

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Rapid City Swim Center – Conference Room
October 9, 2008

The following people were in attendance: Advisory Board Member Chuck Tinant, Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Parks Division Manager Lon Van Deusen, Bike/Walk/Run Liaison Frank Matejck, City Council Member Patti Martinson, and Administrative Assistant Jeri Taton.

Director Cole noted that since there was only one member of the Advisory Board present no official action would be taken on any item. He added, however that there were three information items on the agenda and these groups could present their information to the members and staff present.

Memorial Bench for JB Young

Kevin Hoffman explained that JB passed away on September 6th and the family thought it would be a good idea to provide a memorial bench at the golf course. He spent a lot of time at Meadowbrook and he loved the game of golf. Tim Fitzgerald added that this memorial bench will provide a place and an opportunity for his friends and family to reflect on his life and the happy times we all had together at the golf course. Nicole Crosswait added that JB brought his love of golf to his entire family. He included anyone and everyone he could in this game. JB spent at least one day per week golfing at Meadowbrook. He was a great supporter of community events and worked at a lot of school district activities also. Director Cole added that he received phone calls from John Brockelsby and Wes Strom who both spoke in favor of this request for a memorial bench. Marshall Young entered the meeting late and also spoke in favor of this item.

Minneluzahan Senior Center

Patrick O’Leary, Executive Director of the Minneluzahan Senior Center, explained that members of the senior center are very interested in partnering with the City in developing a recreation facility between the Swim Center and the Ice Arena. The Board is very enthusiastic about this idea and would love to discuss the idea further. We would like to enter into formal discussions with the City on this proposal.

Director Cole explained that when the Ice Arena and Swim Center were built, it was anticipated that there would be a building constructed that would connect the two facilities. Both of the existing facilities were built with the capacity to have this additional structure in the middle. The next round of 2012 hearings will begin soon and this project may be one we should submit for consideration. Cole added that talks with the Board of the Minneluzahan Center began because they are currently operating in a building that limits any expansion of their program. They have over 700 members and it makes sense to look at a partnership when the new facility is built. The time the senior center does most of its programming is the time when Parks and Recreation programming is lowest. This would make for a good partnership for these two organizations. Cole added that there is an existing concept plan for the facility, but it would have to be modified to include the senior center. O’Leary stated that he wanted to bring this idea to the

Advisory Board and alert them to the fact that the members of the Minneluzahan are very interested in working with the City to create a new building between the Ice arena and the Swim Center. O'Leary added that the Senior Center would be eligible for HUD funding through the CDBG Program, but other than these types of grants they would not have any funding to contribute to the construction project. This project would also offer an opportunity to consolidate a lot of programming that is offered through various organizations in the community at one location. Cole added that the current Senior Center building is in need of major repair and/or renovation.

Skyline Wilderness Area

Ken Eastin from Eastin Outdoors, Inc. submitted a conceptual design for trails in the Skyline Wilderness Area. He presented a slide show showing various trail proposals, including a map of existing trails in the wilderness area. Eastin noted that he will submit copies of the proposed plan for review by staff and stakeholders in this area.

Memorial Bench for Wallace and Thelma Yule

Barbara Steele submitted a request to place a bench in the Sioux Park area in memory of her parents, Wallace & Thelma Yule. Steele was presented and explained that her parents walked in this area a lot and she felt that this would be a fitting memorial to them. Cole explained that the Advisory Board will consider this request at the regular board meeting on November 13, 2008. At that time, final action can be taken to approve the request.

No further discussions were held.