

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Rapid City Swim Center – Conference Room
June 11, 2009

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, June 11, 2009 with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Chuck Tinant, Sheri Zimmer and Wes Storm. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Aquatics Division Manager Duncan Olney, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, City Council Liaison Karen Gunderson Olson, Beautification Committee Liaison Steve Doshier, Urban Forestry Liaison Steve Hasenohrl and Administrative Assistant Jeri Taton.

Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the minutes of May 14, 2009.

The agenda was approved with the following additions: 1) Request from Rushmore Little League for a 60 day extension for Sports Facility Partnership Fund Grant.

Liaison Reports

Doshier reported that the Beautification Committee met and discussed on-going projects. There was not a quorum present so no actions were taken.

Hasenohrl reported that the Urban Forest Board met this morning and toured several areas throughout the community to inspect trees that were planted and other development that is going on in the park system.

Urban Orchard Project

Brett Lawler informed the Advisory Board that he has meet with the Urban Forest Board on the proposal to plant apple trees throughout the community. He felt the project was well received by this group. He also met with the City's Growth Management Office to discuss issues related to the floodway and flood plain and how that may influence the locations that are chosen for orchard sites. Staff was supportive of the project and several areas were identified that were out of the flood plain. This would allow fencing to be installed around newly planted trees. Proposed sites include an area just west of Abourezk Law Office, adjacent to the bike path near Al-Anon, the parkland across the street from Two Wheeler Dealer, an area in Jackson Park by the Frisbee golf course, and an area just south of Evans Orthodontics. All of these areas would have water available.

Lindquist asked if this would be a phased-in project. Lawler stated that it would be and the phasing would depend on finding organizations to adopt the areas and fundraising. He added that he would like to have authorization from the City by early fall so that he can order the trees and begin working with organizations and businesses to adopt specific areas. The trees would then be planted in the spring. Lindquist stated that he would like to see a map of the proposed sites before approving the request. Lawler

stated that he would submit a map of the areas that he reviewed with the Growth Management Office at the next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

Sports Facility Partnership Fund Grants

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe explained that the Sports Facility Partnership Fund was established in 2004 to provide grant funding for capital improvements to city-owned facilities which are leased to non-profit organizations. There is \$43,056 available in 2009 to provide grant funding for upgrades to Rapid City's sports facilities. The following applications were submitted for 2009 funding:

- ASA Softball, Parkview Softball Complex Shade Structure - \$5,194.13
- ASA Softball, Parkview Softball Complex Retaining Wall - \$5,500.00
- Church Softball League, Whitehead Softball Complex – Outfield Fence Replacement - \$3,251.25

Using criteria contained in the grant, these applications were reviewed and rated by Parks and Recreation Staff. It was determined that each project is eligible for CIP funding and meets the criteria of the Sports Facility Partnership Fund. Staff recommends that each of these projects be approved. Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Zimmer and carried to recommend approval of the three SFPF Grant applications.

A letter was submitted by Daryl Deneke on behalf of the Amateur Baseball Association requesting a 60 day extension to complete construction of the following SFPF projects which were awarded in 2007:

- Crows Nest – \$6,296.43
- Equipment Shed - \$7,270.84

The letter explains that they have submitted all the necessary applications to the city and received the approvals and permits necessary for these projects. The only thing that remains is the actual construction which can be accomplished in the next 60 days. Motion was made by Zimmer and seconded by Storm to approve the request for a 60-day extension. Zimmer noted that since the weather has been so wet this spring, perhaps the extension should be for 90 days. Director Cole noted that this organization has had 2 years to work on these projects. If they need more than 60 days he feels they should appear before the Advisory Board and make their case. Upon vote being taken, the motion to grant the 60 day extension carried unanimously.

