

CEDAR CITY PARKS AND RECREATION
RAP TAX ADVISORY BOARD WORK MEETING
JUNE 17, 2020

The Cedar City Parks and Recreation RAP Tax Advisory Committee held its work meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah.

PRESENT: Board Members: Ron Adams, Mauri Bleazard, Randy Phillips, Mark Johnson, Chad Westwood, Vicki Christian, Len Badertscher, City Attorney Tyler Romeril, Executive Assistant Onjulee Pittser.

STAFF: Ken Nielsen, Chris Hudson, Scott Phillips

OTHERS: Sue Longson, Paul Monroe, Kathy Johnson, Mark Johanson

EXCUSED:

CALL TO ORDER: *Tyler welcomed everyone. He reviewed Municipal Officers and Ethics Act with everyone.* If you have a conflict of interest with any of the applicants, it needs to be disclosed. We have 2 applicants, so anyone who has close ties with either organization needs to say so. *Tyler then discussed the Open and Public Meetings Act.* To serve on the committee, you need to obey the rules, which are we can have an open and transparent discussion and in front of the public. Outside this room, if you have a quorum, you couldn't talk about RAP Tax. This also includes email and text messages. It's ok to talk, but once you have a quorum, you can't talk business. First thing we need to do is elect someone as chair.

Randy motioned to have Len elected as chair. Seconded by Mark. All voted in favor for unanimous decision.

LEISURE SERVICES – Ken Nielsen: Leisure Services Director. I wanted to let you know how great the additions look from what we received last year from RAP Tax at the Bicentennial complex. The new playground, shade structures, the blacktop, the dug outs and the parking lot. The asphalt looks great. The landscape around the playground is the only thing left to finish this summer. We get a lot of compliments from out of town tournaments of how nice it is. Cedar's struggled with the loss of the Shakespeare Festival and Utah Summer Games, but we haven't in baseball world. We have 11 tournaments this summer at the complexes. When you bring in 113 teams, that will help hotels, restaurants, and boosts the economy and it shows off our facilities. The other aspect last year was adding the infield dirt at the Hills, which has helped. The complexes are really nice. We used the restaurant tax money for shade structures at the Little League fields. We use 14-15 fields for tournaments on weekends and it's great for the city. We finished up at Bicentennial not too long ago. **Chad:** Is there going to be lighting on the Bicentennial parking lot? **Ken:** Bicentennial has lights. We put 2 lights at the end so when we turn off the field lights, you're not in the dark. **Chad:** So, when you turn off the field lights, it lights up the parking lot. **Ken:** We were worried at first that people would complain about them being on, but they like them being on. They like the security aspect.

Ken: For those that aren't familiar, pickleball is a fast-growing sport in the U.S. The City currently doesn't own pickleball courts. The only courts are at the university. We've had questions if the City has courts, and we've had to say no, we don't. Our project that we would like to venture into this year is putting in pickleball courts. It's a game for all ages. It's a huge sport in St. George and becoming popular here. This is the cost of the net structures. They are in-ground in sleeves like tennis courts. The information is there for what it entails. It's the same kind of level as tennis courts. What we'd like to do is copy from a St. George company down there. The area at the Aquatic Center we'd like to use is the large cement area on the SW corner by the pool. There's a basketball court there now, but we'd like to turn it into pickleball courts. This is the concept we're looking for. That big cement pad on the SW corner. We roll up the doors for the outdoor pool and the indoor pool and we didn't feel like we had anything that we feel is worthwhile on that side. There's enough area to put in 4 pickleball courts. The material is an acrylic material that's rubberized, and it's laid on the concrete, but it has the feel of give, so no shin splints. They've had great success with it. It weathers well in snow. St. George says it's easily taken care of. The courts are roughly \$4,870 apiece. They all run the same direction. We would run North to South. You don't play East and West because of the sun. It has a bit of East side protection from the pool. We want to put it out front where it's visible and easy access. It's something that helps complete the complex. **Len:** When are they available to the public? Will they be shut down at certain hours? **Ken:** They'd be available from sun up to sun down. The Aquatic Center opens at 5 a.m., so there's no reason that we can't have it at those hours. There are no lights on them now. We can run them throughout our operation hours, Monday through Friday. Saturday would be 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. **Mark:** Will you charge a fee? **Ken:** That's still in discussion. We want to make it free to public. We can send them out there and not have them enter the pool or other amenities. **Mark:** Is the plan is to try and grow it? **Ken:** We want it to grow and give kids something to do. You'll get the concept when you see on our next project. **Len:** Will you rent the paddles? **Ken:** Yes, the balls and paddles. We'll get the economy paddles and they'll be available to the public. **Ron:** Are you going to put the door in to access the courts from the inside? **Ken:** Currently, there's a door that goes out to the North. It's not an entrance to the pool, it's in the lobby. It'll lead straight out to the courts and we can police that. If they want to go any further, they'll need wristbands. **Mauri:** Will there be netting around the outside so they can't go from one area to the other? **Ken:** We have a fence on the West side. We can put a fence in the corner. Right now, the pool doors on the West don't open. It's the doors on the South that are open. We can restrict that. **Mark:** I can see how you look at this moving forward in the future. It wouldn't take much to put a cover over it in the future as a project to keep them going throughout the year. I was just wondering if there were future plans. Do you see a grander plan with that? **Ken:** A lot of folks love the fall. It's better to play outside in the fall. It's a possibility. We're looking at a gymnasium aspect and playing it indoors. There's not a lot that hinders us from putting a cover on it.

