

Open Forum  
5-20-08



"Carol Martin"  
<mcmartin@ucdavis.edu>  
05/16/2008 05:08 PM

To <ckeck@co.el-dorado.ca.us>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject FW: Skatepark

Hi Cindy,

Just FYI, this is what I sent out and the action for Tuesday. I appreciate all your guidance and support. It is a big learning curve. I just keep saying "I do youth development", it sounds funny. Have a great weekend.  
Carol

**From:** Carol Martin [mailto:mcmartin@ucdavis.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 16, 2008 4:47 PM  
**To:** jordan.postlewait@edcgov.us; 'Jeanette L Phillips'; t.fulton@gvcconline.net; 'Allison Jones'; 'DEBRA KENT'; 'Austin Bay'; 'Kayleigh Salstrand'  
**Cc:** 'William Frost'; bosone@co.el-dorado.ca.us; bosthree@co.el-dorado.ca.us; 'Christine B.-Morris'  
**Subject:**

Hi Everyone,

What a great day!

Green Valley Church and the Youth Commission met this morning to discuss how volunteers can play a key role in the reopening of the skatepark after working over the past weeks with Jordan Postlewait, County Parks and Recreation.

**Outcome:** A commitment of support for reopening the skatepark by working to establish a "Volunteer Leadership Team" to create an adult presence at the park.

A partnership of Green Valley Community Church, University of California Cooperative Extension; El Dorado County Youth Commission, El Dorado County Public Health Department; Alcohol and Drug Division along with other interested community based organizations and individuals, a "Volunteer Leadership Team" will be developed to work in collaboration with Jordan Postlewait. The partnership is not looking for the volunteers to provide supervision of the park but to be at park during open hours of operation to create a safe environment through an adult presence. The feeling was that if adults are there the full hours the park is open the atmosphere of the park would change to a positive one. A safe and clean place for youth to come and have FUN would be created!

**The Mission:** A Safe Skatepark

**The Vision:** Create a "Volunteer Leadership Team"

**The Core Values;** (to be created by Youth!) The core values can become the brand for the park, the core values used on t-shirts, advertisement, etc in order to build a positive image for the park and the park users.

The partnership will look to support the management plan that Jordan Postlewait, El Dorado County Parks and Recreation, Parks Projects Coordinator, works to establish along with the guidance of the El Dorado County Skatepark Advisory Committee appointed by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors. The partnership is aware the decision to supervise or unsupervised the park is that of the Board of Supervisors. Yet, the partnership feels their expertise in working with volunteers in the community could

strengthen the outcome of any further decisions. The over all goal of the partnership is to be a part of the solution in hope that a "community solution" can be found.

Creative ideas for the "Volunteer Leadership Team" from today's meeting: (just ideas :))

- A team leader for each day of the week that is prepared to ensure volunteers are present during the open hours of the park.
- Volunteers will work in groups or pairs at all times.
- Volunteers will receive support and training in good youth development practices.
- Types of park users will be evaluated with the idea of selecting the right volunteers for the hours of those users (e.g. morning hours are used by younger youth, possibly volunteers like Rotarians, or STAR, etc would enjoy volunteering during those hours)
- Volunteers interested in learning about prevention of drug use, and how to keep the area drug and smoke free will be evaluated - this is a recommendation that came from a Youth Commission member to develop strategy to help youth with unacceptable behavior.
- Volunteers could be recruited for special events, like BBQ's, competitions, these volunteers could be adults as well as youth from Leo's Club, CSF, etc, this recommendation also came from a Youth Commission member.
- Volunteers (depending on liability issues currently being researched) could become project leaders of activities, and hold events to support those activities.
- Volunteers could clean and maintain the park.

HOPE: With coordination and working together the park possibly could reopen the week following the week of fair??? Of course, that is dependent on the outcome of upcoming meetings, and the action of the Board.

Next Steps;

- Steven Kent, Youth Commission member, plans to come to speak in open forum at this coming Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting to demonstrate the YC listened to the Board direction and working in coordination with Parks and Recreation started the process to be part of the solution to open the park. Attending in support of his presentation: Tim Fulton, GVCC, Jeanette Phillips, Public Health and Allie Jones , Youth Commission member (if she can be out of school shortly)
- Tuesday, May 20th, 6:00 PM Representatives of the partnership will attend the Skatepark Advisory Committee meeting.
- Representatives of the partnership will work in coordination with Supervisor Sweeney to research issues pertaining to liability.
- Based on the outcome of the upcoming meetings....time will tell!

Everyone have a good weekend.

I am out of town starting Monday mid-day and Tuesday till the afternoon. I will be back in time for the Skatepark Advisory meeting but will be unable to stay for the entire meeting due to the 4-H El Dorado County Leader meeting happening the same time.

Try to stay cool :)  
Carol