

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Halley Park Board Room
September 9, 2021

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting was called to order by at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2021. The following members were present: Karen Olson, Roger Heacock, Shon Hanczyc, Keryn Rowland, and Tony Marshall. The following members were absent: Jessica Ries and Michael Calabrese. Others present: City Council Liaison Laura Armstrong, Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, Landscape Designer Melissa Petersen Assistant City Attorney Kinsley Grote and Administrative Assistant Amy Graves. Visitors from the public were Sunny Red Bear from NDN Collective, Matt Fridell and Mike Bender from Tallgrass Landscape Architecture and JJ Carrell from the Rapid City School District.

JJ Carrell addressed the board during Public Comment regarding a request for a public skate park pump track. Carrell recently moved to Rapid City from southern California and he shared photos of a track from his former community. Carrell said the track would be a great benefit to the whole community. Carrell has a contact for grant assistance and said he would volunteer to be a point of contact for the project. Biegler told Carrell that the Black Hills Mountain Bike Association recently submitted an application to the Vision Fund committee for a pump track off of Omaha Street and he recommended Carrell to contact the BH MBA for more information.

A motion was made by Hanczyc, second by Marshall and carried to approve the minutes from July 8, 2021.

Sunny Red Bear, Director of Racial Equality at NDN Collective was present to request a special license to allow NDN Collective to use their vehicles on the pathways in the parks to assist and pick up their relatives. Red Bear said creek patrol has been working the last year to assist their relatives and they cover 4.5 miles every evening on the pathway. Biegler said the current city ordinance and park use regulations allow only staff, law enforcement and emergency personal to drive on the pathways. Assistant City Attorney Kinsley Grote said an ordinance change or approval by an agreement would be required to allow NDN to drive on the pathway. Grote said she would schedule a meeting with the City Attorney's Office, the Police Department and staff to look at options and she will be in contact with NDN Collective.

Matt Fridell and Mike Bender from Tallgrass Architecture gave a presentation on the Dinosaur Park improvements. The project will address enhancements, accessibility improvements and preservation of the park. The improvements will take place in the portion of the park on the west side of Skyline Dr. and will include new trails, upgrades to the dinosaur structures, upgraded signage and lighting, accessibility upgrades and improved access for winter maintenance. A grand opening is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2023.

Staff was approached by Live Well Black Hills to install signs in municipal parks with playgrounds to promote healthy living. The signs will designate smoke free zones near

playgrounds. Installation of the signs would need the approval from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion was made by Marshall to approve the installation of Young Lungs at Play signs near playgrounds in Municipal Parks. Second by Rowland. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Marshall second by Heacock to approve the application to appoint Kent Rasmussen to the Urban Forestry Committee. Motion carried

Liaison Reports

The Beautification Committee and the Urban Wildlife Committee did not meet in September and are scheduled to meet in October.

The Urban Forestry committee met on September 9th. The committee discussed the tree inventory in the parks and city right of way locations. Jason Preble, Forestry and Landscape Supervisor stated there are approximately 19,000 trees, 16% of the trees are ash trees. Anderson said more than 1000 trees have been planted in the last five years.

Parks and Recreation Director Report

Discussion was held on the upcoming meeting dates for the board. The board will not meet in November due to the date occurring on the Veteran's Day holiday.

Division Manager Reports

Parks Division - Scott Anderson said staff is beginning to winterize the park facilities and irrigation and plan to be finished by November 1st. The restrooms at Founders Park and the west restroom at Canyon Lake Park will remain open during the winter months.

Staff is removing the fence around Mountain View Cemetery due to the deteriorated condition and will look at replacement options in 2022.

Anderson said the memorial bench program has been put on hold until the new process is finalized. Anderson said there are limited locations available for new benches.

Recreation Division – Doug Lowe reported on staff changes at Meadowbrook Golf Course and the Aquatics Division.

Meadowbrook Golf Course plans to have a glow ball golf tournament in October.

Lowe said the fall recreation programs are in progress and the fields are in great condition.

The Aquatics Division hosted the Wags to Waves event for the Humane Society at Sioux Pak on September 13th and the opening Sabres hockey game will be on September 11th.

Landscape Designer Report – Melissa Petersen said the Mt. View road project will begin on September 13th.

Petersen gave a summary of the eight Vision Fund applications that were submitted by staff and said there were 15 applications submitted by outside organizations that included projects at leased facilities.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Marshall and seconded by Hanczyc to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2021.