Ken: We also want to put in a Ninja Warrior course at the SW corner. That's the area where we'd like to put the structure. It entails a bit of body weight action. We have the design they've drawn up. It fits into the corner and measures 50x60. It's similar to what you see on tv. These pictures show the kinds of activities in there. One reason we thought of this is that it's unique. Cedar City doesn't have one. It gets kids active and it's across from the middle school. It gets kids involved that aren't on a team but would like to do things like that. There are amenities for those kids and really for all ages. There are activities like the hanging doors, the spider wall, ledges and a climbing wall formulated after the tv show. It's a great activity for getting kids out and active. There's a variety of different movements. Mostly the younger ages are doing this around town. Gyms are doing these kinds of

things. Here's a picture of the warped wall that has different levels. We wanted something at the end of the pavement to take advantage of that area. Weather's not a problem. It's eye candy and it's on the corner of the facility. It's a great activity. The price is \$80,000, which we were expecting to be much more. We want to continue to move the complex along. It will be an enhancement to the lake and the center and we're trying to move all of our property up there to move to different phases.

Chad: How much padding do you put under there? **Ken:** The soft play floor this included and it's what's always with the structure. **Chris Hudson:** The crash pads are at least 6". **Len:** Do you envision to have somebody there on duty to watch this? **Ken:** We'll staff it as far as someone to watch it, like a lifeguard. **Mauri:** Is it timed like the one in St. George? **Chris:** This particular one isn't, but we could add something like that. **Chad:** It's like a timed 40-yard dash with many obstacles. **Vicki:** People take their kids down there. **Mauri:** They seem to monitor themselves pretty well. **Ken:** There'd be no excavation. It gives us something unique. It's not like a regular playground. This is something different. **Mark:** What's the number of people that can be active in the park? **Chris:** That would be a matter of policy. We could allow it to self-monitor or give the kids 5-10 seconds between. I think it's how comfortably you are to each module without encroaching on someone else. **Mark:** You wouldn't want someone following someone else that's slower. **Chris:** They're trying to beat a time. *<Unintelligible>*. **Ken:** It would be similar to what our water slide is. The lifeguard at the top is monitoring. **Len:** St. George has one? **Vicki:** I have a friend that takes her son down there every week. **Ken:** It suits a wide variety of ages. **Chad:** What about the legal side of this? Would you have a waiver for injury to protect the City? **Ken:** I think we do. That'll be decided with fees. **Chad:** I was thinking about that and pickleball as well. **Ken:** I don't think pickleball would have the injuries compared to this. **Chad:** In my mind, I think you'd have to have a waiver or something. **Tyler:** It depends on how far we go. We did a waiver for COVID for these ball tournaments. In a situation like this being brand new, I think it would be best practice to have waivers designed for participants and monitor for a year on how many injuries we have. **Len:** What's the difference if my child got injured at a playground. What's the difference from this or the skate park? **Tyler:** It's the same. **Ken:** We didn't want a regular same old playground. The cement's been sitting there for years, so we said, "Let's finish it up and get people in". We want to bring families in and have options available.

Ken: The other aspect to bring up is the soft play area. We are in the discussions with moving the next phase of the center into a community center and put in a gym where the ice rink was. We'd like to complete the building. Moving forward as community center, part of the design originally was to have a child watch area. Most community areas have a child watch area. This is not a daycare child watch is leaving your child there while you're doing something in the building. This is someplace they can go to be watched by staff. You can't leave the facility. It's setup so moms can participate in daytime activities, families can participate. This is the design the architect of childcare. Offices are in place currently, the lobby. Those things to the North is the lakeside. That's where the childcare facility was designed to go. Plumbing's already in the ground. It was designed with this in mind. This is just completing phase. Further up to the top is the lake. Childcare is a small area outside the walls that'll have 2 restrooms, a storage area, a place with toys and walls, coloring things to where you can drop off your child. Outside it was brought up in making a soft play area outside. That would be the lobby aspect. We have this huge lobby and it doesn't come into play. It's not a necessity to have that big area. You don't need that huge space. We don't have events there. We came up with the idea of a soft play area. It's something you might see at a mall. There are toys for kids to jump on and it's mostly for the younger age groups. We picked an aquatics theme. They came up with a cheaper option. It's just an area that community centers have. They charge a rate. We were looking at them and they charge \$3/hr. to drop off their child, so they're not too expensive

