

Rapid City Swim Center Conference Room
April 7, 2005

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 4:30 PM on Thursday, April 7, 2005, with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Wes Storm and Hugh Welsh. Sherri Zimmer arrived later in the meeting. Also present were Director Jerry Cole, Parks Director Lon Van Deusen, Golf Superintendent JJ Walraven, Michael Stanley representing the Beautification Committee, and Administrative Assistant Jeri Lynn.

Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Welsh and carried to **approve the Advisory Board minutes** of March 3 and March 22, 2005.

Lindquist requested that an "Update on 2012 Projects" be added to the agenda prior to the Director's Report. The agenda was approved with that addition.

Omaha Street Beautification Project

Randy Fisher from Designworks, Inc. briefed the Advisory Board on the Omaha Street Beautification Project which incorporates the greenway from Founders Park near the fish sculpture to East Boulevard. The Committee worked on the area one block at a time to come up with different solutions to various issues. Lindquist noted that mandates from the EPA relative to management of storm water runoff are the driving force behind this project. Fisher went through each area of the project and explained the proposed changes.

Founders Park: Allow for future expansion of the parking lot; construction of a restroom facility; allow area for future development of a picnic/shelter area; expansion of the sand volleyball courts; construction of storm water run-off management facility; and landscaping along Omaha street to create a buffer.

Golf Course Area (12th Street to I-190): Construction of a storm water mitigation facility; commercial development along Omaha Street (at former Otto's location); and relocation of bike path to allow installation of storm water mitigation elements.

Ken Edel from the Adopt a Creek Program asked if the plan called for any clearing of shrubs or timber along the Creek. Fisher stated that the project goes up to the creek but does not include any modifications to Rapid Creek. Edel also expressed concern about the proposed natural grass areas. They start out nice but the end up with tall weeds and willows that catch garbage and become unsightly.

West Memorial Park Area: Remove tennis courts and a portion of the parking lot at the intersection of Omaha and Eighth Street; construct storm water management area that would retain water in major storm events and filter the water before it goes back into the creek;

Memorial Park, Area D: Realign walkways; relocate Legacy Statue; and construct storm water management area to handle 5th & 6th Street drainage areas.

6th Street Bridge: Remove the overhead portions of the bridge and refinish the walkways on the bridge.

Pressler Junction(Hubbard Mill to East Boulevard): Allow for future construction of pedestrian bridge behind Hubbard Mill. This will allow pedestrians to get to the Boys Club and The Journey Museum and keep pedestrians off the train bridge. Construct storm water mitigation area; construct bike path on top of berm to keep pedestrian traffic away from Omaha Street.

Lindquist asked about the schedule for adoption and implementation of the plan. Fisher explained that this month they will go through the review process with the Beautification Committee and the City Council. Phase 1 of the project is to repair the areas of Memorial Park that were damaged during the street construction project, and construct the restroom facility identified in Founder's Park. Currently, there is approximately \$700,000 earmarked for Phase 1. Rod Johnson from the Public Works Department explained that the project will be presented to the City Council at their April 20, 2005 Information Meeting. We will also have a public meeting to get additional input on the project. Once those meetings are done, we will make final adjustment to the plan and begin the 11-6-19 review process. No action was taken on this item.

Red Rocks Meadows Park

Director Cole explained that a park is being planned in the Red Rock Meadows development. Once it is complete, the developers have indicated they will request that the City Parks Division take over responsibility for the park. Randy Fisher explained that design for the park is complete and they are currently working on construction documents. The developers would like to see the project go to bid as soon as possible. It was also noted that there are no houses built in this area yet. It is anticipated that the park will be done before the houses are constructed.

Community Orchard Project

Stephanie Schweigert was present to brief the Advisory Board on a proposed Community Orchard Project. The lead agency on this project is the Cornerstone Mission. The project will provide a food source for the community at large and help the Mission produce a self sufficient food supply. Schweigert indicated that they are looking for a lease from the City on one of the following locations:

- South side of Omaha Street, east of the former Harley Davison shop
- North side of the railroad tracks
- Next to the creek between these two sites

Lindquist asked how many trees would be planted. Schweigert indicated they are looking at up to 200 trees to begin with. It would be three to five years before the orchard would bear fruit. She added that the property would be fenced. Cole explained that the next step for this project would be submittal of a plan showing exactly what is planned on the property to see if it will work. Then we would find out if the use is compatible with the zoning of the property. If everything works out, the plan will be submitted to the Advisory Board for review.

