POA Recreation Joint Advisory Committee

August 14, 2023 - Boardroom 4:00 pm and Live Stream

Welcome/Call to Order

Attendance:

Members: Mary Jones, Brian Mickelson, Chris Stockman, Kathleen Coughlin, Matt Zimmerman (Zoom), Richard Taylor, Robert Williams

Staff: Tom Judson, Joan Glubczynski, Rick Echols, Jessica Anson, John Urquhart

Board Liaisons: Jan Hagan

Visitor/Guest: Bob Hromatka – Member of Bridge Club of BV (interested in space for Bridge Club

Current Business:

- 2024 Annual Budget Discussion

New Business:

- Annual Committee Training – Tom Judson

Amenity Reports:

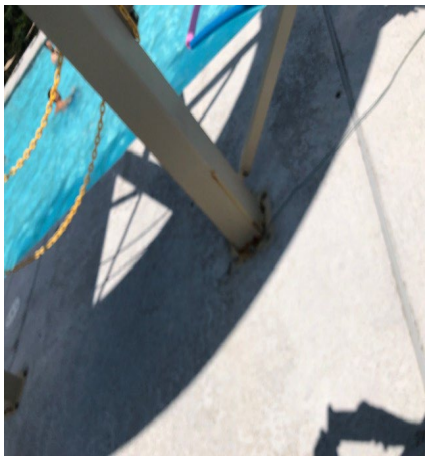
Amenity: **Metfield Center**
Committee Member: **Robert Williams**
Review Month/Year: **August 2023**

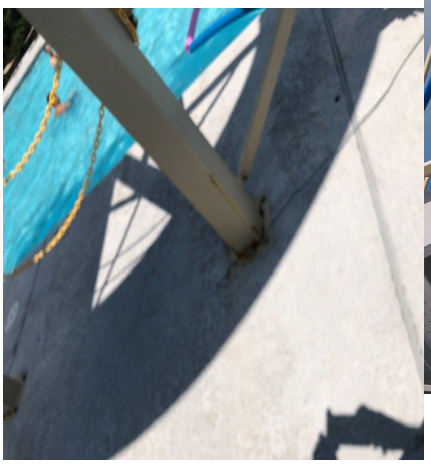
Overall Condition: The clubhouse/fitness center looks great as usual. There were several members in the facility using the equipment.
The playground was in use by two families with younger children.
The pavilions were not being used at the time as well as the pickleball courts, but both looked great.
The pool was about to open, and Alexia was the staff member I spoke with. She mentioned that several members commented the restrooms could use a facelift but otherwise all else was running smoothly and looked great.

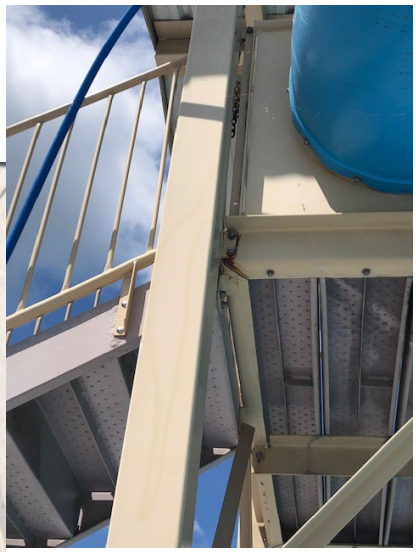
Areas for Review: At the pool I noticed the base of the water slide is rusting at several places (pictures attached). I would suggest some type of rust removal and protective coating before it compromises the structure. Also, I noticed the shade canopy on the west side was missing altogether and according to Alexia it was damaged in the windstorm.

Member Interactions: I spoke with both families at the playground, and they informed me that they had moved here several years ago primarily because of the outdoor recreation such as the pools, playgrounds, trails, and lakes. They love it here and informed me they were from my hometown of Fort Collins CO and chose this area because they love the outdoors. They suggested an area of shade would be a great addition to the playground.
I spoke with a few members using the fitness equipment and they mentioned the center ceiling fan is not working. Both mentioned they enjoy the facility but suggested some better air movement in the fitness room.