and we could do memberships. This facility is essential to community centers as far as daytime use. They don't struggle for usage when schools get out. They have programs during the daytime for moms and dads that stay home who have kids or who have classes. This is where child watch comes in to play. We have already come up with a thought process for this. We've kind of cheated off Provo Rec. and Washington Rec. and other places. The parent gets a pager, they would go do their activity and if the child needs a diaper changed or is in stress, the parent comes and deal with it. The staff is there to make sure they're safe. It's not a daycare. They're on site if needed. It's not more than a few minutes away. It's a great asset to the community center and it gives you a variety to offer lots of different programs. Our ask is for the remaining RAP Tax money to go towards this after the 2 projects. This is just completing a phase. I hope we're moving towards the phase of gymnasiums in the future. I hope that completes the building. The lake has got a lot of amenities going in. We're trying to complete a Hills complex and get that finished off so the community can use it in a variety of ways. **Tyler:** In your application, this soft play is in addition to the \$111,000. **Ken:** Yes. We're asking that the \$208,000 remaining be awarded us to do the child watch. **Tyler:** It's \$208,260. **Mauri:** How much will it cost on its own? **Ken:** That's pretty much the cost of the child care facility. The architect has the rendering done. The only thing that may change is the soft play structure on which one we choose, but that area's already designated. **Ron:** So, the childcare area is an addition to the center. It doesn't exist now. Did you pick up on that? This is the soft play area. **Ken:** Everything from the office wall to the North is new. That's the outside wall is where those offices end. **Mark:** Where are the gymnasiums? **Ken:** They're to the East. That structure is currently just landscape rock, because it was already designated to finish off this phase. It's got plumbing and sewer, but no walls. **Len:** You're talking about building about 3,000 sq. ft. additional to the building. **Ken:** The outdoor area is something the architect put in. That's not walls. It will be a fenced in area. There's an existing sidewalk to the North side before you get to the lake. That's the only thing outside the current wall. **Mark:** So, that'll be outside and open to the elements? **Ken:** The outdoor will. The indoor will have doors in the lobby. That's an enclosed area that runs outside the lobby to the North. It'll be close to the lake side. If you've seen the gymnasium drawings, we've done the same thing here. We're putting it to the North, and we'll put windows in so you can get the lake view. That's a feature not everyone has. We need to take advantage of the nice things we have. **Len:** So, it's \$111,000 for pickleball and Ninja, \$208,000 for this addition. **Tyler:** Pickleball was \$19,440 for the courts, the nets are \$2,300, the Ninja Warrior structure is \$90,000, so that put us at \$111,740.00 total. If you add in the additional soft play area, that would be \$208,260. **Mauri:** Is the basketball thing happening? **Ken:** We're moving forward with that. **Tyler:** It's been budgeted. It hasn't been voted on yet to break ground. There are some additional steps that need to take place. **Mauri:** Will you need any additional funding? **Tyler:** The City has the funding. We're applying for sales tax bonds. The City has the funding to do it without raising taxes, if that's what the council chooses. **Ken:** The architect is well underway in the renderings for the facility.

CEDAR ROTARY FOUNDATION – Paul Monroe: I'm the incoming president for the Rotary starting in a few weeks. Sue and Kathy are here. They're other Rotarians here in Cedar City. We appreciate the opportunity. I have a question about the amount of resources that are available and what was just discussed. How much funds are available for RAP Tax this year? **Tyler:** This year, the allotment for Parks and Rec was \$420,000. **Paul:** The City had just barely requested around \$320,000 and we had requested \$100,000. So, there is money available. To give you a bit of background, we've finished the architectural drawings with the original ask we had 2 years ago, and we'd finalized that last fall. With the Canyon Water Park project, we think it'll be a great asset to the community. It's an opportunity and it'll be a draw for the community, and lots of families that go elsewhere to splash