Batting Shed/Yard Waste Renovation – Fitzgerald Stadium

Project Manager Rod Johnson explained that the review process for the Yard Waste/Batting Cage Project at Fitzgerald Stadium has been completed and the project is moving forward. Johnson noted that the last time he gave an update on this project he explained the need for a new water line from Canyon Lake Drive to provide the required amount of pressure for fire fighting. That water line is necessary and will serve this entire complex.

Whitehead Field Improvement Project

Johnson also informed the Board that work on the Whitehead Field project is nearly complete and staff is finalizing payment. Extra dirt was needed on the project at a cost of \$800 and a change was necessary in the electrical panel at an increased cost. As a result, the project cost is \$252,152.69 and the available budget is only \$250,000. The Parks & Rec 2005 Contingency Fund line item shows an available balance of \$14,782. Johnson recommended that additional funding from the Parks & Rec contingency line item be allocated for this project in the amount of \$2,152.69. Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Welsh and carried to allocate \$2,152.69 from the contingency fund to the White Field Improvement Project, which will provide a project budget in the amount of \$252,152.69.

Sports Facility Partnership Fund Program

The next item discussed by the Board was the recommendation on allocation of Sports Facility Partnership Funds. Cole explained that seven applications were submitted and presentations were made to the Advisory Board at a special meeting on March 22, 2005. The projects were rated according to the program guidelines, and the following ranking resulted:

1. Black Hills Pony League – Hammerquist field renovation project - \$16,206.14
2. Timberline Little League – Concession Facility renovation project - \$9,320.
3. Harney Little League – Concession/restroom Facility. The project was declared ineligible because they requested more than a 50% match.
4. Soccer Rapid City – Field renovation project. Project was declared ineligible because matching funds were outside the scope of the project and outside of leased area.

5. Softball Association – Playground Equipment. Project was declared ineligible because equipment was ordered prior to approval of grant which is expressly against the program guidelines.
6. Baseball 320, Inc. – Installation of bleacher seat backs. The project was declared ineligible because the request was for more than a 50% match.
7. Church Softball – Maintenance Shed. \$1,454.35.

Staff recommends that the following projects be awarded:

1. Black Hills Pony League – Hammerquist field renovation project - \$16,206.14
2. Timberline Little League – Concession Facility renovation project - \$9,320.
7. Church Softball – Maintenance Shed - \$1,454.35.

The total amount for these projects is \$26,980.49 which leaves \$23,019.41 remaining in the Fund. The Board can either carry this amount forward and award it for projects in 2006, or allow the four projects that were declared ineligible to resubmit their grants and go through the process again. Lindquist noted that the Board struggled with this when initially reviewing the projects. Staff did meet with all the organizations and outlined the information that was needed and the guidelines that had to be followed. In making the initial recommendations, we stuck to the rules and did not bend them in any way. He added that there are some areas of the program that will be tweaked for next year to make the program better. Lindquist added that we want to make sure that this process is very clean because it will be reviewed by the Council for final approval. Storm spoke in favor of carrying the remaining balance forward to 2006, and approve the three projects as recommended. Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Welsh and carried to recommend that the following projects be funded from the 2005 Sports Facility Partnership Fund:

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| 1. | Black Hills Pony League | \$16,206.14 |
| 2. | Timberline Little League | \$9,320.00 |
| 3. | Church Softball League | \$1,454.35 |

and that the remaining \$23,019.51 be carried forward to 2006 and used for future Sports Facility Partnership Fund projects.

Lindquist requested that Director Cole contact each of the applicants and go through the application with them so they fully understand their downfalls and how the application can be improved.

Parks & Recreation Five Year Plan

The next item discussed by the Board was the Parks & Recreation Five Year Plan (CIP Funds). The Plan before the Board at this time was developed by the previous Parks & Rec Subcommittee. Lindquist stated that if the 2012 Committee provides funding in the amount of \$300,000 for playground equipment, the funding in the Five Year Plan can be re-allocated. He added that there are several proposed 2012 projects could affect

funding for projects in the Parks & Recreation Five Year Plan. Cole suggested that the Board approve the plan as it is now. Once the 2012 Program is finalized, the Board can make adjustments to the Parks & Rec Five Year Plan. He added that funding for several projects was carried forward from 2004 and these amounts are not reflected on the handout distributed. These amounts will be added to the Five Year Plan before it is submitted to the CIP Committee for consideration.

