The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:30 pm on Thursday, May 11, 2017 with the following members present: Chairman Nick Stroot, Karen Olson, Shon Hanczyc, Domingo Rodriguez, Greg Oleson and Chuck Tinant. The following members were absent: Rick Askvig. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Parks Division Manager Scott Anderson, Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe, Landscape Designer Alex DeSmidt, Recreation Specialist Kristy Lintz and Administrative Coordinator Jeri Taton.

**Public Comment**
No public comments were made.

**Minutes**
Motion was made by Olson seconded by Tinant and carried to approve the Advisory Board Minutes of April 13, 2017 as corrected.

**Agenda**
The agenda was approved as presented.

**Liaison Reports**
Anderson reported that he met with the Urban Wildlife Committee and discussed the installation of bat houses in the park system. One bat house has been installed near the Parks Office on Canyon Lake Drive and the Committee is working to place one near the Fairgrounds. The Committee also intends to install a bat house near the Cleghorn Fish Hatchery.

Biegler reported that the Urban Forestry Board met this morning and discussed spring plantings that will be taking place next week. Trees have been delivered to the Maintenance Shop and staff will be planting 207 trees in 8 different locations. The Board is also looking to secure a Stearns Grant in 2017 for city-wide reforestation efforts.

**Beautification Committee**
Biegler presented the June Yard of the Month Award to Tom Wilson and commended him for his efforts to beautify the community.

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Tinant and carried to appoint Vickie Steelman to the Beautification Committee for a three year term to expire on December 31, 2019.

**Free Little Library**
Jenny Rehorst and Beth Brekhus provided a video to the Advisory Board which outlined the philosophy of Free Little Libraries and how they work in the community. Motion was made by Rodriguez seconded by Hanczyc and carried to approve the request to locate a Free Little Library at Wilderness, Horace Mann and Centennial Parks with assistance from Parks Division staff on the exact location of the structure for ease of maintenance.

**Memorial Drinking Fountain**
Anderson explained that he has been contacted by Brad Lee who is spearheading an idea to locate a drinking fountain near the Executive Golf Course in memory of Tom Pfeifle. It was noted that Pfeifle is the young man who died while on a mountain climbing excursion about a
year ago. Anderson stated that he will continue to work on the proposal and research information on different types of drinking fountains and what the costs would be to get water to the exact location. This item will be on the next agenda for further discussion.

**Drone Usage at Golf Course**
Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe explained that he presented the idea of using a drone at Meadowbrook Golf Course to the Urban Wildlife Committee and their recommendation is to proceed. DeSmidt played the sound which would be emitted from the drone for those at the meeting. Biegler stated that he feels staff needs to do additional research on this issue before a final decision is made. For example, we should contact other locations that are using the drone to see how it is working. Rodriguez stated that it is only a drone; if it will help move the geese off the golf course that is a good thing.

Stroot stated that one of the comments from the last meeting was where will the geese go if they are hazed away from Meadowbrook. Biegler stated that he contacted SD GF&P about this issue. They indicated that the geese in question are migratory birds and no one can say where they will go. Lowe noted that the drone would be used 2-3 times per day during the migration period which is about a month and a half long. Olson stated that she feels it is critical that this company come to Rapid City and demonstrate the use of the drone so that we know what it will sound like. She added that it would be good to have golfers at any meetings set up with residents from this area. Motion was made by Hanczyc seconded by Rodriguez and carried to authorize staff to further investigate use of a drone and other alternatives to haze geese at Meadowbrook Golf Course.

**Director’s Report**
Lowe reported that the Golf, Aquatics and Ice Committees met on Tuesday evening and discussed issues pertaining to each facility. The Swimming Pools will be opening soon for the summer months.

Anderson reported that parks maintenance is in full swing and staff at the cemetery is getting ready for the Memorial Day holiday. An electrician has been hired to work on parks and recreation issues and will begin working May 22nd. Parks staff is also working with representatives from Rushmore Little League on the Vision Fund project that was approved for lighting at the facility. Staff is working with an individual for an Eagle Scout project to locate a bench on Skyline Drive and staff submitted a grant for mosquito control funds.

Biegler noted that May is National Bike Month and the City started that off with a Life is a Cycle event last Saturday. Friday is National Bike to Work Day with the annual Bike for Bacon event in Founders Park from 6-8 am.

Biegler congratulated Karen Olson who was inducted into the Rapid City Sports Hall of Fame for her tireless efforts to promote the game of tennis throughout the community.

Chris Stover from Friends of Rapid City Parks noted that there will be a memorial walk on June 11th to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the 1972 Flood. Participants should meet at the Journey Museum at 10 AM.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.