

North Fork Pool, Park and Recreation District
Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2023

The Board of Directors of the North Fork Pool, Park and Recreation District (NFPPRD) met in person and through Zoom on Monday, April 24, 2023

Board Members Present: Sven Edstrom, Dan Ihnot, Sara Sharer, Michelle Pagone (delayed) and Becky Ela

Others Present: District Administrator Lenore Cambria, Max Heepke, and Board Clerk Niki Richardson, Dave Knutson, Scott Shishim, Jake Hartter, Max Heepke, Mary Smith, Chris Perry via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Review of Agenda: The agenda was unanimously approved.

Excuse Absences: Sara made a motion to excuse Michelle Pagone who will be late, Daniel 2nd. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023– Becky made a motion to approve minutes with the following change: 2nd – Daniel. The Motion passed.

Pay Bills

Sara walked through the long list of bills and proposed that we have written estimates of the engineering proposals and other contracts, alongside Bills Presented, to compare actual with estimates. She would like the Board Members to have something to refer to as these bills come in. Becky made a motion to pay the bills as presented. 2nd – Daniel Ihnot. The motion passed.

Public Appearances – Jake Hartter re: Terra Firma Habitat Restoration; Chris Perry via Zoom re: Skatepark Renovations

Pool Report

Chris Straub - Greg Hostetler to coordinate water with Chris when Short Ditch comes in (hasn't come yet). Chris putting together pool slide. Turned on fountain at ballfields and Water Bottle filling station on office building. Looking into leak in pool building, turns out it was from behind the showers. Chris has replaced the old o-rings on 5 showers. Removed broken tiles on wader. He is draining the pool to get ready to clean. The wader tile can be replaced to last another year, but may require all the tile to be replaced next year.

The baseball people said that since they've joined the new league, they are using the smaller fields so we will have time to resod Fender Field. One of the people on the Baseball board will be donating soil.

Lenore - Pool Bus Driver Kevin Leger is not available this year. We will use John Walker as the full time driver this year. He shared the job with Kevin last year. Porta Pottys ordered & placed, Path and infield dirt ordered & delivered. Concessions for Pool will still be provided by the Deck Family. Ellen Hutto to be coming next week to install tile on wader. We hired Chris' son Iain to help him with tile removal and other jobs to get pool ready.

Mary Smith - Pool Manager Report

We have a very solid roster of guards – almost every 2022 guard is returning. 4 senior guards; 7 returning guards; 7 potential new guards signed up to take the class. We won't need anyone to

volunteer for the master's Swim Club. We could also add some special events through the year like a Friday teen swim. We could potentially open a little earlier closer to Memorial Day. Swim lesson staffing is also looking good. Max described the swimming lesson sign ups. There are already 30 kids registered. He has resolved the glitch in SportsEngine that was caused by a waiting list. They want to get just the first session under control before opening up the other sessions.

Max Heepke - Program Coordinator report – Sports Engine program for swim lesson registration

Max met with Pickleballers to walk around the park and talk about the festival. There will be vendors for food and would like to have beer or cider. Max would also like to have a non-profit providing a lunch. He reached out to high school tennis coach—hasn't heard back yet. Board members suggested the Booster Club or Montessori. Identified subjects they need to talk to the town about – for example the only power is in the bathroom building. If they'll need porta-potties. They turned on the lights to make sure in case it gets dark. Whose responsibility is it to replace those halogen bulbs? Tomorrow they'll go to the Town Board and the committee will make their case for the Festival. One concern is flooding that would cause cancellation – they'd like a construction of a berm to protect the courts.

Soccer is going well. The hardest thing for Max is finding Refs. Max and his wife have both been reffing. In the fall Max would like to host a clinic to get more people interested. Max dealt with one challenging phone call. He let the angry mother say her piece and explained the logistics of organizing the teams.

Max got a really nice letter from a 13-year-old asking why we don't have a u-14 soccer since the travelling team is too expensive. There is a gap between u-12 and highschool. That could be an opportunity to build something in the North Fork to meet that need.

Skate Park – we will Zoom with Chris at the end of this meeting. He asked him to itemize what \$70K vs. \$150K would cover. Max likes Chris because he would come out to skate with the kids to find out what the community wants before starting. It would be great to decide while school is still in.

Old Business Jake Hartter and Sven Edstrom - Update on Habitat Restoration Project

Jake had a slide show for us about the Habitat Draft Plan for the riparian area out here but also for a couple other areas of our property. The total acreage is about 60 with 20 developed. He wants to take a look at the ecozones: how do we maintain and improve them and keep invasive species from taking over. He reiterated that this is a draft and welcomes feedback.

- Background
- Existing conditions
- Desired conditions

Unique property – 4 main ecozones.

Perennial water in the drainage ditch, upland adobe area, beet fields

In the Wrightwater report there are 3 main drainages, but Jake explained there is another drainage that is our current water catchment.

The north-facing slopes of ecozone 2 (Upland Adobe Area) are great. He doesn't advise many changes except possibly hand-seeding.

Jake explained the saturated soils right at the water sources that then dry out. He proposes simulated beaver dams to pond the water, keep the rushes down, have a little more open water in there and push water into the drainages, do some shrub plantings like 4-wind salt brush, currents, peach leaf willow as the soils get a little better. The green blobs on his illustration are where he proposes to

extend the cottonwood galleries (50 trees). Remove the Russian Olive, make some one-rock dams to slow and spread water run-off. After a year or two of getting the structures in place we could start planting.

Jake showed us a beaver-damn analog to mimic what beaver do to spread soils out.

