

**STEAMBOAT SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**July 12, 2017**

The regularly scheduled public meeting of the Steamboat Springs Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2017, in the Citizens' Meeting Room, Centennial Hall, 124 10th Street, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Parks and Recreation Commission members in attendance were  
Chair Alan Koermer, Craig Keith, Holly Weik and Cady Watson.

Absent: Tumminello, Floyd, Alfone

Staff members present were Director of Parks, Open Space and Recreational Services  
John Overstreet and Staff Assistant Ally Press.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**Approval of Minutes: June 14**

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

**Steamboat Springs Tennis Center Proposal**  
**Commissioner Watson recused herself because she sits on the**  
**Accommodations Tax Reserve Committee.**

**STAFF PRESENTATION**

Craig Robinson, Parks, Open Space and Trails Manager:  
Tonight we have Loretta Conway; she and her husband Bill are concessionaires and operators for the City of Steamboat Springs at the Tennis Center. Loretta is going to be presenting about an idea for expansion of the facility.

**APPLICANT PRESENTATION**

Loretta Conway, Steamboat Springs Tennis Center:  
Nominated and won an award several years ago for the USTA for being one of the nicest large public facilities in the country.

Added eight outdoor pickleball courts thanks to fundraising by the Steamboat Springs Pickleball Association as well as city contributions. That brought a new group of people to the center. Up to 33,000 user visits a year from 28,000 in 2012.

We think we've stayed true to our core values that we envisioned when we took over in October, 2016. We want to be engaging, educational and inspiring to not only players and partners but our employees. We did come out on the bottom of the list of city amenities in the Community Survey, but I think we're unique. I think everything we have here that draws people makes us what we are.

Highlights:

Leadership Team

Employee group health plan, 401(K) plan. We feel the employees we have are going to stay a little longer and be a little happier.

The Tennis and Pickleball associations helped us buy a new court cleaner that makes the place a lot cleaner.

Bottle fill-up station.

More extensive pro shop, especially with Sports Authority out of business. Our 10-and-under program is exploding; we had to turn away kids this fall. Three pickleball tournaments this year for the first time; the first was last weekend and had 104 entries. Very large. 50% of the entrants were from out of town.

Bought an automobile to be used as a moving billboard when we go out of town for tournaments and conferences as well as around town.

Numerous partnerships: City staff, sponsors, community partners.

Everything is going well, and sometimes when that's the case you don't get a lot of attention from the community.

Formed an endowment fund through Yampa Valley Community Foundation for maintenance and improvement of the center. Already started with pledged match.

Between that, private funding and revenue from the center will hopefully someday make the Tennis Center self-sufficient.

Warren Lewis, Executive Director, Steamboat Tennis Association:

Primary goal is to support youth tennis in the Yampa Valley.

Adaptive tennis program partnered with the autistic program; boys and girls high school teams; host free camps for juniors; buy one, get one program for the Tennis Academy; wheelchair tennis training; college scholarships (\$3,000); youth need scholarships (partner with parents to pay 50-50 for those in financial need); supports a travelling team that plays in USTA tournaments; Red Ball 10-and-Under Program; social team for young people (mostly girls 11-13 who tend to drop out of athletic programs.)

Our association raises \$50,000 a year primarily from the summer tennis tournament and associated auctions. Almost all of that flows back into tennis programs except the food for the annual awards dinner.

Fantastic working with Bill and Loretta.

Aubrey Small, President, Steamboat Springs Pickleball Association:

We started with a handful of people; now we're over 300.

We're a new user group providing revenue to the Tennis Center.  
Open play six days a week.  
Stats show that 60% of the people are from out of town.  
First tournament this weekend – very successful. We considered breaking even a success; we did better than that.  
Offer pickleball clinics once a month. People come; we teach them; they join the Association.  
We get daily calls asking about these clinics.  
It's a great sport that's very easy to learn; we pull in a lot of tennis players.  
Wonderful to work with Loretta and Bill.  
The sport is going to continue to grow.

Conway: There's four pickleball courts on what used to be one tennis court, so now 16 people can be playing where maybe 4 played before.  
The canopy that the SSPA purchased with bleachers under it is a great social area.

Conway showed a video of pickleball in action.

Conway: To me it's a combo of ping pong, tennis and badminton. Good exercise.

Proposal:

Create a mini version of the current building. Design was created by Vertical Arts. Same slope as the current building; ceiling a little lower; would go on the north end of the building where there's already storage that would have to be moved somewhere else, but we feel that can be done.  
Most of that is a concrete slab.  
Would house five pickleball courts and one large social area.