A letter was received from Joseph Carlin on behalf of Rushmore Little League also requesting a 60-day extension for their \$2,027 crows nest project. The structure has been built however they did not get the proper permits and approvals from the City. Lowe explained that when he saw that the structure was built, he contacted them and told them they had to get the necessary permits from the City. Carlin is coordinating with the City planning department to rectify the permits and requirements needed to have the

city council approve it. A survey has been done and was submitted to the city and the project is moving forward for approval. This request for a 60-day extension will allow this project to move forward for City Council approval. Motion was made by Storm seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the request for a 60-day extension for Rushmore Little for their 2007 SFPF grant project.

Cole suggested that if requests for extensions are made in the future, he would like to have the organizations appear before the Advisory Board to explain the need for their request. Lowe noted that both organizations were willing to appear before the Board however he told them he would present the information. In the future he will have them make a presentation.

Golf Course Home Clubs

Motion was made by Storm seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the following Home Clubs for Meadowbrook Golf Course for 2009:

1. Stone Golf Group
2. Haberstroh Group
3. Chicago Bunch
4. South Canyon Lutheran
5. RC Merchant Golf League

Storm noted that the Golf Course is in excellent condition and staff has done a good job with the sand traps.

Director's Report

Cole reported that the City Council did approve the request to increase the membership on the Advisory Board from 5 to 7 members. The Mayor will be reviewing citizen interest applications and hopefully we will have new members soon. Lindquist stated that he will attempt to discuss review of the citizen interest applications with Mayor Hanks.

The Sports Facility Partnership Fund grant documents were revised to expand eligibility to any organization that leases city-owned property, or has a signed Memorandum of Understanding relative to a city facility or parkland. These changes will be considered by the City Council at their meeting on June 15, 2009. If approved, the changes would allow organizations like Storybook Island, Inc., Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Committee and the BH Mountain Bike Assoc. (Dirt Jump Park) to apply for grant funding.

Cole noted that both the NAIA National Championship Golf Tournament and the BH Fat Tire Festival went very well. He will have a final report on these events at a future Advisory Board meeting.

The dedication of the Leonard "Swanny" Swanson Memorial Pathway was held on Saturday, June 6th which was also National Trails Day. Although the weather was very uncooperative, the event was well-attended and the Swanson family was very pleased with the event and the stone that was placed in the pathway.

Regarding the tennis court project, the contractor has started moving dirt and the soil stabilization process will begin next week. A second grant was received from the USTA in the amount of \$25,000 bringing the total grant received to \$36,000. They will submit applications for grant funds again in 2010. As the project is now, only the tennis courts and fencing will be constructed. There will be no restroom, irrigation/landscaping, lighting, storage, office space or additional parking. The facility will most likely be surrounded by weeds and mud because there is no funding to provide any of the other amenities.

Cole also reported that the Hansen Larson organization has reached an agreement with the State and will accept the \$250,000 RTP Grant they were awarded in 2008. They had concerns about the requirement that the land be kept in public use in perpetuity. An agreement was reached that the trails would be available to the public in perpetuity, however, the land can be sold in the future. Hansen Larson will use this funding to construct an additional six miles of trails through the property. Cole added that the City's grant requests for trail construction dollars will probably not be funded.

Cole reported that the City will be able to begin work on the trails in the Skyline Wilderness Area soon. The SHIPO has been submitted to the State for review and as soon as that has been done, trail work in this area can begin.

RCS Construction has started working in Vickie Powers Memorial Park, however because of the weather they are behind on the project. We are also five days behind schedule for the playground project because of all the wet weather. However, the build will begin on June 17th, rain or shine. If we can get the holes dug for the poles, we can get the rest of the project done.

Cole noted that the SD Parks & Recreation Association Annual Conference will be held in Rapid City September 30-October 1, 2008. He encouraged the Advisory Board members to attend portions of this seminar which will include a tour of various park and recreation facilities.

Lindquist noted that when the new Board members are appointed it would be good to make arrangements for a tour.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2009 at 5:30 PM. It was the consensus of the Board that the meeting be held in the conference room at the Parks Division, 2915 Canyon Lake Drive. The room in the Swim Center is no longer big enough for these meetings.

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