Bike Path Improvements – Fairgrounds

Cole explained that an ISTEA Grant for Bike Path Improvements through the Fairgrounds has been prepared by the Growth Management Department. The Grant cannot be submitted until matching funds have been identified. In reviewing the Five Year Plan, it was noted that approximately \$90,000 has been budgeted in 2006 for the New York Street Park Improvements/Restrooms/ Lighting project. A portion of this funding could be re-allocated for matching funds for the ISTEA Grant. Motion was made by Welsh, seconded by Storm and carried to recommend that \$30,000 be reallocated from the New York Street Park Imp. Project to provide matching funds for the ISTEA Grant for bike path improvements through the Fairgrounds.

2012 Project Update

Lindquist went through the following 2012 projects which have been recommended for approval and could impact the Department of Parks and Recreation:

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| 1. | Portable Bleachers | \$262,500 |
| | Who will be responsible for transporting bleachers to various locations? | |
| 2. | Skyline Drive | \$800,000 |
| | Who will be responsible for developing trails and maintenance? | |
| 3. | Playground Equipment Replacement | \$300,000 |
| 4. | Alliance of Tribal Tourism (Pow-Wow Grounds) | \$562,000 |
| | There are competing interests for the same location | |
| 5. | Greenway Expansion | \$500,000 |
| | Will these funds go to P&R Advisory Board to determine use? | |
| 6. | Soccer Complex | \$3,764,000 |
| | City Council may not want to authorize use of this land for soccer complex. | |
| 7. | Signage for Bike Path | \$5,000 |
| | Coordination of various city committees. | |
| 8. | RC Girls Softball ASA | \$75,000 |
| | Fixes problems at ASA Parkview complex | |
| 9. | BH Tennis Association (Parkview) | \$180,000 |
| | Can be considered mitigation for loss of courts in Memorial Park. Concern about level of funding which is not adequate to replace six court facility. | |
| 10. | Founders Park | \$200,000 |
| | Does this replace the \$80,000 in CIP funding? | |
| 11. | Canyon Lake Restoration | \$400,000 |
| | Water By-Pass element only. | |

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| 12. | Pactola Water
If no congressional approval in 1 year, dollars are redirected to new water projects. Could this mean “parks water irrigation”? | \$1,000,000 |
| 13. | Skateboard Park Parking Lot | \$150,000 |
| 14. | Roosevelt Park Complex
For outside park landscaping; can this include park amenities? | \$500,000 |
| 15. | Storm water Management (downtown)
Tied to Omaha Street Beautification Plan. | \$200,000 |

Director’s Report

Golf Superintendent JJ Walraven reported that the golf courses are now open for business. He is pleased with the look of the greens that were covered and recommends that the city purchase covers for additional holes in the coming years. Walraven stated that he intends to present this item to the men’s and women’s associations. Welsh stated that if we are not going to play the greens, we should cover them. Walraven stated that the cost to cover each green is approximately \$1,000. Storm suggested that if the city is going to play temporary greens during the winter months, we should consider a 9 month pass or a reduced rate or something. Walraven added that the greens will be aerified beginning the week of April 18th and because of this, we have extended our spring promotion to April 22, 2005. The promotion will allow 18 holes of golf plus a cart for \$20.

Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen reported that his staff is uncovering the roses this week and turning on water for various organizations throughout the community. The restrooms in the City parks are also being opened.

Cole introduced Michael Stanley representing the Beautification Committee. Stanley noted that a permanent liaison will be selected by the Committee at their next meeting.

Cole added that a meeting of the Beautification Committee and the Advisory Board was held last week to discuss ways the two groups can work together to coordinate activities and projects in the community. One of the outcomes of this meeting was to request that each committee that works with park and recreation activities designate a liaison to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. This will increase communication between all groups. The committees mentioned were the Urban Forestry Board, Beautification Committee and the Bike, Run, Walk Committee.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.