

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Halley Park Board Room  
January 9, 2020

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, January 9, 2020 with the following members present: Chairman Karen Olson, Michael Calabrese and Tom Willock. The following members were absent: Samantha Linhart, Brett Lawlor and Shon Hanczyc. Also present were City Council Member Greg Strommen, Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson and Administrative Coordinator Jeri Taton.

**Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**Minutes**

Motion was made by Calabrese seconded by Willock and carried to approve the Advisory Board Minutes of December 12, 2019 as presented.

**Agenda**

The Agenda was approved as presented.

**Liaison Reports**

Anderson reported that the Urban Forestry Board did not meet this morning because there was not a quorum of members present. He added that the Parks Division has 7 individuals attending the Arborist Conference in Sioux Falls next week where they can become certified.

Anderson noted that the Urban Wildlife Committee will meet on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. He added that Terry Mayes is the new Chairman of the UWC and he has brought up some issues he would like to discuss with the current deer harvest program and how the deer trend survey is conducted. The Committee will also be getting information from Trent Hafley from the SD Game, Fish & Parks Dept. He has a lot of understanding about the deer interactions within the city. Anderson also reported that the City's deer harvest will begin on Monday and staff has been authorized to harvest 250 deer.

**Facility Use Agreements**

Biegler explained that the Department received a request from BH Rapids Soccer Club for a Facility Use Agreement for Nordermeer Field located in Sioux Park for a one year period. This group has used this field for the past several years for regular programming and tournaments. Use of Nordermeer Field will allow them to grow their camps and tournaments. Biegler added that this is a lighted field and the Soccer Club will be responsible for paying the electrical costs when the lights are used. Motion was made by Willock seconded by Calabrese and carried to approve the request from BHRSC for use of Nordermeer Field.

A request from Amistad Soccer Club for a Recreation Facility User Agreement for Cambell Street Soccer Field for a three-year period was also presented. Motion was made by Calabrese, seconded by Willock and carried to approve the request for use of the Cambell Street Field by Amistad Soccer Club, for a three year period.

**Director's Report**

Biegler reported that Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe developed a shared use program that both the Swim Teams as well as the Swim Center staff can use that was agreeable to everyone. The swim teams will have access to all eight lanes for certain hours,

and the Aquatics staff will have access to the lanes for adequate time. This item has been approved by the City Council and is being used successfully at the present time. Biegler noted that the Resolution amending the priority use agreement was also approved and changes can now be made to that Agreement by the Parks and Recreation Director rather than having to go before the City Council.

Biegler noted that the City Council also approved the Resolution designating Rapid City as a Bee City USA and we are the only city in South Dakota with this designation. An area in Founders Park West, near Abouresk Law Office, was planted with wild flowers in 2019 and we will do that again in 2020 with the idea of increasing awareness and habitat for pollinators. Other areas in the community may also be developed with this in mind.

Anderson reported that staff is in the process of removing all the Christmas decorations in the park system and downtown areas. We are also working on the Department's annual equipment purchases. Several members of our staff will be attending the Arborist's Conference in Sioux Falls. This conference will provide training sessions that will assist staff with becoming certified in a variety of areas.

Staff is also working with the GIS Department to create an inter-active map for park and recreation facilities throughout the community.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.