

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Rapid City Swim Center Conference Room  
October 6, 2005

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 4:30 PM on Thursday, October 6, 2005, with the following members present: Chairman Van Lindquist, Hugh Welsh, Wes Storm and Sherri Zimmer. 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, Golf Superintendent JJ Walraven, Bike Run Walk Committee Liaison Frank Matejck and Administrative Assistant Jeri Lynn.

Motion was made by Storm, seconded by Welsh and carried to **approve the Advisory Board minutes** of July 7, 2005, as presented.

No changes or additions were made to the agenda and no liaison reports were made.

### **Sports Facility Partnership Fund**

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe updated the Board on the Sports Facility Partnership Fund. He has contacted each of the project representatives and asked them to meet with him, but so far, no meetings have been held. Lowe stated that he doesn't feel any of the projects will be requesting funding in 2005 and the dollars should be carried forward to FY2006. Black Hills Pony League has started some dirt work at the Hammerquist Field, but not much else is being done. Cole noted that the contract with each organization stipulates that the funds must be expended by the end of 2006. He added that the 2006 Grant packages will be available soon for distribution to organizations throughout the community. Staff will conduct a public meeting in December to distribute the packages, explain the program and answer any questions that come up. The deadline for Grant proposals for 2006 will be in March and that information will then be submitted to the Advisory Board for review in April.

### **2012 Program Update**

Cole reported that the City Council has set a special meeting for October 11<sup>th</sup> to receive recommendations from the 2012 Committee. There is no indication at this time if the Council will accept the recommendations or take any action at that meeting.

### **Parks and Recreation Five Year Plan**

Cole distributed a copy of the current five year plan which contains all the projects from the previous Parks and Rec Subcommittee, plus a list of new projects as well as projects that have not been approved for funding to date. He encouraged the Board to review all the projects and try to establish a priority that the Board could begin to work with. He added that we should assume that the playground equipment will be funded from the 2012 Fund which will provide \$266,000 in CIP funding which could be used for

other parks and recreation projects. If the funding is not approved through the 2012 Fund, the Board can go back and re-prioritize projects based on available funding. Cole also noted that staff will begin to gather information on funding for 2005 projects that will need to be carried forward to 2006. This information will need to be submitted to the CIP Committee and then to the City Council for approval.

The Advisory Board discussed the list of projects currently on the Five Year Plan.

- Sioux Park Volleyball Courts – lighting. Lowe noted that these courts are used for recreation play only. The City’s volleyball leagues currently play on the sand volleyball courts on Omaha Street and he does not anticipate moving any of these leagues to the Sioux Park courts. He added that the existing courts in Sioux Park are not in very good shape. Lindquist questioned the need to light the courts in Sioux Park if we are trying to develop the facility on Omaha Street.
- Horseshoe courts in Sioux Park - Van Deusen noted that these pits could use some work. Cole noted that since they are there now the project would be considered maintenance and therefore not eligible for CIP funding. Van Deusen also noted that there are floodway issues in this area so if the city were to consider removing them and starting over, there could be some major hurdles to cross.
- Bike Path Improvements (Fairgrounds) - Lindquist asked if this is the same project that the Board recently approved matching funding for. Cole noted that it is and he will check to see if the ISTEA project was submitted by the Growth Management Department.

Cole suggested that everyone (including staff) prepare a list of the top ten projects for consideration at the next meeting. The Board can then begin to schedule the projects over the next 5-7 years. Lindquist added that we should discuss each project and describe it in detail to ensure that it should be on the list. Lindquist also suggested that the Board continue using “safety” as one of the most important criteria when determining priorities. Lindquist also suggested that the Board give priority to projects that were part of a master plan or part of a previous project which has already been started. Cole suggested that a special meeting be set for the discussion of the five year plan. Lindquist concurred noting that the Board will have to make some assumptions and go from there. Cole indicated he would like to get the proposed 5 year plan to the CIP Committee in November.

### **Director’s Report**

Cole reported that the Parks and Recreation Department will be over its budget in several divisions in 2005. The entire department (excluding golf) should be approximately \$60,000 short. Utility and gasoline costs and insurance premiums are the main reasons. He noted that he will be requesting a budget supplement from the City Council.

Staff is currently working on a new **Lease with the YMCA** for operation of the LaCroix Links Golf Course. The YMCA is proposing to extend the lease to 2016 so that they can apply for grants which require a long-term lease. Cole noted that according to the current lease, the City will pay the YMCA \$30,000 in 2006 to operate the facility. After that, the City will no longer be responsible for an annual payment. However, there will still be a requirement to pay for water at this facility which can be \$20,000 - \$30,000 per year. Cole noted that he will address this issue during the next budget cycle and request that this facility be treated the same as other leased facilities when it comes to water. (Other lease facilities, like the baseball fields, are not charged for the water they use.)

Cole explained that the City Council did not include funding for **Christmas lights** in the 2006 Budget. The existing lights used by the City are in very poor condition and some of them will not be put up this year. Cole explained that he sent a memo to the City Council on this issue and it was discussed at the City Council meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Christmas lights will be put up this year but Cole indicated he will only allow approximately \$1,500 towards maintenance of these lights and they might not all go up. Cole added that the Downtown Association and the Chamber of Commerce have indicated they have no funding available for this project at this time.

Cole also reported that a TIF has been approved that includes the **North Haines Park** property. According to the Project Plan, \$500,000 has been identified for park development. Lindquist expressed concern about the overlapping of TIFs in this area. He suggested that the City tie this down as tight as possible so that we know what these funds can be used for. Cole noted that he will get a copy of the TIF Plan for review at the next meeting. Lindquist also asked if the developer would be providing the funds "up front" for this development. Cole stated that was his understanding at this time.

Cole explained that the City Council recently approved an agreement with Steve McCarthy for a **shared parking lot** off Jackson Boulevard adjacent to the Frisbee Golf Course. The lot will be shared by the public and the patrons visiting the office complex to be built at this location. Cole submitted a copy of the slightly revised layout of the parking lot for the Board's information.

Regarding **Horace Mann Swimming Pool**, Cole reported that he and Aquatics Division Manager Duncan Olney attended a City Council meeting and gave a detailed report on the usage of this pool and the revenue and expenses. There were also individuals at the meeting who expressed their interest in keeping Horace Mann pool open and having it open the same amount of time as the other pools in the community. At their next meeting, the City Council approved funding the amount of \$33,600 to keep this pool open longer in 2006, similar to the other pools in town. Staff will be taking hourly attendance at the pool in 2006 so that we can show exactly how many people are using the pool and when. Olney noted that the School's decision to start school after Labor Day will also impact how long the pools are open because most of the staffing goes back to college before this. It will be difficult to staff the pools at this time. He also noted that Horace Mann pool will need new heaters in 2006 at an approximate cost of \$18,000. Replacing the heaters will require that the roof be removed from the structure.

Cole commended Golf Course Superintendent JJ Walraven for this work and efforts in maintaining the golf courses. Expenses at the courses are down 9% this year and they were down 12-14% last year.

### **New Business**

Lindquist suggested that staff do some research and submit Rapid City for some of the awards given out by the Parks and Recreation Association. There are many projects that should be eligible in different categories. Cole indicated that when the Certificates of Merit come out next year, he will apply for one.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.