

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Rapid City Swim Center – Conference Room
May 8, 2008

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 4:30 pm on Thursday, May 8, 2008 with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Chuck Tinant and Sheri Zimmer. Also present were, Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Landscape Designer Randy Lyons, Bike Walk Run Committee Liaison Frank Matejcik, Beautification Committee Liaison Steve Doshier, Urban Forestry Board Liaison Steve Hasenohrl, Recreation Specialist Cliff Zechiel, and Administrative Assistant Jeri Taton.

Motion was made by Zimmer seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the Advisory Board minutes of April 10, 2008.

The agenda was approved as presented.

Liaison Reports

Matejcik reported that the Bike/Walk/Run Committee did not meet.

Doshier reported that the Beautification Committee met on April 16, 2008 and discussed the changes being made to the City's landscape ordinance. A representative from Designworks attended the meeting to get input from the committee. The Committee also discussed the annual clean-up day and received an update on current projects.

Steve Hasenohrl reported that the Urban Forestry Board met this morning. Mark Young from Black Hills Power talked about their tree program and indicated that the City should qualify for free trees. Black Hills Power will continue to develop the program and it is their hope to have an application process developed later this summer. The Board also talked about updating the tree brochure for Rapid City and Young indicated that Black Hills Power may be able to assist with development of that brochure. It will be dependent upon the Parks Division staff to update the information and pictures used on the brochure. Hasenohrl noted that the Board also discussed current board members and the fact that the three positions on the Urban Forestry Board are currently vacant. Board members will be actively seeking additional members.

Cole introduced Randy Lyons who was hired as the City's landscape designer.

Project Updates

Vickie Powers Park: Cole reported that the City received a grant from the Qwest Foundation in the amount of \$50,000 to assist with construction of the playground in Powers Park. So far \$200,000 is available for playground construction and staff intends to request additional grant funding from other organizations. Cole noted that the City is negotiating a contract with Wyss Associates, Inc. for design and construction

administration of Powers Park. A contract is being negotiated with Leathers, Inc. for the playground element in the park.

Roosevelt Park Improvements, Phase 3: Cole noted that bids for this project were received by the City Council in March but were rejected because they were considerably more than the available budget. The bid documents were revised with some items being listed as alternates and the project was re-bid. The prices came in similar to the initial bids however the base bid was low enough to complete the following items: irrigation, small picnic shelter, and lighting. Cole anticipated that the base bid would be awarded as well as the alternates for the pond aerators and bike path connection to the service road and west to the picnic shelter.

Skyline Wilderness Area: Cole reported that a contract has been signed with Eastin Outdoors, Inc. for design of a trail system throughout the Skyline Wilderness Area. Eastin will be in Rapid City on May 18th and on May 20th will conduct public hearings to solicit input from the public on this trail project.

Bike/Walk Summit: The Walk & Bike for Life Summit is scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2008 with a discussion at 10:00 about Rapid City being designated an IMBA Ride Center. Gil Penalosa is scheduled to speak and Terry & Ken Eastin will also be attending. Mark Wiley, a finalist from The Biggest Loser will also be in Rapid City and join the community for a walk and bike for life rally from 4:30 – 7:00 pm.

Fat Tire Festival: The Black Hills Fat Tire Festival is scheduled to begin on Friday, May 23rd with the grand opening of Rapid City's Dirt Jump Park. Construction will begin on the jump park on May 10th and continue through the week. This project is being done by the Black Hills Mountain Bike Association and a host of volunteers. Cole stated that they are expecting a big turnout for the festival and are hoping for some sunshine and warm weather in the coming days to help dry out the trails.

Fishing Pier at Memorial Pond:

Cole informed the Board that Ken Edel looked into the process that would be required to locate a floating fishing pier in Memorial Pond. Since the property is located in the floodway there are engineering and hydrology reports that must be submitted. The costs for this information will most likely prohibit this project from moving forward.

Greenway Funding Projects: Cole reported that Monica Heller from the Community Planning Division met with representatives from the Federal Transportation Authority in Pierre on the City's greenway funding projects. According to the FTA, the law which contains the earmark for these funds states that this funding can be used for greenway "extension", but not "expansion". Cole noted that he has explained the City's projects to Heller and she will go back to the FTA for continued discussions on this issue. Another issue with this item is that the City does not have a document which details the boundaries for the "greenway". Cole indicated that he will keep the board informed on any information we receive on this issue.

Parks Maintenance Building: Cole noted that bids for this project, including all alternates, were awarded by the City Council and the project is underway. We hope to be giving a tour of the facility later this fall.

Cliff Zechiel reported that the Spring Ice Show was held at the Ice Arena two weeks ago. This was the first time the ice skaters used professional lighting and it was very well done. Also, a curling tournament was held at the Ice Arena last week with teams from several states competing.

The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for Thursday, June 12th and this will be the annual tour meeting. Vans will leave the Swim Center at 4:30 and take members on a tour of various park and recreation facilities throughout the community.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.