

Minutes
Rec Center Programs, Issues and Long Range Planning
Sub-Committee Meeting
September 10, 2009

Present:

Evie Bottali	Paul Roche
Gina Carey	Robin Matthews
David Thaxter	Meredith Towers
	Linda Caponetti

Linda presented a report on the site development progress, Park design and new equipment.

Paul notified the sub-committee that the Friends of Parks and Recreation had donated \$8,000 to the Park for new equipment and an additional \$2,000 was also donated by SPIRIT. Linda mentioned that a 37' Fun Box which includes, ramps, rails and stairs, as well as some new smaller equipment will be purchased with the Grant funding.

Meredith discussed the past performance issues that have faced the Skate Park and she reviewed the current status. Meredith will work with staff to develop recommendations for a new fee structure for next season which will be presented by late November. The sub-committee discussed the fee structure, length of season, staffing and other Park issues along with the Grand Opening festivities. Two "Grand Openings" will be run; a "soft" opening this fall, featuring a skate free day to introduce the new setup and features and a fully advertised Grand Opening next spring featuring an opening ceremony, free skate day, demonstrations and light refreshments.

For study purposes, the sub-committee decided that a survey using a 30 mile radius of other skate park sites be developed covering fees, length of season, etc. It was also suggested that during the Grand Opening, Linda and Meredith capture e-mails addresses and get insight from participants regarding the options for the Park.

David Thaxter discussed the potential of holding birthday parties at the Park. It was decided that some equipment would be purchased with grant money and be on hand for parties and possible loaner stock of equipment made available. Evie had some concerns about sanitizing the loaner equipment and Linda will review various methods. Also discussed was the idea of running a small concession for parts, skates, and skating supplies to be sold at the shed. Meredith and Linda will develop a proposal to be presented for next summer.

Linda summarized the need for an independent web-site for the Park. Linda would like it to be designed by a volunteer. Meredith felt strongly that this should be discussed further before reaching a decision. Meredith will work with Linda.