Cost:

Total: \$799,000 including \$100,000 to move the storage.  
We intend to apply for \$699,000 from the accommodations tax funds and raise \$100,000 privately, a quarter of which is already raised.

Start build in June, 2018 and complete in September, 2018.

Would grow user visits to 36,000 a year with about 1,500 anticipated visitors (from out of town?)

Once word gets out that we are one of the very few public-private facilities in the country that has dedicated indoor pickleball, we feel we're going to be put on the map. Most places don't have dedicated pickleball courts. There are some private companies building them. We know it's a viable business plan. We feel we could rent courts for \$16/hr right now; tennis courts currently go for \$26/hr. Last year we rented our courts 40% of the time.

Keeping the pickleball area maintained would cost us \$50,000 per year.

We would be building on an area where the city currently puts snow, but we believe we would have the revenue to pay for that snow removal – estimated \$7,200 for once-a-week snow removal for 12 weeks.

Net revenue would still be \$80,000.

When Bill and I propose an extension to our contract which expires within the next year, we'll propose to put some of that revenue back into the endowment fund. We'd also be doing fundraisers and promoting the endowment fund as a place for people to leave a legacy donation. I think that will grow like most of those funds have.

The city's extra expense would be maybe \$500 a year for light bulbs inside that area.

This is 11,000 square feet that could be built for \$62 per square foot.

The man that made the fabric said it would last 20-35 years now. It's lasting longer than he ever imagined when he made this fabric.

We think that since pickleball players aren't quite as abrasive on the court as tennis players that the court surface would last 8-10 years.

We feel like that would give the endowment fund a long time to grow.

So we are asking you to endorse this idea. We feel like we could make Steamboat Springs even bigger with dedicated indoor tennis and pickleball.

### **COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION**

Weik: On your projected growth from 33 to 36,000 per year, what are you basing that additional 3,000 players on?

Conway: We know that to get the accommodations tax we're going to have to have some creative ideas of how we're going to bring visitors to town because of indoor pickleball. So working with the SSPA and knowing how successful this first tournament was, we're going to organize more special events and programs to encourage people to come to town to play indoors. There's many pickleball players around the mountain area, so we could have invitationals once a month. We're unique because we're only closed two days a year and open morning till night. So we can have lots of events that bring smaller groups. This past winter, the SSPA would host open play at 5:00 Wednesday nights. But we have an after-school program that goes from 4-6. Everyone was fighting for court space; they would often have 40 people on Court 6 and we would have 20 kids on every other court. So with that extra space, we can fill up those courts with 40 more children in the afternoon. Renting 40% of our courts right now, we are averaging 92 people a day; multiplied by 360 that's 33,000 something. So just 5 more people a day times 360. I feel like we could get up to 50,000 visits a year if we could have more of these special events on weekends, and we could handle it if we could space it out properly.

Weik: So you're saying 5 pickleball courts would accommodate 20 additional people 40% of the time over 360 days a year. That's where you're getting your 3,000 from.

Conway: That's part of it. But there are going to be other times that there will be more than 24 people out there.

Weik asked if they had a breakdown of tennis versus pickleball in that 40% court rental number.

Conway: The problem has been that when pickleball players rent tennis courts in the winter, we don't record that it's for pickleball. In the summer we'll be able to go back and look at this past summer and get more of that data.

Weik said that level of detail would be helpful to show that there is a need for more pickleball courts versus tennis courts.

Conway said that pickleball players tend to be older and have more time and money to spend, so they would be a good tourist demographic.

Keith confirmed that tennis is increasing as well.

Conway: Our tennis camps are bursting at the seams. Our tennis players are begging us not to lose any more tennis courts to pickleball; that's why we'd like to expand. Nationwide, tennis participation has increased 3% in the last five years.

Koermer confirmed that there are 40-60 pickleball players per day during the winter and about 50-60 players in the summer.

Weik and Koermer confirmed that those snow removal figures are a worst-case scenario where we have a heavy winter and snow needs to be moved off site.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Peggy Garret:

Used to be a tennis player and caught the pickleball bug. It's inexpensive; under \$100 and you can take your paddle anywhere: Hawaii, Texas. It's a sport that's growing very fast nationwide. I see the association growing. I'm in real estate, and I see a lot of clients that come to town for 3-4 months and get involved while they're here.

I think the association has done a wonderful job as far as marketing it and letting people know when the pickleball events are taking place.

