

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Halley Park Board Room
October 10, 2019

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, October 10, 2019 with the following members present: Chairman Karen Olson, Greg Oleson and Brett Lawler. The following members were absent: Shon Hanczyc, Samantha Linhart, Tom Willock and Michael Calabrese. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe and Administrative Coordinator Jeri Taton.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Minutes

Motion was made by Oleson seconded by Lawlor and carried to approve the Advisory Board Minutes of September 12, 2019 as presented.

Agenda

The Agenda was approved with the change of moving the Swim Center discussion before Liaison Reports.

SDSM&T Proposed Park Design Project

Caleb Musick, Tanner Linderman and Elizabeth Jensen, students from the School of Mines, submitted a Power Point Presentation on their design project for a park to be created on 18 acres of land that is currently undeveloped and located near the School of Mines. The proposed park would create a connection between the Rapid City community and the campus. The goal of their design project is to gather feedback and continue moving forward with the project. The slide presentation included aerial photographs of the area with the following uses being proposed: dog park, fountain, outdoor ice rink, walking/biking paths, restroom facility, playgrounds, disc golf, tennis/basketball/sand volleyball courts, tubing course and other amenities. The Advisory Board thanked them for attending the meeting and presenting the design project.

Swim Center Use Discussion

Lane Johnson, Jenna Ude, Nathan Cotts, Abby Peterson, Melissa Scryver, John Kramer, Aaron Ude, Tracy Stamper, Abigail Anker and Duncan Olney all spoke about the benefits of swimming for individuals of all levels and opposed any changes to the use of the indoor swimming pool. The following individuals read prepared statements supporting the swim teams in Rapid City: Marie Johnson, Abbigail Coffey, Abigail Anker and Miles Johnson. Several individuals expressed concern that if the amount of time in the lap lanes was reduced for the swim teams, their programs would suffer and might not even survive.

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe noted that there are two issues that need to be discussed. The first one deals with how the available time at the Swim Center is divided between the swim teams and the second one deals with the amount of time allocated to Swim Center programming for all members of the community.

Currently the swim teams have 60% of the priority use during prime time at the Swim Center. Prime Time is considered the time between 3:30-8:30 pm, Monday thru Thursday. The City uses the remaining 40% for community programming. We are hearing from other users in the

community that they would like additional time in the facility to develop programs or just use all aspects of the facility. Lowe also submitted a copy of the 2012 Priority Use Guidelines Policy document which describes how time is calculated for use by the swim teams. This policy governs time at the swimming pools, community gyms and the ice arena.

Olson stated that she feels additional public meetings are needed to allow everyone to process all the information that has been submitted. She added that most major decisions like this one are made by the City Council although the Advisory Board can make recommendations. No action was taken on this issue.

Liaison Reports

Biegler reported that the Urban Wildlife Committee met last Wednesday and discussed the proposed antlerless archery season being implemented for the first time this fall within the city limits. Participants will be required to get a permit from SD GF&P and meet all the criteria. The Police Dept. will be in charge of certifying the abilities of the bow hunters.

Biegler added that staff has prepared specifications to send to potential meat processors for the City's annual deer harvest. This will formalize the process for everyone involved. The annual Deer Trend Survey will be done the last week of October and the data gathered will be submitted to the GF&P Office. They will review the data and offer a recommendation on the number of deer that should be harvested.

The Urban Forestry Board did not meet however it was reported that the tree inventory is approximately 2/3s done within the city limits.

The Beautification Committee met and reviewed the status of projects they are interested in.

Director's Report

Biegler introduced Lysan Zeller from the Sustainability Committee and noted that there may be some areas where the Beautification Committee and the Sustainability Committee could assist each other. Discussion on this topic will continue.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.