The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2022. The following members were present: Roger Heacock, Keryn Rowland, Karen Olson, Tony Marshall and Shon Hanczyc. The following members were absent: Jessica Ries and Michael Calabrese. Staff present: Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe and Administrative Assistant Amy Graves. Others present: City Council member Pat Jones, Randy Fisher from Designworks, Carol Nielsen and representatives for pickleball.

A motion was made by Hanczyc, second by Rowland and carried to approve the May 12, 2022 minutes.

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 7a, discussion on the 2022 Parks and Recreation tour.

Randy Fisher from Designworks gave a presentation on the Canyon Lake Pond Wall CIP improvement project. Due to limited funding the initial project will take place only at the pond walls located on the west side of the park. The project will improve the pond shoreline and assist with erosion, pollution control and diminished water quality and improved access to the shoreline for public safety concerns. The project is expected to begin in the fall of 2022 and will have little impact on the use of the park. Biegler emphasized that funding for the project will come from the Parks CIP funds along with assistance from the SD Game, Fish and Parks. The project has been reviewed by the Corp of Engineers and the Game Fish and Parks Department with no negative feedback.

Discussion was held on the request to convert the Wilson Park tennis courts to pickle ball courts. The tennis courts at Wilson Park currently have blended lines for two pickle ball courts. Staff has determined the location at Wilson Park is the best option for pickle ball and is requesting a recommendation from the board to move forward with the project. The conversion of the courts will provide up to 8 permanent pickle ball courts. Discussion was held on alternate locations, court sizes and funding. Members of the community expressed their support to add the courts and offered their ideas on court placement, location and lighting for the courts.

Michael Garfield, Director of Canyon Lake Activity Center was present to advocate for additional courts in Rapid City. The activity center has six outdoor courts and 3 indoor courts. The center has seen an increase in membership and they are considering covering their outdoor courts. Garfield said the center has 21 acres and offered to partner with the city for additional courts on their property.

A motion was made by Rowland to recommend staff to move forward with the proposal to convert the Wilson Park tennis courts to pickle ball courts. The motion failed with the
lack of a second. Discussion continued on different options. Marshall made a motion to convert half of the courts at Wilson Park to pickle ball courts and leave one tennis court. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

Following further discussion Biegler suggested to place the request on a future agenda to allow staff more time to review the location and meet with members of the pickle ball community.

The board reviewed the Memorial Donation application from Carol Nielsen to place a memorial bench west of the Post 22 baseball field adjacent to the bike path in memory of Lee Bendickson. Nielsen was present to discuss the agreement. Staff recommended approval of the bench with the installation of a 4’ x 6’ concrete foundation to protect the bench. Motion was made by Marshall, second by Hanczyc to approve the agreement with the recommended foundation. Rowland asked if the agreement met the guidelines of the Memorial Donation policy. After confirmation the motion passed with one no vote from Olson.

Discussion was held on the recommendation of acceptance of Johnson Ranch Park in Johnson Ranch Subdivision. Biegler presented a memo and map of the property and stated the property would be used for future park space. The developer is donating the property and the City will be responsible for the upgrades of the property to be used as parkland. The estimated cost of irrigation and seeding will be approximately $70,000. The property is approximately 1.5 acres. A motion was made by Marshall, second by Rowland to approve the acceptance of the property for Johnson Ranch Park. Motion carried. The proposal will be presented to the City Council for an acceptance of the parcel from the developer.

**Liaison Reports**

Biegler reported the Beautification Committee held a study session in June to review the Beautification Master Plan. Steve Doshier would like to hold an additional meeting to review the plan. Roger Heacock said he would be available to attend a future meeting to discuss the master plan.

There was not an update on the Urban Wildlife Committee and the Urban Forestry Committee.

Discussion was held on the 2022 Parks and Recreation tour. A tentative date was selected to hold the tour for the board on August 11th.

**Parks and Recreation Director Report**

Biegler referred to the recent report of vandalism in the parks. Biegler said the vandalism is not a new problem but said it is important to notify the public of the problem.
Biegler reported he has met with the Special Olympics group and they have a proposal to place 12 bocce courts in the West Memorial Park location. They have a designer for the project and the project will be totally funded by their organization.

Biegler said the tennis court reconstruction at Sioux Park is scheduled to begin after the tennis season this fall.

The Dinosaur Park project is scheduled to begin after the tourist season in 2022.

Biegler said a contract has been signed to replace the fence at Mountain View Cemetery.

Doug Lowe reported that the clubhouse at LaCroix Park has been repurposed to host the recreation programs. The volleyball leagues have record numbers for participation. The replacement of the deck at the Meadowbrook clubhouse is near completion. Lowe said the second season for the Sabres hockey team will begin this fall.

**Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.