I think it's wonderful that tennis and pickleball are becoming such a close-knit family.

Jim Webster, Chair, Steamboat Tennis Committee:

I started drop-in pickleball with Jim Swiggart three or four years ago. I could see back then that pickleball would become very big. In my opinion, the tennis and pickleball players have gotten along very well. So this isn't about pushing pickleball into a place where tennis players don't want it; it's really about growth and making the tennis center economically viable through recessions, which was one of Jim Swiggart's concerns in 2010. We could have two racquet sports in this facility, and I think it's very exciting if this can be done.

Terry Dougherty:

I ran that tournament this past weekend. I was the Parks and Rec director in Craig 30 years ago, and pickleball was huge. We got racquetball and it died. But now it's back, and it's not going to go away. It's back in Craig now. It's going world-wide; they were playing it in Mexico when I was there.

I was really overwhelmed with 104 people in our first tournament ever. Steamboat could be a destination spot for tournaments; that was proven this weekend.

A little separation between tennis and pickleball will be better.

This explosive growth is happening all over the country; people cannot keep up.

Bo Stempel:

My wife and I came to a tennis tournament here 15 years ago and fell in love with the town; moved our business here (real estate). My son grew up in tennis; he's ranked in the top 50 in the state as a Boys 16.

I have watched over the last five years that Steamboat as a racquet sports community has really exploded outside of our market. I hear about it wherever I go.

So this does bring people to town.

Many people who ski also play tennis. Five years ago we did a video that plays at the airport of a family walking into the tennis center to play tennis while they're here on a ski vacation. So we're trying to imply you don't need to bring racquets or anything; just bring your tennis shoes and when you want a day off skiing come to the Tennis Center. It's been very successful.

We know when you have dollars to hand out it has to be geared toward bringing people to Steamboat; I'm an example of that, and we can get more.

The growth of the Tennis Center over the past 5-7 years has been exponential. What's happened with pickleball has been astonishing. A lot of people who had to give up tennis have now come back to pickleball because you can play it even as you get older and your knees start to give out.

Friends in bigger cities have been telling me the same thing that pickleball is exploding in those communities; those are people who could come to this town and will come to this town if we can put the right kind of facility together.

Sean Pummel:

I'm 40. If you see people who are fleet of foot, you can draw in that younger demographic. The guys I played racquetball with made fun of me when I told them about pickleball; when I got them in there, they became regulars. Wherever I go I promote pickleball like crazy; I've taught people from Kentucky, Chicago and Florida over the past two days.

I've seen a huge uptick in summer use.

Exponential is the word for the kind of growth we're seeing.

Carol:

I do a lot of volunteering for the SSPA, so I see a lot of visitors that come in. It's not just an older person's sport; we have had visitors with kids wanting to play. They're teaching pickleball in schools. All age levels are playing it nationwide.

Your club or association can sign onto a nationwide organization, and they do destination pickleball outings/vacations. One of those destinations could be here.

Bert Halberset:

Came here 14 years ago to play tennis. I was fortunate to benefit from the leadership you have in the Swiggart organization followed by the Conway organization.

As I travelled the country, I found that without exception, every quality resort town – particularly south of here – was having this strange game called pickleball. They are now building houses with dedicated pickleball courts in Arizona. It's quite prevalent.

I am suggesting that you should build a quality attraction for not only locals but our guests who will be coming in the foreseeable future.

## **ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION**

Overstreet let the audience know that the Commission is an advisory group to Council and does not distribute 2A funds.

Also, there is no quorum.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Koermer moved to table this item to a future regularly scheduled Parks and Rec Commission meeting; Commissioner Weik seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **River Cleanup**

Weik asked how well it went.

Robinson: I haven't gotten a summary on the quantity of trash or the number of attendees. But from staff's perspective, there was quite a bit of trash to pick up. It sounded like it was well attended.

## **Community Survey Results**

Winnie DelliQuadri:

This is technically our fifth community survey, but the first in 1999 was not done in a statistically significant way so can't be compared to anything. But we do have comparable data from 2002, 2005, 2015 and 2017. The current Council is interested in continuing this every two years, which gives us the opportunity to see trends over time as far as how people feel about community services as well as the opportunity to ask questions that pertain to decisions that are on your plates as we speak. This is the only way to get statistically significant data from the community at large rather than stakeholders.

We used the National Research Center, which specializes in working with city and county agencies. We selected them in 2015 through a competitive bidding process specifically because we would be able to benchmark directly against other municipalities and counties.

