

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Rapid City Swim Center Conference Room  
March 3, 2005

The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM on Thursday, March 3, 2005, with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Vice Chairman Tom Allen, Wes Storm, Hugh Welsh and Sherri Zimmer. Also present were Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, Parks Director Lon Van Deusen, Aquatics Division Manager Duncan Olney, and Administrative Assistant Jeri Lynn.

Motion was made by Allen, seconded by Welsh and carried to approve the Advisory Board minutes of February 3, 2005.

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- Fitzgerald Stadium Project Report (batting shed)
- Hydro Plant Structure
- Omaha Street Beautification Project

Rod Johnson from the Public Works Department was present to give an update on the **Whitehead Field Project**. The project is in construction at the present time. The fence on the west side was removed in an effort to create more space for flag football (2 fields on the west field and 1 on the east field), and more practice space for youth baseball teams. There won't be side fences on the west field as there are on the east field. New irrigation and lighting is also being installed. The complex is scheduled for completion this spring (end of April). Johnson added that a new restroom and shelter were constructed last year in this complex.

Johnson also reported on an ISTE A Grant for **bike path improvements** through the fairgrounds being prepared by Pat Beaudette in the Growth Management Office. Johnson provided information on two route options for the bike path and noted that a decision will have to be made on which option to take if the grant is approved. One option will require a portion of the existing road to be re-aligned and the other option will require a retaining wall and guard rail because the bike path will be lower than the road. From a scheduling standpoint, this project will most likely be done in 2007. The match for this project is 20% or approximately \$30,000 which has not been identified to date. Johnson added that the cost estimates include design by not construction management.

Johnson submitted drawings of the **Fitzgerald Stadium complex** including the proposed batting shed being constructed this year by the Post 22 organization. The building will be constructed over the existing sidewalks on the west side of the stadium and the sidewalks will be re-aligned to go around the building. They are planning to use a metal siding in a color that will tie into the existing stadium. This project will be going through Growth Management's 11-6-19 review process. Johnson added that the recycling area will also be updated at this time. Landscaping will be provided to shield the area to a degree and some hard-surfacing will also need to be done. This project may impact the parking during large events. For instance, this summer the state Legion

Baseball Tournament will be held at Fitzgerald Stadium in early August and the World Series will be here at the end of August. It is our intent to re-locate the yard waste and recycling bins to a temporary parking lot during these events. Johnson also reported that two new fire hydrants will have to be installed at this site in order to meet the flow requirements for fire protection. The new hydrants will connect to the 24" line off Canyon Lake Drive. The cost estimate for these hydrants is approximately \$45,000. Since the hydrants will also serve the recycling area, Johnson suggested that the Solid Waste enterprise fund pay a portion of the costs for the new fire hydrants. Storm asked if Post 22 planned to contribute funding for the required fire hydrants. Johnson explained that they have not said they wouldn't help pay for this cost, however, they have a lot of funding tied up with the building they are trying to construct. No action was taken on this issue.

Jim Kissel and Tom Allen briefed the Advisory Board on the Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Project. They presented a slide show describing the project, including pictures of the area. Construction of the picnic shelter is complete and the block work for the enclosed building will begin soon. Funding for the street, water and sewer portions of the project has been requested from the 2012 Committee.

Chairman Lindquist gave a brief report on the following projects which were presented to the 2012 Committee for consideration:

- North Haines Park
- City Wide Irrigation
- Skateboard Park Parking Lot
- Roosevelt Park Complex Completion
- Playground Equipment Replacement

Lindquist added that the CIP Committee re-allocated funding for the Parks Maintenance Facility and Golf Maintenance Facility and asked that staff submit these projects to the 2012 Committee for consideration. Staff submitted these projects at the February 24<sup>th</sup> 2012 Committee meeting for consideration. The 2012 Committees will continue to discuss the projects and make a recommendation to the City Council in April.

Staff reported that the Canyon Lake Little League Lease for the **United Field** was approved by the Legal & Finance Committee on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be submitted to the City Council for final approval on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Information was distributed on the Game Fish & Parks proposal for development of an educational center in the **Braeburn Addition** area. A copy of the newspaper articles on this issue as well as the minutes from the October 21st "Dog Park" meeting were distributed for the Board's information. Suzanne Martley was present to encourage the Board to leave this area as it is for the use as a dog park. She thanked the Parks & Rec Board for the improvements that have been made at Braeburn Addition. Martley presented copies of petitions containing several hundred signatures from people who

use the Braeburn area as a dog park. The petitions have also been submitted to the Mayor and City Council. No action was taken.

Lindquist reported on the **Omaha Street Beautification and Historic Preservation Master Plan** currently being developed. He submitted summaries of the key features and impacts of this project. The driving force behind this project is storm water management which is being federally mandated. The "Ottos" land is currently owned by the SD DOT. We should talk to them about trading some land because they will want to expand Omaha Street to the west at some point in the future. Discussion continued on the changes being proposed and the fact that the Omaha Street tennis courts will be removed. Lowe stated that if the project is requiring removal of these courts, the project cost should include replacement funds in another location. No action was taken.

Staff explained that the Public Works Committee recently considered an issue submitted by Alderman Sam Kooiker relative to the old **Big Bend Hydroelectric Power Plant** located near the old Federal Beef Processing Plant. Historic photographs were submitted for the Board's information. Parks Director Lon Van Deusen has secured the building and Growth Management Director Marcia Elkins has applied for a grant to do an engineering analysis on the structure. The Public Works Committee has requested that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board come up with a solution on what to do with this building. There is no legal access to the property. At this time, staff recommends that there is no use of the building for Parks & Recreation purposes. It has been suggested that the Parks & Recreation Dept. meet with the Historic Preservation Commission on this issue since the building is more than 50 years old. After all information has been gathered, a recommendation must be made to the Public Works Committee. No action was taken at this time.

A copy of the Parks & Recreation **Needs Assessment Survey** was distributed for the Board's information and perusal. The survey will be distributed to 150 residents from each area of the city. A separate (and different) survey will be developed for the web page which will be available to everyone. Staff requested that if the Board members have any suggested changes, please have them to the office within one week so that we can proceed with mailing out the survey.

Staff noted that the deadline for applications for the **Sports Facility Partnership Fund** is March 10, 2005. We would like the Advisory Board to meet in special session on March 17<sup>th</sup> to review the proposals. A quorum was not available on the 17<sup>th</sup>, but March 22<sup>nd</sup> will work. The Advisory Board will meet in special session on Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 to review the applications for the Sports Facility Partnership Fund.

The tentative opening date for Meadowbrook Golf Course is March 20, 2005. Staff has started taking the tarps off Hole Numbers 2 and 11 on Wednesday.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.