

Recreation Development Plan

"New direction"

The first draft of the plan for recreational development in the Warm Springs community was presented to Tribal Council on May 11 by Jerry Draggoo of the ORB organization. The draft is a report and plan resulting from a survey taken by the ORB organization and the recreation committee throughout the community to determine recreational wants and needs.

The plan for development was bestowed with the title "New Direction" indicating that the changes will provide a new direction in recreation in Warm Springs. Draggoo emphasized that besides changes in the buildings and physical facilities, the plan considers and makes suggestions on how programs should be operated.

special programs for young people with self-esteem problems who have been in trouble with the law, along with programs to encourage family participation in recreation.

The orientation would be away from competitive sports. The "new direction" will provide programs to attract all age groups. "It is a total look at the community," Draggoo commented.

The want list of the community might outweigh the funding, Draggoo pointed out to Tribal Council. It is up to Council and the community to decide just what they want as priorities, how much they want to spend and how long it will take to meet the demands.

As far as funding, Tribal Council chairman Delbert Frank said, "We have a tough time selling ideas to the people. We don't know what the money situation will be. We probably will be footing it ourselves. But that shouldn't stop us from planning. If people want recreation, recreation is what it's going to be."

The recreational development plan designed by ORB calls for a three-phase plan developed according to priorities of the 394 community members surveyed.

Phase I

Multise gymnasium	\$ 495,000
Racquetball courts	275,000
Indoor swimming pool	1,800,000
Neighborhood parks at West Hills and Simnasho	200,000

Phase II

Community park	440,000
Neighborhood parks at Greeley Hts. and Tenino	200,000
Outdoor sports complex	150,000

Phase III

Neighborhood parks at Mobile home park and campus	200,000
Wilderness camp areas	200,000
Off road vehicle site	
Bicycle and walking trails	100,000
Modifications to the Community Center	XXXX

A few existing discrepancies were pointed out during discussion of Phase I. Community Center director and representative Satch Miller felt the 60' X 120' gymnasium proposed by ORB was not large enough to meet future demands. ORB also suggested fewer racquetball courts than did the Community Center representative. Draggoo



emphasized that maintaining an indoor swimming pool would run about \$100,000 yearly.

The proposed neighborhood parks and outlying recreational facilities would demand additional employees. Draggoo suggested the creation of a new department entitled the Parks and Recreation Department.

The importance of neighborhood parks is brought out in the survey. Draggoo says, "When people were asked what they wanted I was surprised to hear 'green grass!'" Phase I would create much-needed parks at West Hills and Simnasho.

An advisory board to the Parks and Recreation Department should also be created, according to Draggoo. This would be a group of five community members representing the community and providing direct feedback. By this means the wants and needs of community members could more easily be known by the Parks and Recreation Department. As it is now, Draggoo feels there is too little direct input or feedback from the community.

Phase II of the recreational development plan includes a community park located across from the Community Center bordering Shitike Creek. A wading pool would be constructed according to the plan adjacent to the creek along with parking areas, picnic areas, trailer hook-ups and playing fields.

Draggoo pointed out that the community park would be a good place to hold Pi-Ume-Sha and would provide camping facilities for those attending rodeos in Warm Springs. Neighborhood parks at Greeley Heights and Tenino would be part of Phase II.

The proposed outdoor sports complex site is the area outside the Community Center building itself. The area would be developed to include a soccer field and a track. All of this would be maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department of which the Community Center would be a part.

The suggestion of a tribal commercial enterprise was made by ORB representative Draggoo at this time. He mentioned a bowling alley and a movie theatre would be well received, especially when gasoline prices and limited travel appear inevitable.

Phase III includes additional neighborhood parks at the mobile home park and on campus providing green grass, picnic tables and playground equipment for the neighborhood. Wilderness camp areas in the high lakes area would also be developed at this stage.

An off-road vehicle site would be developed at a negligible cost. Draggoo feels the environment would be protected if these vehicles were confined to a certain area. ORB suggests as a location the plateau above Greeley Heights.

Bicycle and walking trails would connect the community parks and provide protection from vehicle traffic.

The final point in Phase III, modifications to the Community Center, would be necessary. According to Satch Miller the extent of those modifications have not yet been determined and neither has the cost. But an estimate is included in the total figure given.

Funding for recreational development in Warm Springs following this three-phase plan will cost tribal members from \$4 million to \$5 million over the length of time on which they decide. Costs, of course, continue to rise. The Community Center budget would be three times what it now is.