Jake has been talking with Sven and Ben Graves to do a community day workshop as well as use the Western Colorado Conservation Corps crew from Nature Connection.

Ecozones 2-3 adobe hills and beet fields

Build soil slowly (5-10 years). There are some drainages that do wash and contribute sediment. Jake has created "one-rock-dams". They aren't actually just one rock, he explained, they are one-rock high. The BLM uses these in grasslands to slow the flow and spread the water out. Jake proposes about 14 little dams.

The Upper watershed is where you get the most bang for your buck in flood mitigation and we don't own those higher grounds.

Jake shared his draft schedule which identifies activities for 2023 – 2025 and includes removing invasives and planting natives and creating the dams.

Jake would like to know our budget and Becky responded that we'd like his advice for that.

Lenore - Work on Skatepark Grant GOCO Update, Other grants

Dave Knutson said that we are not clear on the MOU with the Town of Paonia and he proposed that we look at it again to see who will do what. The MOU that Paonia's attorney is preparing is still just a draft. Dave suggests we could have it be a single MOU. The two agreements are different lengths and different responsibilities. The Paonia Town Treasurer is leaving, and that person has been our main contact. The new Colorado legislation signed by the Governor brings our ceiling up to \$120k for requiring bids for projects (rather than the current \$60k). Paonia's limit is \$5k so it could be part of our MOU that NFPPRD would have that responsibility. Sven requested that we have that complete before Lenore leaves. Lenore will send the MOU to Dave Knutson for review and hope the Town can approve it.

Chris Perry (via Zoom) Skatepark renovation Design Plan, MOU draft from Town of Paonia

Perry's business is called Phantom Concrete. He has been involved in skate parks for 25 years. Lives in Colorado Springs, builds parks part-time and zoo exhibits. Max walked him through our project – it is the right size for him. Sven asked Chris what the thoughts were on our project.

Chris suggests that the slab needs some buffing, patching cracks, budget is around \$70k. He ran some crude numbers and with that \$ we could fill most of that slab with features. First thing he sees is the neighboring property, he thought maybe building a wall if the neighbors aren't excited about having a skate park as a neighbor. He proposes street obstacles in the middle like rails and curbs. We could "jazz it up" pretty good. Concrete is less noisy than steel and wood. Sara asked if he'd worked with kids' input. He could propose designs and the kids contribute ideas and tweak his ideas. That also makes the kids vested in the project.

If we could get more funding, we could expand the park towards the baseball field and go vertical. \$35-\$40 per sq. foot.

Sven asked about timing if we're able to make a decision in the next month or two, Sven asked him to come up to an estimate to design something. Chris said he wouldn't charge for design. He would rather

put the time into the build. Lenore suggested he keep track so that if we get grant funding we could use his work as in-kind or reimburse him.

Lenore, Sven Edstrom - Flood Mitigation Plan Update, Bastian Property

Sven got an email proposal from Scott from Wrightwater engineer about the flood mitigation project:

- \$5K admin
- \$10K plan and profiles of main drainage
- (\$3K Local survey from Kris Crawford)
- \$5K Analysis and profiles through whole drainage
- \$5K Development of quantities for contractors to create bids.

Once we have a plan, we will have expenses including 200ft of culvert and all the earth-moving – this could be a very expensive project. Lenore suggested we get his advice about what we can do right now to mitigate any flooding. Sven will attend a meeting on May 10th about Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-year update.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of going to this expense. In the end, we agreed to hire Kris Crawford to do the survey and have the county clean out the culvert.

Sara Sharer - Action Plan Next Steps

Niki and Sara will complete the Master Plan and present it at the May meeting.

Sven Edstrom - Pumptrack paving update

Andrew Mann is scheduling an on-site visit.

Lenore - Solar update – MOU at attorney review – Shade Structures

Bo wanted to make changes to their agreement to make sure that if there are overruns we don't have to pay for them. We'll resign it once it gets back.

District Administrator Position Update, Recommendation & role of Lenore after new hire is on board.

Dan presented the applicants:

Stephanie has the administrative skills for the job. She's a fast-paced metropolitan California businesswoman. Michelle thought that Stephanie would need to slow it country a little. She's ready, she is up to date. Michelle would recommend Stephanie. Mary also wanted someone with life experience and since Mary and Max work independently, they need someone who can mentor them. Dan recommended Stephanie as well.

Julia is very likeable, enthusiastic, and intelligent but doesn't have HR or management experience.

A motion was made by Dan to offer Stephanie Bureau the job as District Administrator at the beginning rate of \$30 per hour. Becky 2nd. The motion passed. Lenore asked what the leeway was if Stephanie came back with a counter-offer. The Board agreed Lenore had the authority to go up to \$32/hr. without conferring with the Board.

New Business

- Legislative Update

Starting in 2024, the legislation that every type of NEW bathroom (regardless of gender) must have a baby changing station in it.

Sven Edstrom - New roof estimate for shade structures and concession building at pool yard.

Sven came up with an estimate for 4 buildings - \$11,000 (\$4,500 for materials plus labor.) Part of the labor would be done by Chris. It would be nice to start on it before the pool opens and do it in the evenings after the pool is closed. We have \$250K for capital improvement. Michelle motioned to accept this proposal, Becky 2nd. The motion passed.

Administrator's Report

- Thank you from Library Reading Program
- Next month oaths of office
- Baseball games started and volunteers to spread dirt
- Agreement with Greg Hostetler for Landscaping

Marketing – Niki Richardson

Niki has purchased the paint for the mural in the pool building.

Treasurer's Report – Daniel presented the financials.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Niki Richardson, Board Clerk

Approved: _____ Dated: _____