Additional Observations:







Amenity: **Branchwood**
Committee Member: **Deborah Lukotch**
Review Month/Date: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
Sunday around 4 pm, rain ended, very hot and humid. The Rec Center was closed, too hot to walk the trail. Two groups playing pickleball, playground in use, some walkers, and a disc golf player. The Disc Golf club, 59 Flyers played a mini on the course from 8-11. Everything looks to be in good condition. One gentleman approached the fitness center while I was there, unaware it was closed.

Areas for Review: None

Member Interactions:
I did not speak with anything during my visit, however, POA member Judy posted on social media earlier in the day: *"I love that the Branchwood Trail bridge has water flowing beneath it in mid-August. Just now walked it in misting rain and thoroughly enjoyed it. Everything is so lush and green."*
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Additional Observations:

Would consider cleaning up the maintenance shed at Disc golf 2nd tee. It's not the best image for our community.

Amenity: **Loch Lomond Recreation Complex**
Committee Member: **Deborah Lukotch**
Review Month/Date: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
Sunday afternoon, extremely hot and humid. 4 cars in the lot.

Areas for Review:

- Spider webs in lady's and men's restroom becoming unsightly.
- Weeds require cutting back along Aquaculture ponds.
- If the flag cannot be replaced, out of respect, I recommend removing it, it is very tattered.

Member Interactions: None.

Additional Observations: None

Ladies Restroom

Mens Restroom

Amenity: **Blowing Springs**
Committee Member: **Kathleen Coughlin**
Review Month/Date: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
The park looked great, as usual. The grounds were manicured and clean and the trails were cleared. We went last night for jazz night and there was a good crowd.
Areas for Review:
There are still trees that are close to the road as you drive back to the Gear Garden.
Member Interactions:
I spoke with Lisa at Gina at the front office when I pulled in and they said everything has been going well. Same with Wendy and Larry at the Gear Garden. I chatted with a family that lives close, and they said they love bringing their kids in the evenings.
Additional Observations: The new tables look great and are much more comfortable to sit on.

Amenity: **Tiree Park**
Committee Member: **Brian Mickelson**
Review Month/Year: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
The lawns are well groomed and there was little to no notable litter. The trash receptacles were being emptied. Mutt Mitts were available. Restrooms were stocked, relatively clean, and in good and functional condition. The personal watercraft storage rack is in good condition with all boats secured. Other structures are in good condition, except as noted on previous reports or as listed below:

Areas for Review:
The bumper strip on the south side of the dock has become detached and needs maintenance.

Remnants of the steel post mentioned as damaged in the June 2023 report has exposed sharp and jagged edges at ground level and should be mitigated.

Member Interactions:
There were no members or guests available from which to solicit feedback on the amenity and recreational activities at the time of evaluation.

Additional Observations:
There are no additional observations for this report.

Amenity: **Granton Park**
Committee Member: **Brian Mickelson**
Review Month/Year: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
The lawns are well groomed, and the trash receptacles are being emptied. Mutt Mitts were available. The outhouse was stocked and relatively clean. The fish cleaning station was clean and in good condition.

The personal watercraft storage rack is in good condition with all boats secured. Other structures are in good condition, except as noted on previous reports:

Areas for Review:
Barring maintenance and upkeep items mentioned in previous reports, no additional items were noted for review.

Member Interactions:
There were no members or guests available from which to solicit feedback on the amenity and recreational activities at the time of evaluation.

Additional Observations:
There are no additional observations for this report.

