

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Halley Park Board Room
September 12, 2019

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, September 12, 2019 with the following members present: Chairman Karen Olson, Shon Hanczyc, and Samantha Linhart. The following members were absent: Greg Oleson, Tom Willock, Brett Lawlor and Michael Calabrese. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe and Administrative Coordinator Jeri Taton.

Public Comment

Alderman Laura Armstrong submitted information about a proposed change to the name of Founders Park. This area has historical significance to both the Native American culture as well as white settlers. Changing the name to Ancestor's Park would recognize, honor and include both cultures. The Native American translation of "Hunkake" could also be included on all signage for the park. She submitted letters of support for this change from

- Karen Mortimer, Director, Mniluzahan Okolakiciyapi Ambassadors
- Karen Pettigrew and Barbara Chapman, Democracy in Action
- Karissa Loewen, Citizen
- Darla Drew Lerdal, City Council Member
- Jessie Rencountre, Citizen
- Colleen Ragan, Citizen
- Bev Warne, Council of Elders, RC Community Conversations

Armstrong stated that she doesn't expect action at the meeting today but she wanted to let the Advisory Board know that a proposal is being made.

Linhart stated that she feels it would be appropriate to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting and have staff give a presentation on all the items that might be involved with changing the name of the park. Biegler added that changing the name of the park will require City Council approval. It was the consensus of the Advisory Board members that this item be put on the agenda for the October meeting. (Secretary's Note: Since there could be a lengthy discussion about use of the Swim Center at the October meeting, the proposed name change will be put on the agenda for the November 14th meeting.)

Minutes

Motion was made by Linhart seconded by Hanczyc and carried to approve the Advisory Board Minutes of August 8, 2019 as presented.

Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

Liaison Reports

Anderson reported that the Urban Wildlife Committee did not meet and the Urban Forestry Board did not have a quorum.

The Beautification Committee met and reviewed DOT projects. They are also working on updating the list of Beautification projects.

MOU for Deer Management Program

Anderson submitted a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Rapid City, SD Game, Fish & Parks, SD Sportsmen Against Hunger and BH Sportsmen Club, Inc. for operation of Rapid City's annual deer harvest. He explained that staff wanted to define the responsibilities of each organization and how they are involved with the program. This is an information item and is on the City Council agenda for action on October 7, 2019.

Beautification Committee Yard of the Month Awards

Motion was made by Hanczyc, seconded by Linhart and carried to acknowledge the following Yard of the Month Awards presented by the Beautification Committee:

August – Tomi Meiron

September – Lois & Don Huxford

Director's Report

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe reported that the golf cart pathway improvement project has started at Meadowbrook golf course. Contractor expects completion by the fall, depending on the weather.

Lowe and Kristy Lintz will be having an informal meeting with passholders at Meadowbrook Golf Course to answer any questions about the change in management beginning in November and to introduce Kristy as the new manager for the golf course.

Ice Hockey and Learn to Skate sign ups have started and we are into our fall schedule at the Ice Arena.

Recreation fall programs are also in the sign-up stage and it appears winter volleyball will again have a record number of teams register. Adult flag football is down slightly and staff will be looking into that.

Regarding aquatics, the weather was bad for swimming this year and staff expects that revenues will be down. Swim lesson registration has started for the fall and winter sessions and the swim teams are back practicing in the lap lanes. Lowe added that staff will be bringing the Priority Use Guidelines to the Advisory Board for discussion at the meeting in October.

Lowe also noted that our Department will be hosting the SDPRA Annual Conference October 1-3 and the Board Members are all invited to attend. Eric Crouch, 2001 Heisman Trophy Winner, will be the keynote speaker. Also, the following individuals have been nominated for awards at the SDPRA Conference:

- Erin Holmes, Young Professional
- Lon Van Deusen, Hall of Fame Award
- Mitch Best, Community Citation
- Karen Olson, Citation Award

Lowe stated that we don't know who the award winners are yet and he will let everyone know when he knows.

Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson reported that a new shelter and playground were constructed in Canyon Lake Park over the summer and that project is now complete. Staff will also be placing a couple smaller pieces of play equipment in Mary Hall Park. Staff has started the winterization process for irrigation systems and many of the restroom facilities will be closed and winterized effective October 1st.

Anderson explained that the City received funding from the Downtown Bid Board to use for new Christmas lights in the downtown area. Items will be purchased to replace decorations that are severe disrepair.

Biegler reported on the status of the LaCroix Disc Golf and Sidewalk Project, the Asphalt Paving Project, and the Consultant Selection Process for Fitzgerald Stadium. He also reported that the State DOT is looking to sell rail banked property and staff will be working to put a proposal together in an attempt to purchase some of these properties.

The next meeting of the Advisory Board will be held on October 10, 2019.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.