

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Rapid City Swim Center Conference Room
November 8, 2007

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 4:30 pm on Thursday, November 8, 2007 with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Chuck Tinant, and Sherri Zimmer. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, Urban Forestry Board Liaison Steve Hasenohrl, Beautification Committee Liaison Steve Doshier, City Council Liaison Karen Gunderson Olson, Jim Smoragiewicz, and Administrative Assistant Jeri Taton.

Motion was made by Zimmer, seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the Advisory Board minutes of October 11, 2007.

The agenda was approved with the following addition: Presentation from Betty Bonawitz of the Rapid City Garden Club.

Liaison Reports

Steve Hasenohrl reported that the main topic of discussion at the last Urban Forestry Board was the Tree Care Workshop which will be held in March, 2008. The speaker will be Dr. Hauer and we are in the process of fine-tuning the discussions topics for the workshop. A panel discussion will be held in the afternoon which will focus on liability issues relative to trees.

Steve Doshier reported that a quorum was not present at the last Beautification Committee meeting, so the members present discussed different issues.

Garden Club

Betty Bonawitz introduced Greg Brandriet of The Green Team Landscaping Company who is assisting the Garden Club with development of a garden area along Omaha Street. Mr. Brandriet submitted a drawing of the improvements they would like to make in the area beginning just east of Hubbard Mill and extending to East Boulevard. Bonawitz explained that the proposed development will be beautiful as well as educational. They anticipate that teachers will be able to bring students to this area and use it for educational purposes. The proposed development will include nature walks and a place for master gardeners to teach. This item has been approved by the Planning Commission and the Garden Club anticipates development in three phases. Bonawitz added that at the direction of the Planning Commission they do not plan to have anything located on the north side of the berm that runs through this area. Tinant asked about the visibility from Omaha Street throughout this project for security and police purposes. Bonawitz noted that they have taken this into account and plan to keep the plantings as low as possible so that the area will have good visibility. Lindquist asked what other approvals the Garden Club would need to get. Cole stated that they

have already been before the Planning Commission so the Advisory Board would be the last group to give their approval. Cole asked if the Garden Club was looking at the City's Parks Division to provide maintenance for this project. Bonawitz said they are not. They plan to utilize Greg Brandriet and his company to assist with maintenance. Cole added that staff will need to develop a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Garden Club that will formalize these issues. This document will be submitted to the City Council for approval and signatures. Lindquist asked if any modifications would need to be made to the sprinkler system through this area to incorporate the new project. Van Deusen indicated that they will have to tap into the current system, but no significant changes will need to be made. Brandriet added that the proposed plan can also be adjusted around the existing sprinkler system. Motion was made by Tinant and seconded by Zimmer to approve the Garden Club's concept to develop a garden project on the north side of Omaha Street, with final approval of a Memorandum of Understanding by the City Council. Upon vote being taken, the motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member

Cole explained that he and Wes Storm interviewed Mark Kline, Richard Dlugosz and Jim Smoragiewicz for the vacant position on the Advisory Board. Storm submitted an e-mail indicating that he felt Mr. Smoragiewicz would be the best candidate to fill Tom Allen's unexpired term. Cole concurred noting that Mr. Smoragiewicz has a great deal of experience with aquatics issues and wildlife concerns which would be very beneficial to the Advisory Board. Motion was made by Tinant, seconded by Zimmer and carried to recommend that Mayor Hanks appoint Jim Smoragiewicz to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to fill the unexpired term vacated by Tom Allen.

Report on Summer Ice Numbers

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe submitted a report of the revenues and expenses generated by the summer ice programs offered in 2007 at the Roosevelt Park Ice Arena. The report indicates that summer programming produced \$2,701 more revenue than the expenses incurred for that programming. The extended season at the Ice Arena was successful and costs to provide the same service in 2008 are included in the budget. Lindquist asked if the Roosevelt Ice Arena would be used by the new hockey team. Lowe explained that the new hockey team would like to use the ice arena from 9:00 AM to Noon which is good because this is the time the arena is not being used. Lowe added that staff will continue to work with representatives from the hockey team and hopefully this proposal will come to fruition.

Project Updates

Cole reported that the City has received applications for the Landscape Architect position and four candidates will be interviewed.

Staff is looking at purchasing additional playground equipment for various parks in the community to replace equipment that was removed for safety reasons. Also, there may be an opportunity to apply for a grant that would allow us to purchase an additional piece of playground equipment at a lower cost for Scott Mallow Park. Staff will continue to look into this.

Cole noted that the Memorial Park project is nearly done and is turning out very well. Staff will be meeting with the Journey Museum people to talk about interpretive signs that can be placed along portions of the bike path that follows Rapid Creek to remind and educate individuals on what the area looked like before and after the Flood and how it has affected this area of the community. Lindquist suggested using photographs that were taken after the flood so that people can see the devastation that occurred as a result of the 1972 Flood.

Director's Report

Lowe reported that the court dividers that the Board authorized through the CIP Committee have been installed and are working great. Staff has received many positive comments on their addition to the community centers.

Work will begin toward the end of November on the Meadowbrook Golf Course Bridge renovation project. The contract has been signed and they are waiting for the necessary insurance documents to be submitted.

Cole reported that the Lien family has decided to sell property they own adjacent to Scott Mallow Park. This parcel is probably in the top 10 parcels the Department would like to acquire, but it is not at the top of the list at this time. This property would allow a bike route from the Executive Golf Course to Anamosa Street without having to use streets. He added that with the major development going on in this area, the City may have to look at the need for a bigger park at this location. The Board asked staff to gather more information on this piece of property and report back.

Cole reported that the Growth Management Office submitted a report to the City Council on different types of land dedication mechanisms that could be implemented by the City. The Council directed Growth Management staff to come back with a policy for the Council's consideration on land dedication for parks and open spaces, or fees in lieu thereof.

Regarding the tennis courts to be built near Parkview Pool, Cole reported that the City has agreed to pay for a portion of the costs to prepare a master plan for the School property. We are waiting for the results of the master plan and then we will sit down with the School Board representatives to try to hammer out some type of agreement on where the courts will be built. Cole added that the City's original funding for this project anticipated using the restroom facilities and office space that is located at Parkview Pool. If the tennis complex is moved away from Parkview, then additional funding will

have to be found for restroom facilities and office space. This is a decision that will have to be discussed by the City Council and the School Board.

Cole reported that a request has been made from the private sector to construct a water park in Knollwood Drainage Area. In order for this to happen, the developer would have to agree to a long-term lease or purchase the property. Since it is parkland, sale of this property would have to be approved by the voters of the City. No action is needed on this item at this time.

Motion was made by Zimmer, seconded by Tinant and carried to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:05 PM.

Motion was made by Zimmer, seconded by Tinant and carried to request time to appear before the Legal & Finance Committee regarding a land purchase.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, December 13, 2007.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.