The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, August 9, 2018 with the following members present: Chairman Karen Olson, Tom Willock, Shon Hanczyc, Greg Oleson and Brett Lawlor. The following members were absent: Domico Rodriguez and Lynn Paulson. Also present were City Council Liaison Chad Lewis, Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson, Urban Forester Andy Bernard and Administrative Coordinator Jeri Taton.

Public Comment
No public comments were made.

Beautification Committee Awards
Cathy Robeson, representing the Beautification Committee, presented the following Yard of the Month Awards:

June – Donita Omera
July – Janet Dlugosz

Each winner will receive a $25 gift certificate from The Plantsmyth and a plaque they can display in their home. Robeson added that nomination forms for the Yard of the Month are available at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Minutes
Motion was made by Hanczyc seconded by Willock and carried to approve the minutes of July 12, 2018.

Agenda
The Agenda was approved as presented.

Liaison Reports
Anderson reported that the Urban Wildlife Committee met last week and discussed the annual deer harvest program and the possibility of adding bow hunting within the city limits. This would require changes to some city ordinances and staff will continue to work with Game, Fish and Parks on the proposal.

Urban Forester Andy Bernard reported that the Urban Forestry Board has been working hard to get the city prepared for the Emerald Ash Borer threat. A contractors list has been developed which will be used to deal with trees that are impacted by the EAB.

City Council Liaison Chad Lewis reported on actions taken by the City Council that may impact Parks and Recreation issues.

Name Field at Fitzgerald Stadium
Wayne Sullivan and Lyle Tolsma were present to discuss the request to name the baseball field at Fitzgerald Stadium “Dave Ploof Field”. Sullivan and Tolsma went through some of the accomplishments Ploof had with the Post 22 baseball program. No opposition was made to the request. Biegler asked if anyone had contacted the Fitzgerald family to see if there are
any objections to this proposal. Sullivan stated that they had not and they are not aware of any of the Fitzgerald family members still living in this area. Tolsma reiterated that the Fitzgerald Stadium name will not change. The only part being named is the field. Proposed signage will identify Dave Ploof Field at Fitzgerald Stadium. Motion was made by Lawlor seconded by Willock and carried to approve the request to name the field at Fitzgerald Stadium “Dave Ploof Field”.

Swim Team Rate Proposal
Recreation Division Manager Lowe explained that staff met with representatives from both programs and it was decided to leave the rate structure as it is. Each program will pay per lane per hour. There will be no changes to the existing agreement with the swim teams.

Urban Forestry Board
Andy Bernard explained that the UFB has been working on proposed changes to city ordinances dealing with dead/diseased trees in the City. The proposed changes will simplify the ordinances to be more encompassing of any trees that could be a problem. Existing ordinances specifically name Elm and Pine trees and these references should be removed. Any language referring to Mountain Pine Beetle has been removed and verbiage has been added to include all trees that are determined to be a problem or pest. Bernard added that the proposed ordinance changes have been reviewed by the City Attorney’s Office. The proposed ordinance will be sent to the Legal & Finance Committee and City Council for approval.

Director’s Report
Lowe reported that Recreation programs for the summer are beginning to slow down and registration is now available for most fall and winter programs. The outdoor pools will close for the summer on August 18th with the exception of Parkview which will stay open until Sept. 4th. The Swim Center will close from Aug. 19 through Sept. 2 for annual maintenance.

Anderson reported that the parking lot project at Braeburn Off-Leash area is complete and staff has been getting a lot of positive feedback about the area. Staff is also making some improvements to the old hockey rink in Braeburn Park which is a good location for small dogs or dogs that need to be separated. The cemetery improvement project is underway and will include road work and irrigation. A contract for the storage building will be awarded on August 20th.

Anderson also reported that Landscape Designer Chelsea Levorsen is working on a plan for the LaCroix golf course site which will include ideas on how the City can develop this area to benefit the most people. Staff will schedule open house activities in the near future to get public input on this project. Some ideas already submitted include a fenced dog park, hiking and biking trails, and open field space. Lawlor suggested that soccer golf be added to the list of possibilities.

Biegler distributed copies of a report submitted by Kristy Lintz which included details from the BH Mountain Fest and the BH Senior Games which were completed last month. Biegler added that Lynn Paulson submitted a letter resigning from the Advisory Board due to increased traveling she does with her current employment.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.