During the summer of 1980, the Tribal Council appointed the recreation committee to serve as an advisory body to the Council to help identify tribal recreation needs. The committee, in turn, selected the ORB Organization of Portland to further study the immediate and longrange recreation needs on the reservation.

A survey was conducted last year in which 394 people were questioned on subjects such as their age, work week and schedule, personal goals, distance traveled to participate in recreation or leisure activities, their opinion on how the Community Center handles recreation needs as well as many other subjects.

According to ORB, the survey "should have an accuracy factor approaching 95 percent reliability," based on the method of selecting the people surveyed and the number of returns.

Only those over eight were asked to respond with 20.6% being between 25 and 34 years of age. Nearly 52% of those surveyed were women. It was felt by ORB that an insight into the educational level of the population served was important to help determine the types of recreation programs most favored.

Some 27.4% had a zero to eighth grade education; 29.7% had a ninth to eleventh grade education; 21.7% were high school graduates; 18.2% had one to four years of college and 3.1% had attended vocational school.

It was determined that 52.2% of the work force on the reservation work up to eight hours a day, and 10.3% work part-time. 46.3% of those work a regular day shift.

Asked how they felt their leives were going at work or school, 39.2% said good; 35.1% said fair; 12.4% said poor and 13.4% had no opinion. The responses appeared to follow a trend depending upon the age. The age groups most dissatisfied with themselves were the 21-24 and over 65.

TRAVEL

On distance traveled to participate in recreational or leisure activities, 40% of those interviewed traveled over 10 miles. 53% of the population leave the reservation on weekends for recreational activities and 51% leave the reservation about two weekends each month.

FAMILY

Less than half of those interviewed felt they participated as a family in recreational or leisure activities and about half preferred family-oriented activities. However, the young—ages 8-14 and those 21 and over—prefer family-type recreation. Those between 10 and 17 preferred team activities.

A total of those interviewed stated they would prefer family activities if family recreation facilities and activities were available.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Nearly half of the people do not use the Community Center. The results of the survey showed that the older one gets, the less one uses the center. The groups using the center

the most are the 8-9 year-olds and those 10-14.

Asked why they didn't use the center, 38 people responded that they were dissatisfied with the administration there or individual staff members. Other reasons listed were: no time to participate; "don't offer programs I'm interested in"; too far to travel; "no supervision, rowdy kids"; no transportation and too many people at the center. (Responses are listed in order of frequency of response.)

17% responded that they thought the programs offered at the center were good, while 42% thought they were fair and 18% thought the programs were poor. 66% thought that programs being offered could be improved. Those who responded indicated that improvement was needed. Forty-eight said the center needed better management and administration; 21 said the center needed to offer more programs and activities; 10 said more programs were needed for adults; nine said better supervision was needed and six felt the center needed to be enlarged.

The athletic field at the center are much-used but 42 responded that they weren't being used to their full potential.

Up until now, emphasis on sports competition has been through the 509-J school district. However, 58% said they wanted to see more inter-tribal competition.

ATTITUDE

50% of those surveyed stated they thought HeHe should be used for more religious or cultural camps, their primary reason being that it was a waste to let it remain unused most of the year. The 25% who felt it shouldn't be used more felt that it was a cultural site and shouldn't be used for any other purpose.

Most people were opposed to opening up any other areas to the general public, such as certain areas along the Deschutes on the reservation.

LOCATION

A large number of people were in agreement with the idea that a special area should be reserved to ride motor bikes and 4-wheel drive vehicles. The areas most often suggested were Dry Creek, Tenino and above the rodeo grounds.

63% felt that small parks or other recreation areas should be located within walking distance of their homes. 48 people said that such areas should have children's playgrounds and 41 said a swimming pool should be included.

Picnic areas, basketball courts, small parks, roller skating rinks, green grass, tennis courts, bicycle paths, outdoor handball courts and exercise trails or track were other facilities that people would like to see included. In the Simnasho area, respondents would like to see a community center, children's playground, swimming pool, basketball court, picnic area and a tennis court.

64% felt that recreation programs should be offered at other places on the reservation in addition to the Community Center. Those living in the Simnasho area were 73% in favor and, in the rest of the outlying areas the ratio was 80% in favor.

Those 18-and-over were asked how many times in a given month they used the facilities at Kah-Nee-Ta. Since the people surveyed represented only a portion of the total population, the total projected monthly use of the golf course was 564 times, tennis courts was 462 times and the swimming pool was 3,840 times.

The public is invited to join the recreation committee on tours they schedule regularly. One is coming up on June 1 and 2. Check with the Council office for details.

General Council Meeting
concerning recreation and facilities

June 15, 1981
7:00 pm
at the Community Center