Amenity: **Lake Avalon**
Committee Member: **J.P. DeVilliers**
Review Month/Date: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
The Beach and the surrounding park looked fantastic. The ablutions were-like new and spotless. Families were making us of the Zip Lines, sitting under the pavilion eating Ice cream and there was a fair number of folks on the beach and in the water for a late afternoon in the middle of the week. I spoke with Lizzie at the kiosk, Charlie had just left for the day. Lizzie was super friendly and introduced herself, asking if she could do anything for me. The lifeguard was in his spot, I did not bother him. Last month I noted the large number of algae or water plants along the bank, and these were pretty much gone, so thank you for cleaning that up. It makes the water look much more inviting.

Areas for Review:

1. The dock in the lake came loose from one or more of its anchors and was spinning around. I think this should be fixed. It looked like it could be dangerous.

Member Interactions:

I spoke to some teenagers who were sitting under the pavilion, they love the beach and the real feeling of summer it brings. Not ready to go back to school. Love the convenience of living close by, they can cycle and meet up with friends.

Additional Observations: None

Pictures for review: the loose dock:

Clean water

Amenity: **Kingsdale Complex**
Committee Member: **Richard Taylor**
Date: **August 2023**

Tennis Center
Overall Condition: I visited the tennis facility on several occasions during the month. The overall condition of the facility is good.

Areas for Review: Court 3 has a long crack forming on the south side of the court running through the middle of the court.

Pools
Overall Condition: I visited the pools on August 1. The pool was closed due to an event at the adult pool. Everything seemed to be in good shape.

Areas for Review: None.

Mini Golf
Overall Condition: I visited the Mini Golf on August 1, and it was in good condition. There were several families there enjoying the course. The inappropriate clubs had been removed from the putter stand and mats had been installed in the tee area of the holes that run downhill which will make it easier for people to place their ball for the first putt.

Areas for Review: None

Playground and other areas
Overall Condition: I walked the other areas and found the Playground to be busy with lots of kids enjoying the playground. It was in good shape. The Pavilion was also in good shape and the BV police were preparing for their annual event with the public. The bathrooms were clean. The basketball net was torn and needs to be replaced.

Areas for Review: The horseshoe pit needs to have the tree trimmed and the stake straightened if it is ever used anymore. If not, we should probably just remove the stakes. The basketball net should be replaced.

Amenity: **Lake Ann**
Committee Member: **Mary Jones**
Review: **July 2023**

Overall Condition:
The garbage cans were empty. The doggy bags were full. Both areas looked well used.

Areas For review:

Picnic/ dock area far East side Lake Ann:

I noticed that the fish cleaning station that the water has a slow leak that probably needs to be addressed. The water spicket next to the pavilion isn't working.

By the dam/waterfall area West side:

The main area for concern is that there is a board that is broken on the bridge that probably needs to be replaced before someone gets hurt (picture attached). It also looks like somebody may have taken a poop in the urinal portion of the porta potty so we may need to have somebody come out from their company and clean it. Also, it looks like it may be time for the dam to be mowed it's getting long but I'm sure that's due to the excess rain we've been having.

London Park:

Main area of concern for this park at this moment is just the Overflow of leaves and washout on to the roads is bad. There is also a tree that's been cut down or washed up by the fish washing station and dock.

Interactions: None

Amenity: **BV POA Shooting Range**
Amenity: **Gun Range**
Committee Member: **Matt Zimmerman**
Review Month/Year: **August 2023**

Overall Condition:
I visited the gun range a couple weeks back. The gun range and rifle ranges had a few members using them. The weather was a lot warmer than the last time I used the amenity and maybe the reason not too many were using it. The areas were clean and in good order as usual. The walking areas leading into the range were in good shape. The parking lot was in good shape. The entrance and sign in area were clean and in good order. Targets were nicely stacked that were not in use. The gun/rifle range area was clean and in good order as well. The bathroom was clean and in good working order. Signs for the range are in good shape and look good. Gates that lock up the range are in good shape. The surrounding fence is nice and looks good. The concrete and wood shooting areas for the rifle range are in good shape. The covered area for the pistol range is in good condition and the walkways were clear.

