

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Parks Division Conference Room
January 14, 2010

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, January 14, 2010 with the following members present: Van Lindquist, Chairman, Wes Storm, Liz Runquist, Chuck Tinant and Sheri Zimmer. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Council Liaison Aaron Costello, Alderwoman Karen Gunderson Olson, Alderwoman Patti Martinson, Landscape Designer Randy Lyons, Beautification Committee Liaison Steve Dosier, Urban Forestry Board Liaison Steve Hasenohrl and Administrative Assistant Jeri Taton.

Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Runquist and carried to approve the minutes of December 10, 2009, as presented.

The agenda was modified by moving the 2012 presentations to the beginning to assist citizens who must attend another meeting at 6:00.

2012 Presentations

Skyline Wilderness Area Trail System Tim Raben of the Black Hills Runners Club presented a joint project between the Runners Club and the Black Hills Mountain Bike Association to complete trails in the Skyline Wilderness Area. This is a unique forest area in the middle of Rapid City which is home to a lot of wildlife, includes a petrified forest, and has been used by people through the years for a wide variety of uses. The Skyline Wilderness Area includes a network of trails that are used for walking, hiking and biking. The property was privately owned until 1995 when a group of interested citizens joined forces and created the Skyline Drive Preservation Group which raised funds and purchased the property. Ownership of the Skyline Wilderness Area was transferred to the City in 2007. This park straddles Skyline Drive, but use is limited because of the maze of trails that are sometimes difficult to follow. The Skyline Wilderness Area needs an organized trail system that has trail heads, parking, a designed trail system, mapping, etc. The City hired Easton Outdoors, Inc in 2007 to prepare a master plan for the area and a multi-level trail system has been identified. Once funding for trail construction has been identified, the project can proceed. Dirt Gustin added that the trails throughout the Skyline Wilderness Area can be used for walking, hiking and biking and provide a great project to combat obesity with children in our community. Gustin added that they have been working with the Forest Service to develop trails and are trying to become a Ride Center. These trails have the potential to provide a substantial economic boost to the local economy.

Martinson and Olson entered the meeting at this time.

White Water Kayaking Project: Paulette Kirby presented a Creek Enhancement Project for Rapid Creek just below M Hill. She presented a slide show of the creek and how creek enhancement projects in other communities have generated revenue for the

community as well as providing a recreational activity for the local citizens. Kelly Lane added that a preliminary study has been done and this area of the creek is very suitable for kayaking and would work very well for a creek enhancement project. It was also noted that these types of water parks are very resistant to flooding and once the enhancement project is complete, there is no need for on-going maintenance. Kirby noted that they are requesting \$400,000 for this project which will construct 8 waves, terracing along the creek banks, and necessary permits. Lane added that the proposed enhancement project will fit in perfectly with the other improvements being made in Founders Park at this time.

Liaison Reports

Hasenohrl reported that the Urban Forestry Board is finalizing details for the 2010 Tree Care Workshop which will be held on March 20, 2010 at the Pennington County Extension Building. They also discussed ways to get people interested in serving on the Urban Forestry Board.

Dosier reported that the Beautification Committee met last Tuesday. The Bylaws for the Committee have been changed to allow them to conduct business with 5 members. He added that there are 4 vacancies on the Committee and they are searching for interested citizens. Dosier added that the final version of revisions to the Landscape Ordinance should be coming out soon.

Director's Report

Cole reported that several people met at the proposed site in Robbinsdale Park for construction of an asphalt landing strip for electronic remote controlled airplanes. They are currently using the parking lot in this area for this purpose and it doesn't appear that the proposed use would interfere with any other uses in this area. Motion was made by Tinant seconded by Storm and carried to authorize the Remote Controlled Airplane group to submit the necessary applications to the Growth Management Department for an asphalt land strip to be constructed in Robbinsdale Park. Cole added that they will have to raise funds to pay for any costs involved with the project and proposed signage would have to be approved through Growth Management as well.

Cole reviewed the status of the projects on the Five Year Plan with the Board. He noted that staff will have a recommendation at the next meeting on funding that should be carried forward to 2010 for specific projects.

Regarding 2012 projects, Cole explained that the Department is trying to be aware of all the projects that are coming forward that could relate to park and recreation uses. For example, the two presentations that were made earlier in the meeting will be submitted by those organizations, not the City. Cole stated that he wants the Advisory Board to have a chance to view the presentations that will be submitted for consideration. The Parks and Recreation Dept. will have two projects that we feel are priorities that will be coming through and we will be presenting them to the Board at the February meeting.

All projects presented by City departments will go the Mayor for final decision on what is presented for consideration.

Cole added that applications are available on-line for citizens who are interested in serving on any of the three 2012 Committees. The City Council is also trying to decide how to handle funding for 2012 projects from the last round that have not been started. Lindquist stated that an inflation factor should be included for projects that are included in the later years of the 2012 Plan. It is a given that the costs will be higher if a project is done 3 or 4 years after it has been submitted for consideration.

Cole also informed the Board that the ASA Girls Softball organization would like to construct a shade structure at the Parkview Softball Complex. They have applied for an 11-6-19 Review through the Growth Management Office. The shade structure is approximately 26' x 26' and will be located between Fields 3 & 4. Motion was made by Storm seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the shade structure at Parkview Softball Complex.

Election of Officers

Storm nominated Lindquist for the position of Chairman. No other nominations were made. Motion was made by Storm and seconded by Tinant that carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Van Lindquist as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Lindquist asked that selection of a Vice Chairman be delayed to the next meeting when the newly appointed members can be present.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.