

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Halley Park Board Room

March 9, 2017

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, March 9, 2017 with the following members present: Karen Olson, Shon Hanczyc, Rick Askvig and Domico Rodriguez. The following members were absent: Nick Stroot, Greg Oleson and Chuck Tinant. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson, Parks Maintenance Supervisor Aaron Weeks, Landscape Designer Alex DeSmidt and Administrative Coordinator Jeri Taton.

**Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**Minutes**

Motion was made by Askvig seconded by Hanczyc and carried to approve the Advisory Board Minutes of February 9, 2017 as presented.

**Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**Liaison Reports**

Steve Doshier reported that there has not been a quorum of the Beautification Committee available for the past couple months. There are currently only three members on the committee so when someone is not available, the committee can't take any official actions. Doshier stated that he was hoping the Advisory Board could assist with finding additional members for the Beautification Committee. Biegler stated that staff will work with the City's Public Information Officer to put out notices to the media that we are looking for interested citizens to serve on this committee.

Biegler reported that the 2017 deer harvest was discussed at the last meeting of the Urban Wildlife Committee. It was also reported that several calls to the Wildlife Complaint hotline reported seeing mountain lion tracks in residential areas in the city limits. Biegler noted that as of the beginning of the year, GF&P will no longer respond to calls relative to wildlife if the property is within the city limits. He added that the City doesn't have staff to respond to these types of issues so this could be an on-going issue.

Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson reported that the Urban Forestry Board met this morning and approved a memorial tree application for Joe & Lisa Magbuhat. They are also working on the Arbor Day celebration and received information on the tree planting project being planned for the spring.

Biegler reported that the first reading of the ordinance updating parks and recreation issues was approved by the City Council on March 6<sup>th</sup> and will be considered again on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Dept. is also preparing an ordinance to regulate food trucks throughout the city, including the park system.

**BH Lacrosse Proposed Lease Agreement**

The next item discussed by the Board was the proposed Lease Agreement between the City of Rapid City and Black Hills Lacrosse for use of field space at Star of the West Sports Complex. Biegler explained that the proposed lease agreement is the result of several meetings between city staff and representatives from the lacrosse organization. The lease does include requirements for the organization to maintain the property. Rodriguez expressed concern about the lack of fencing in the field space to the back of the complex. The “ball” used in lacrosse is very hard and would damage any vehicles parked in these areas. He suggested that the lacrosse organization put up fencing to prevent the balls from hitting vehicles in the parking lot. Motion was made by Hanczyc seconded by Askvig and carried to recommend approval of the Lease Agreement with Black Hills Lacrosse.

**2017 Deer Harvest Program**

Biegler reported that the 2017 deer harvest was completed in about a week and 100 deer were harvested. Information on the expenses and the daily log were submitted for the Board’s information.

**Beautification Committee**

Motion was made by Askvig seconded by Hanczyc and carried to approve payment to Dakota Greens – Custer Greenhouse & Nursery, Inc. in the amount of \$15,000 using the 2012 Parks Reforestation Project Stearns Grant Funds.

Karen Olson entered the meeting at this time.

**Parks and Recreation CIP Five Year Plan**

Landscape Designer Alex DeSmidt presented the Parks and Rec CIP Five Year Plan for the Board’s consideration. He went through each year and explained the projects being proposed. Biegler noted that this document is fluid and can be modified as needs change in the future. Motion was made by Askvig seconded by Hanczyc and carried to approve the Parks and Recreation Five Year Plan, as presented from staff.

**Director’s Report**

Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson reported that his staff has been working on the following projects:

- Developing irrigation projects for the spring
- Preparing for tree planting at Vickie Powers Park and other locations
- Removal of hazardous trees in the park system
- Purchase of a new chipper that will handle 19” logs. Staff anticipates the chipper will provide increased efficiencies and cost savings.
- Preparing restrooms that will open to the public on April 1st

Biegler reported that the Farmers Market organization has been looking for a new location and they are interested in using the site next to Rapid Spa on East Omaha Street. They have decided to begin using this location for the 2017 season and staff will assist them to see what needs to be done to ready the location for use this spring. We will also assist with City Council approval of the location.

He also noted that the park system will be impacted by two major construction projects this summer. First, phase three of the Mt. Rushmore Road project has begun and this will make any use of Wilson Park very difficult this summer. Second, a drainage project along Omaha Street has started which will impact the disc golf facility. Trees in this area are being removed at the present time and the project will move across Omaha Street and move toward Founders Park. It is anticipated that the project will be complete in August.

Biegler also noted that the 2018 budget process has begun and staff has worked to provide the information to the Finance Office. He explained the priority based budgeting process staff has been involved with. The process required staff to review all facets of their divisions and what programs and services they provide. It has been a good process for staff to review exactly what services they provide for the community and their importance based on several criteria.

The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for April 13, 2017.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.