Areas for Review: None

Member Interactions:

I spoke to a member, and he said that he likes using the ranges and does so often. He said that he likes the setup of how the ranges are and that everyone that uses it knows the rules of how to safely use the range which makes for a pleasant shooting experience.

Additional Observations:
Once again it appears everyone helps to keep the areas clean and the walkways clear.

Amenity: Tanyard Creek
Committee Member: Chris Stockman
Review Month/Year: August 2023

Overall Condition:
The Tanyard Creek area is in good condition. The pavilion and restrooms and dog watering area are in good order. I visited on Monday afternoon and the parking lot was almost full. Many folks were splashing in the creek, and I've noticed that recreating in the creeks all around NWA has really increased over the last few years.

Areas for Review:
Several trees along the main paved trail need watching as they are showing large dead limbs, and some appear to be dying. One of the lower guard cables on the suspension bridge looks slack. The soft trail leading to the suspension bridge has experienced a lot of erosion on its downward section as it comes off the main paved trail. This will be relayed to the TC volunteers who could repair with water bars in the fall work season.

Amenity: Trails/Greenway
Committee Member: Chris Stockman
Review Month/Year: August 2023

Overall Condition:
There have been a lot of tree falls because of recent weather but they are always cleared quickly when reported by volunteers. The trails are in good condition overall.

Areas for Review:
The Trailblazers prepare a monthly usage report for the POA. I believe it would be beneficial to report these numbers at the committee meeting and roll them into official POA stats similar to golf stats reporting.

New Business:
Annual Committee Training PowerPoint presentation by Tom Judson

2024 Recreation amenities budget:

- Rec committee is in the process of prioritizing the 2024 budget recommendations.

Gun Range:

- The Rec Committee unanimously approved a request from the Arkansas High School Rodeo Association to hold an event on a Sunday in October and April. The event would allow use of the Trap Range and ½ of the Rifle Range by a small number of junior high and high school folks. There would be no pistol range use. The Rodeo Association is insured and would provide their own range officers. (Motion was made by Chris Stockton and seconded by Brian Mickelson.)

<u>POA Staff Reports:</u>

Tom Judson:

- The POA Board approved the construction of 7 new bike trails. The POA General Counsel and the City Attorney are working on the agreement. Work on the trails is planned to start in October or November of this year.
- There has been a 27% increase in the sale of activity cards from 2021 to 2023. There were 12,100 cards sold in 2021 and 15,400 cards sold in 2023. We are seeing many more dependent cards sold which indicates a greater use of POA amenities by children.
- In 2022, the trail counters indicated 286,833 people used the BV trails. However only 50% of the trails have counters so the real number is likely @ 500,000.
- The Trailblazer Appreciation Event is scheduled for October 8 at the Gear Garden.
- There are currently 385 trail adopters who help maintain BV trails.

Rick Echols: The Lake Windsor drawdown will now start on Oct. 16th - Feb. 19th. A letter will go out to lakefront residents notifying them of the draw down. The Lake Rangers had 6117 contacts with people during the month of July and removed 422 that could not provide the required proof of residency. The staff continue to work on the removal of downed trees and limbs.

John Urquhart: The Gun Range attendance was up 28% year over year. The target frames are still down but are being addressed. John provided information on a request from the Arkansas High School Rodeo Association to hold an event on a Sunday in October and April at the gun range. (See above New Business relating to Rec Committee vote)

Joan Glubczynski/Jessica Anson:

- The next REC Center tour is Tuesday, August 22 at 3:00.
- They are working on the pricing policy for room rental fees for the Rec Center and intend to release the policy in September. The Beach will be open weekends only through Labor Day. The Kingsdale pool will remain open until mid-September.
- Flea in the Park will be 10/6-10/7 at Blowing Springs.
- The Haunted Mini Golf will be the two weeks surrounding Halloween.
- The new Kingsdale playground equipment has been removed to make room for the installation of the new equipment when it arrives.

Next Committee Meeting September 11th, 4:00 pm Boardroom and Live Stream