— around in water. As we've discussed in the past, the stream that goes through West canyon is pretty crude. We think we can combine some things in the area that are educational and provide a place for kids to play and help them learn about our history and heritage of water usage in Iron County. In the Cedar City Parks & Trails master plan, identified as well beneath the demand, but the current one is poor quality. The report states there is growing demand for splash pads and all abilities parks throughout the nation. From all of the participants in the survey, it was one of the highest-ranking item. This is the existing park as it is. This is the transformation of what it will look like. You've got the parking lot, the pavilion and the sand volleyball court. It ties into our heritage. The all abilities section will have water flowing out of wells, so the wells here in our location is where we get our water, agriculture and drinking water. It's table level for people in wheelchairs or whatever needs would be able to access that. The center pivot is a more modern way to irrigate crops in the valley. We would incorporate that as part of the splashpad. What we've talked about in the past is proposing a transition from the City having a splashpad by the parking garage and move the system up here and not operate it there. There's been some discussion about water quality, and we would operate it the same way the current one is and use sprays from culinary drinking water, but the rest of it would just be pass through water. This is a replica of the Chaffin Grist Mill up the walking path that burned down about 100 years ago. This was the old mill where people would bring grain and mill it into flour and sold. It was a really neat thing to put into our heritage and a fun waterwheel feature. The shallow rapids are common in a lot of water-river splashpad area. It's an area that slows down the water and spread it out. Toddlers will be able to play. Adjacent to it would be the sandy beach, for kids that are younger, to splash and play, and they have a sand box to play in. We got the idea from St. George. It's about 1" to 2". Younger kids love to get in there. This idea is an irrigation head gates and diversion structures, where kids can turn the water on and off to let it go through different avenues. There'll be educational kiosks to educate people. We have the same ideas for the all ability section. The wells are another example of an existing one, where they have the head gates and let water go different ways.

— **Paul:** The ask is \$100,000. What we hoped to do this year was to get going on construction and have a portion of the waterway put in next year as a first phase. With our fundraising efforts we were geared to go. We had a big plan to do some fundraising in March. Then COVID happened and that's set us back. We're still moving forward with the project. Some may have got an email for fundraising a while back. We partnered with Cedar Motor Company to give away a car. We had to turn that back and asked those folks what they wanted to do. We had raised around \$5,000, but there was only a couple hundred dollars where people wanted it back, and the rest said to keep it and donate it to the park. We haven't gone out to our major donors and big donors. We've been hesitant because of COVID 19 and we didn't know what we were doing with the July Jamboree. As you can see in the handout, we donated over \$176,000 over the last 3 years to a lot of the community members here and internationally. We get that from sponsorships from the July Jamboree, the largest event in Cedar City. We had to cancel that. We were waiting to see, and it was a hard time to ask people for money. We've held off for a bit. It's hard to get the personal interaction face to face when you can't meet face to face. We're excited what the architect is put together and we're really excited to go out and fundraise with this tool and show people what it's going to be. **Randy:** With the \$100,000 you're asking for, what do you think will get done with that? **Paul:** We do have it broken down in sections. With the amount we have and what we received last year, Sue, do you recall the first phase of what it might be? **Sue:** The first part was a bunch of dirt. We were looking at, if we could, try to tie in to the bridge to nowhere that's covering Coal Creek and try to connect portions of the park, which would be useful. Even if we couldn't do the rest of it, because otherwise, they would have to go all the way

around. We were chatting about the bridge costing over \$100,000 by itself if we could redo some of the water features, so kids will have something to play with. That, too, will be over \$100,000. We were working with West and North water folks. They wanted us to do some work for them. **Paul:** The South & West field irrigation company wanted some piping and a few other things. The first phase, we would want to do the stream alteration and put in some of the shallow rapids, make it more comfortable to get in but not do the whole thing. Break it up. Once we started it, it would be easier for people to catch the vision and build on to it. It's similar to how we did the Veteran's Park, where we started with a section and it grew and now, we have all the memorials. **Mark:** How do you see vision. Is it a 3-year plan, 5-year plan, 7-year plan for full completion? **Paul:** Initially, what we wanted to do is last year, we asked to put \$50,000 into a revolving fund where we had 3 years to raise the money and start building. This year, the ask is the same, and that's because of where we left off without being able to fundraise. We'd anticipated to complete the project in 5 years once construction began. **Mark:** I agree. Once you get it started, it'll go quick. COVID messed this up, but I think it's exciting to get this park started. **Len:** Are they within the guidelines then if they don't start this year? **Tyler:** A few years ago, we amended the ordinance based on this request, that allows the funds to be held over for 3 years maximum. Is this your 2nd or 3rd year? **Paul:** The first year, we spent it on the architect. This would be the second year where it'd go in the collecting fund. **Len:** It's a great project and I hope we can get rolling on it.

NEW BUSINESS: Tyler: Just like last year, I'll send out a spreadsheet, so if you could try to get me your recommendations by Friday or early Monday and I'll send the completed recommendations out we'll meet next Wednesday and finalize the recommendation to City Council.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.


Onjulee Pittser
Executive Assistant