond improvements they are thrilled with the changes.

The new Dog Park is open. It consists of 800 linear feet of wood fencing enclosing both a small and large dog park area. It is fully irrigated and is under budget by roughly 7k we are still waiting on the final invoice. We are going to test the native growth and see how it grows naturally, to determine if further landscape work needs to be completed. The current shade structure will stay in place by the tennis courts.

We will be moving our new water fountain closer to the bathroom structure. SGM bought two bike park repair stations for the bike park for \$5000 that will be installed near the entry of the Bike Park.

Mid Valley Metro jetted the piping into the shop and it is currently running well. We will need to budget money for the shop to be added onto mid-valley metros sewer system in 2022. Tim suggested that we get our septic serviced.

Parking needs to continue to be looked at as the park sees more traffic. We are adding to the current tennis parking lot by about 50 spaces in 2022.

Drainage issues on the mile loop have been documented. We have extra drywells we can install inhouse in problem spots.

Shipping containers are being fabricated on site. We have started purchasing fixtures. We are hoping for a July completion. Cost of materials went up significantly during the past couple months. We are adjusting to meet budget. For the shipping container, we eliminated the 3rd floor, went with pre fab steel railing, eliminated sail shades, built in-house bike ramps and are doing all the general contracting in-house. We are also waiting on cement and drill seeding. Tim appreciates the staff being diligent about working on cutting costs in other areas.

We still plan to plant a variety of trees at the park. Jenn wants to make sure all numbers are available to see for the public therefore would like to see updated line items in the budget to reflect the projects.

We are working with Jamie Sabbach of 110%. She is an expert in Cost Recovery Models for park & recreation. We are on phase 3 of the project currently creating service categories which will define our goals and missions around serving the community. This will help the park determine costs for use of facilities and amenities.

We would like to do a work session with the board to talk about beneficiaries of services. A work session is scheduled for May 12 at 4:30pm.

Easter Egg Hunt was a success. We spread 6000 eggs all over the park.

Sheldon Wolitski is interested in putting a temporary ice rink at Crown Mtn Park. He would pay for all costs. Becky asks if the board supports this sort of project. Jenn is worried that rink is old and may not work. Tim wants to make sure its contracted and insured appropriately. Overall, the board supports the concept.

Bike Park Update:

Currently the asphalt pump track and mulch jump are open. The BMX race track and kids strider track will be open the last week of April as well as the dirt jumps. BMX state race is August 22.

We have acquired a \$27,000 bike library from Commencal bikes for free. We will have the bikes for the season and return them at the end of year. The local bike swap will be held at Crown on May 15.

Bike Park Team sign ups are going well and spots are filling fast. AVSC will continue their intermediate clinics this year at Crown Mtn Park. Damon, our new bike park maintenance, has started working and he is doing great work. Currently we are one of the hottest bike parks in the nation. Sponsors are happy with the relationship and we are construction great ideas that serve both entities. Nate said he feels sponsors truly enjoy working with the park and feel they know their money is making a real impact. The Bike Giveaway Promo went great and First Bank is happy. Quintin Calcott and Amanda Armijo won brand new bikes.

Nate is developing a hat line for the Bike Park. The hats will be sold in local stores. Nate is also in talks with a bike tourism group that is focused on developing bike tourism opportunities for the valley.

Crown Promo Video will be complete soon. We will launch end of April-early May.

Tim motions to adjourn. Jenn seconds. All in favor.