

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Halley Park Board Room
October 11, 2018

A quorum of members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was not present on October 11, 2018 and no official actions were taken. The following individuals were present: Karen Olson, Greg Oleson, Jeff Biegler, Scott Anderson, Doug Lowe and Jeri Taton.

The following Yard of the Month awards were presented by the Beautification Committee:

- ◆ August – Tori and Kevin Eikelman
- ◆ September – Joseph Avvampato
- ◆ October – Chun Cooper

Anderson reported that the Beautification Committee discussed ongoing projects at their meeting and possible Stearns Grant funding opportunities. He added that staff is finalizing the planting of 93 trees in Robbinsdale park which was funded by a Stearns Grant requested by the Beautification Committee.

The Urban Forestry Board has been discussing the Emerald Ash Borer. The City Attorney's Office has advised staff not to develop a list of contractors for distribution to property owners, but rather to develop information on how to hire a contractor to deal with infested trees. More information will be forthcoming on this issue. Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe noted that the UFB applied for and received a Stearns Grant in the amount of \$10,000 which will be used for trees to be planted at Meadowbrook Golf Course. This will help replace some of the trees that were lost during Winter Storm Atlas and other construction projects in the area.

The Urban Wildlife Committee did not meet. Anderson explained that Parks Division staff will be assisting SD GF&P with the annual Deer Trend Survey which is typically done at the end of October. Information from this survey will be used by GF&P to determine how many deer should be harvested later in the year.

Military Appreciation Display in West Memorial Park

Bill Eldridge stated that he is retired from the Air Force and currently works at the USGS Office. He is currently working with the Ellsworth Task Force and Elevate Rapid City which is a group of business owners who are trying to elevate Rapid City by bringing in more business and technology. One of the ideas of these organizations is to highlight Rapid City's connection to Ellsworth Air Force Base and Mayor Allender suggested that a memorial be created to honor individuals from the community who have served in the military. Eldridge stated that he began looking into this idea and is working with various organizations to create a project in West Memorial Park. He is working with the military to request use of an old B1 Bomber which would be displayed at this location. The mini air park would make a really nice visual along Omaha Street and for anyone coming into the community on I-190. They envision a place where people could gather and have ceremonies, etc. Eldridge stated that he is working with a number of businesses in the community to raise funds for construction of the project and anticipates they will also request Vision Funds. It was noted that those involved are still in the early stages of the project and more information will be submitted as it becomes available.