The committee that put this survey together consisted of a Planning Commission member, a Parks and Rec Commission member, me, and two Council members plus one member of the Chamber.

We mailed the survey to 2,500 households, 2,000 of which were permanent full-time residents within the city limits; the other 500 were second homeowners.

The 2,000 households within the city limits were taken from voter registration data. The other 500 were taken from the assessor's database where the property was registered to someone who lived out of town. We had a 29% response rate; last time in 2015 we had a 41% response rate. The difference here is that we added a page to the survey (increased survey length makes your response rate go down.) And the second time you do a survey typically your response rate goes down. But since we really only needed about a 20% response rate, we thought we had enough wiggle room to add that last page and get the extra data. So we had a high enough response rate for a statistically valid survey with only a 4% margin of error, which is really good.

The survey results were weighted based on the demographics of the voter records in terms of age and gender.

Two benchmark comparison groups: Population under 30,000 with a survey completed in the last three years, and resort communities within the larger group.

Major Findings:

Consistently a great quality of life.

8 in 10 said that Steamboat as a place to live or raise children was excellent or good.

Place to retire was at 65%; place to work at 49%.

These are all stable, except a place to raise children decreased since 2015.

Benchmarks: Population: Higher than other communities as a place to live and overall quality of life; similar as a place to work, raise children and retire.

Resort Communities: Higher as a place to raise children, similar as a place to work and overall quality of life,, and lower as a place to retire.

Starting 2015 we did a net promoter score because the Chamber was doing one for visitors. Our net promoter score from visitors is in the 80's to 90.

The net promoter score is a 0-10 scale; 0-6 you're a detractor; 7-8 neutral; 9-10 promoter.

Clearly, it's a better thing to visit Steamboat Springs than it is to live here, because when you look at remaining in Steamboat Springs for the next five years, our net promoter score is 35.

For recommending Steamboat Springs as a place to actually live, our net promoter score is 14. So it's very different than tourism. We're not exactly sure why.

Over time, the net promoter score for recommending living in Steamboat Springs to a friend or colleague decreased by 10 points to 24 from 20-15 to 2017.

The score for those who plan to remain in the city for the next five years decreased by five points. So living here is maybe not as easy as it was two years ago.

In general, residents feel safe and value life and safety services.

9 of 10 broad aspects of community were evaluated positively by most respondents; 7 in 10 residents gave each of them an excellent or good rating. This is stable from 2015.

Overall quality of wildlife habitat was a new question this year because we often are in the position of having to trade off the demand for recreation with the desire for wildlife.

Most life and safety services received positive reviews from pretty much every survey respondent: fire, drinking water, ambulance, snow removal were all highly rated.

Our drinking water and snow removal was rated much higher than our population and resort community benchmarks.

Respondents value the natural environment and want its continuous protection.

All residents gave excellent or good ratings to the overall natural environment; most residents positively rated the overall quality of wildlife.

Most residents also felt that both these aspects of community were essential or very important.

Police services changed from high importance, low quality in 2015 to high importance, high quality this year.

Bus and transit went from high importance, high quality to low importance, high quality.

The importance rating may have gone down because 2015 was the year Transit significantly changed the bus schedule, and things have calmed down in 2017.

Financial support of nonprofits changed from low importance, low quality to low importance, high quality. We've made virtually no changes, but the perception has changed.

About 7 in 10 residents gave favorable assessments to the preservation of natural areas and open space. The Last survey had one question for overall Yampa River management; the 2017 survey asked about the management of the health of the river as well as the management of recreation on the river.

64% thought the city is doing an excellent or good job managing the health of the river as well as managing recreation activities on the river.

Managing the health of the river was considered more important with 88% thinking it's essential or very important; 76% thought managing recreation on the river was essential or very important.

Yampa River health management was categorized as higher in importance and lower in quality. This is a service that is really unique to our area, and our residents value it. So this is something we're going to probably need to address.

Overall economic health of Steamboat Springs and housing remain areas of concern for residents.

About 5 in 10 reported that overall economic health was excellent or good; 8 in 10 felt it was essential or very important. This is similar to 2015 and similar to communities with population 30,000 or less, but lower than resort community benchmarks. Economic health was higher in importance and lower in quality than almost any other aspect of our community.

9% of residents view cost of living as being excellent or good; similar to 2015 and pretty similar to benchmark communities.

Affordable quality housing received the lowest quality evaluation out of all 24 community characteristics; stable from 2015; significantly lower than benchmark communities.

