

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Parks Division Conference Room
October 8, 2009

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, October 8, 2009 with the following members present: Wes Storm, Sheri Zimmer, and Wade Morris. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Beautification Committee Liaison Steve Dosier, Urban Forestry Board Liaison Steve Hasenohrl, Landscape Designer Randy Lyons and Administrative Assistant Jeri Taton.

Motion was made by Zimmer, seconded by Morris and carried to approve the minutes of September 10, 2009, as presented.

The agenda was approved with the addition of "Items from the Public".

Liaison Reports

Hasenohrl reported that the Urban Forestry Board met this morning. The main topic of discussion was the annual Tree Care Workshop which will be held March 10, 2010. The Board is in the process of selecting a key note speaker for the workshop and selecting topics for discussion during the workshop. An update on the Emerald Ash Boar migration to western South Dakota is one possible topic. Hasenohrl indicated that the Board tries to have the agenda for the workshop finalized by the December meeting.

Steve Dosier reported that the Beautification Committee met and received a report of on-going projects throughout the community.

Items from the Public

Dosier submitted pictures of a tree that became uprooted along Omaha Street and fell on a truck. This situation turned out to be very lucky because the truck was built to withstand a considerable amount of force, and there was no one sitting in the passenger seat. Had the tree fell on a car, it would have been much worse. Dosier urged the City to review the proximity of trees to major roads throughout the community. Cole noted that because of the additional staff that has been added to the Parks Division, the City's Urban Forester is now able to devote more time to trees throughout the community.

Five Year Plan

Cole reviewed the Five Year Plan with the Board members and updated everyone on the various projects being done throughout the community. He added that the 2012 Project selection process will begin soon and staff will need to begin preparing documentation for projects the Board would like to submit for consideration. Projects selected by the Advisory Board to proceed through the process will be forwarded to the Mayor for his consideration.

Director's Report

Cole reported that the Parks and Recreation Department hosted the 2009 Annual SD PRA Conference Sept. 28th through October 1st and he heard nothing but good comments about all aspects of the Conference. He added that several individuals from Rapid City received awards at the conference: Van Lindquist was inducted into the Hall of Fame, Wes Storm received the Meritorious Service Award and Kristy Lintz received the Young Professional award.

Cole also reported that the Parkview Tennis Court project is substantially complete and will be available for use in the spring. The Fundraising Committee continues to seek donations for a restroom facility and office/storage space to serve this area. Cole noted that the City will not be able to provide programming at this facility until a restroom is available.

Regarding the Greenway Project, Cole explained that the funding from the Department of Transportation available for this project has increased from \$1.7 million to \$1,812,278. The City's match is 18.05% and funding for this project is available in the 2012 Fund. This project includes:

- Founders Park (restroom, bridge, trail on south side of creek and trail from Executive to Anamosa Street)
- Bike trail connecting the existing bike path to the School of Mines, and
- Bike trail Fairgrounds to Cherry Avenue

Cetec Engineering was selected as the consultant for this project. They will be doing a feasibility study and design for the project as well as construction management. The Scope of Work is being finalized now and it must also be approved by the State. The State will then negotiate with Cetec Engineering and develop a contract for this project. The contract will be signed by both the City and the State. Cole added that we are aware that the State will be revamping the I-190 off-ramp at some point in the future. We want to put the trail in now, knowing that it will have to be replaced when the future off-ramp project is done.

Cole reported that the FY2010 Budget for the City of Rapid City was approved by the City Council and no additional FTEs were provided for the Department. Also, the Council made a decision not to take the available funding increase from the CPI which would have generated .approximately \$250,000-\$300,000 annually for the City. It will be a difficult year with no pay increases for staff, but additional work being requested (especially for the Parks Dept. and the Public Works Dept.).

The Golf Enterprise Fund is suffering in 2009 because of the wet spring we had and the negative impact this had on revenues. The course has made a profit the last two years, but that will probably not be the case for 2009.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.