There was an entire page of housing questions.

A majority of residents preferred annexation or increased density to enable additional housing that is more affordable so that people can live and work in Steamboat and maintain its current community makeup/demographic profile over preserving the current physical character of Steamboat by 71-29%.

Residents preferred the city allowing higher density for new development in existing core areas like downtown instead of maintaining density regulations even if it meant community housing needs were not addressed by 62-38%.

As for building heights, residents would like to see current building height regulations for new development maintained, even if it means community housing needs are not addressed.

So people are okay with additional density, annexation and additional housing but are not okay with higher buildings in core areas by a 2-1 margin.

More residents support annexation to allow for a variety of housing to be built over maintaining the current city limits and relying on undeveloped parcels for private development of housing.

Residents supported requiring developers to provide affordable housing or pay a fee to support affordable housing rather than allowing new development without any requirements related to affordable housing by 77-23%.

When considering aspects of new infrastructure, the largest proportion of residents supported the city subsidizing new infrastructure to assist the private sector to develop housing at a lower cost if the developments were required to help meet community housing goals. So if a development is meeting community housing goals such as workforce housing, 44% of

our community feels that it's reasonable to provide some sort of subsidy of new infrastructure.

The remaining residents were equally likely to either support the city unconditionally subsidizing new infrastructure (water and streets) to assist the private sector to develop housing at a lower cost, or are not supportive of the city subsidizing anything for any reason.

Next time we think we'll ask two questions rather than three. The one that got the most support was subsidy, but it has to meet the community housing goals.

We struggled the most with the housing questions.

Respondents praised city service delivery and note improvements to government performance.

19% excellent; 64% good; 1% poor; 15% fair. Similar to pier communities.

Nice to note that Parks and Rec services are all similar to or better than our benchmark communities.

Since 2015, six different areas went up significantly; three services went down: animal control, street repair and city programs/facilities. Even though that last went down, it was still higher than our benchmark communities.

In future, we might think about breaking out programs and facilities.

Out of all of our services, compared to our pier groups our ratings were generally similar or higher.

50-60% of residents gave positive ratings to overall confidence in city staff, value of services for sales tax paid and the job the city government does at welcoming citizen involvement, treating all residents fairly and the overall direction the city is taking.

6 of the 7 aspects of government performance that could be compared to previous years received higher ratings in 2017 compared to 2015. One of the questions was new.

Evaluations of most aspects of city government performance when compared to benchmark groups were similar, however, the ratings to participate in decision making was much lower than both groups.

Compared to population benchmarks, we're higher in 29 areas, similar in 27 areas and lower in 14 areas.

Resort communities we're higher in 20 areas, similar in 36 areas and lower in 14 areas. In those 14 areas, we are lower in animal control, availability of affordable quality healthcare, cleanliness, overall economic health, overall quality of new development, police services, public information communication services, shopping opportunities and as a place to retire. Much lower in availability of affordable quality childcare or preschool, availability of affordable quality housing, cost of living, opportunities to participate in community matters and traffic enforcement.

City Council is going to be looking at this on July 25. May create focus groups in the community to determine why these areas are considered so lacking.

48% of respondents own a dog; similar to 2015.

Dog owners will use parks more if they can take their dogs off leash; non-dog-owners will use them the same or less.

Unmet needs for which there is no available funding that rose to the top are maintaining fire and EMS service levels, developing or subsidizing new community housing, and economic development.

49% said fire/EMS was top priority; 50% said housing; 29% said economic development.

Then we asked about funding mechanisms for these.

On top, people want other people to pay for it with a lodging tax. We've got a sin tax, lift ticket tax, user fees, restaurant tax, all the way down to property tax and sales tax.

One of the only real differences between local residences and second home owners was second home owners were more excited about user fees as a funding mechanism.

How important is it for the city government to take action on the following:  
Improve and protect the health of the Yampa River: 83% thought that was essential or very important.

Protect minimum volume of water in the Yampa River: 75%

Address impact of VRBO: 58%

Establish a permanent water restriction schedule for lawn watering and other uses: 50%

Change the Community Development Code to no longer require irrigated lawn in the right-of-way: 45%

Require residents and businesses to use drip irrigation for landscaping: 40%

Increase water rates to help with funding a backup water supply for emergencies: 36%

Parks and Rec Facilities:

Essential or Very Important:

Core Trail 93%; other bike and pedestrian paths 88%; neighborhood parks 81%; Emerald Mountain summer use 79%; city-sponsored youth recreation and sports programs 77%; botanic garden 77%; Emerald Park 74%; Emerald Mountain winter use 73%; fishing on the Yampa River 73%; before and after school programs 72%; playgrounds 71%; Howelsen Hill summer use 69%; swimming/wading on the Yampa River 68%; Howelsen Hill Nordic area 66%; children and teen summer camps 65%; Howelsen Hill alpine area 64%; floating on the Yampa River (boating, kayak, SUP) 64%; Howelsen Hill rodeo/equestrian 63%; Howelsen Hill jumps 61%; ice arena 60%; tubing on the Yampa 57%; field sports 56%; Haymaker Golf course 54%; bike parks 53%; skate parks 45%; city-sponsored adult recreation and sports programs 44%; tennis/pickleball at Tennis Center 33%; tennis/pickleball at Howelsen Hill 28%.

Participation graph shows how many people have participated in or used various facilities.

Gap between how many people use a facility and how valuable they think it is: Core Trail is used by 93% of respondents, 93% thought it was essential or very important.

The numbers mirror each other for many things, but there are some outliers where the value of a facility significantly outweighs the number of people who are actually using it: children and teen summer camps, before and after school programs, city-sponsored youth recreation programs, Howelsen Hill Jumps, etc.

Overstreet: In the population size benchmarks, 91% used our city recreation facilities/services, which was first out of 71 cities; 94% visited a city park, which ranked sixth out of 78.

City recreation programs and facilities rated lower than 15. The rec programs actually rated at 80%, but the facilities ranked at 68%. So people are using our facilities, but the quality may not be there.

DelliQuadri: One of the other questions we asked that was interesting: The city spends an average of \$732,000 each year, or 2.5-3% of the city's general fund operating budget, on Howelsen Hill. How much funding do you think the city should allocate for services provided at Howelsen Hill? 12% said a lot more, 30% said a little more; 29% said the same amount, 12% said a little less, 17% said a lot less.

Weik: There's a lot of support for maintaining Howelsen Hill.

DelliQuadri: We did ask a series of questions about transportation, including what modes of transportation people used over the last week and how many trips do they take a day. Then we asked why do people drive instead of walking or biking.

76% said it was more convenient to drive; others pointed to no sidewalks or bike trails near their home, lack of bike lanes or trails, and unsafe areas due to crime (9%).

Weik: In terms of overall structure, we probably have a role to play there.

DelliQuadri: In the back of the document are cross-tabs which enable you to look at who is using which programs and which facilities and how much they value them based on income, age, whether or not they have kids and the area of the community they live in.

From the 2015 survey, the folks in the western part of the community felt like they had less access to parks and recreation and used them less. I think a little bit of that still remains.

The other thing I found in this survey that I didn't really see in previous surveys is that peoples' perceptions of our community now really do differ based on how much money you make.

All of these reports are on the city's website at:

<http://steamboatsprings.net/surveys>

### **Next Meeting**

July 26 currently has no items on the agenda.

Koermer asked Overstreet about the dog-related City Council resolution.

Overstreet: A resolution was adopted last night by 5-2 to allow dog parks and an off-leash trial program at a certain location on Blackmere Trail, lower Spring Creek, two different locations in Whistler (bigger in the winter,) and Butcherknife. We need to work through some things on the opening and closing time of the trails due to CPW's concerns regarding wildlife corridors early in the morning and towards dusk.

Weik pointed out that many off-leash dog owners try to minimize user conflicts by going out early, but this may raise the risk of a wildlife conflict.

Koermer suggested a field trip work session for the next meeting.

Weik suggested a follow-up with river users for a future meeting.

Watson: I thought we wanted to wait until the master plan.

Overstreet: The RFP for that goes out Sunday with a closing date of August 4 or 7. Then we interview the consultants and hopefully finish up within 10-11 months.

Weik suggested looking at the pond/pavilion area around Spring Creek.

Koermer asked about the RFP process for Howelsen; Overstreet said that Ski Corp is still evaluating assets, financials, operations and maintenance to try to compare what they do to what the city does.

Koermer asked about budget season; Overstreet said that budgets are going to be delivered to finance on the 19<sup>th</sup> with meetings in August with the management team to define priorities; then those will be brought back to the Commission in September.

July 26 Agenda: Start at Bear River at 5:30 then go to Howelsen.  
Email Ally with additional ideas.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Watson moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:17 p.m.

Commissioner Weik seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.