

**Park & Recreation Board  
Monday, January 9, 2012  
Minutes**

Members Present: Russell Motschenbacher, Richard Kavulla, William Ramsey, Charlie Bruckner, Michael MacDonald, Karen Harant, Patrick Carroll

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, Giles Salyer, Todd Seymanski, Cindy Stein, Marian Permann

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

New members introduced to board – Michael McDonald and Patrick Carroll

**Board motioned to approve the minutes from December, 2011 as written. Motion seconded and carried.**

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Skyline Park Property. Met with Brian Patrick, Great Falls School District to discuss selling our portion of skyline along with their portion as one parcel. They are more interested in doing a trade for Kranz park property. We are not interested in trading Kranz Park; the neighborhood council in that area has been discussing future improvements to Kranz Park. Marty to meet with Cheryl Crowley in reference to Kranz Park.
- Met with Neighborhood 3 on Skyline park property and they have voiced concerns on where the proceeds for the sale of Skyline Park will be going. Skyline Park will be put into the Park Trust for future park development and/or purchase.
- We have received final approval on the PPL grant for the RET maintenance plan. A request for statement of qualifications has been started. The trail is a total of 48.9 miles.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Gibson Park Lighting Project*

- The lighting project is completed; it took 3 years to get to this completion. Unfortunately we have already experienced vandalism to one of the globes. Discussion on vandal proof globes or possible "cages" around them to prevent future problems.

*Park & Ponder Zoning Issues*

- Country Chic proposal to lease Park and Ponder for a hair salon and Pet boutique. City zoning ordinance and found that food concessions and a pet boutique could be argued to work in a park but the hair salon does not fit into the zoning. Marty has informed Carmen of the zoning and that it will not work.
- Park and Ponder portable concessions lease ends this year and we will be going out for proposals. The building is in very bad repair.

*Skate Park Memorial Mural*

Rachael Kaiser was present to discuss the mural in memory of a young man who was a skater on the outside of the skate park.

- The City has received \$500 in donations to be used for painting murals inside the bowls.

- The idea of painting murals started as a Mentorship program with local talent to create ownership of the bowls with creative/artistic paintings inside the skate park bowl.
- The family is willing to pay for the cost to do the memorial mural and they are fully aware of vandalism.
- Current policy on vandalism is that anything on the outside that can be seen from the road is removed immediately. The entire skate park is pretty saturated with graffiti inside the bowls and they are now starting on the fence surrounding the skate park.
- Rachael feels that it can be done in little pieces and if they got a lot of the bikers and skaters involved it could curbe the vandalism.
- Quality stuff that is painted on the walls does not get vandalized over.

Rachael feels that it would take another town hall meeting to discuss the mural prior to anything being done. The bikers and skateboards have already committed to monitor the skate park and we are not seeing that.

Board asked if Rachael could show an example of what she would like to put on the walls.

The city has committed to adding lights at the skate park hoping to curbe the graffiti.

Suggestion that a graffiti board be put up for the kids to paint on, we would keep it up for 6 weeks and then have someone else paint on it, etc.

Board suggested that they start with another town hall meeting and go from there. They did not feel putting a memorial painting on the walls at the skate park would be appropriate especially with all the graffiti vandalism.

Rachael will continue to work on fundraising for the projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *Park Trust applications for grant requests*

Income is derived from funds received from sale of parkland. Policy on use of Park Trust funds is we use the interest derived from the fund for matching grants. Current balance in park trust fund is \$302,756. Interest is \$3,939 which is available for matching grants.

We received a grant application from Leadership Great Falls this year for playground structures at Jaycee and Skyline parks for \$40,000. Leadership Great Falls is also applying for a Community Development Block Grant.

Current fundraising from the neighborhood council is separate from the Leadership Great Falls Playground structure fundraising.

It was suggested that we wait to see how their fundraising goes and we could award the \$3,939 with the option that they can appeal for additional funds in the future.

Board approved their request for matching funds in the amount of \$3,939, which is the interest earned from the Park Trust Fund.

### *Golf Concessions RFP*

Request for Proposals to run the concessions at Eagle Falls and Anaconda Hills golf course have gone out. Current concessions agreement expired in December 2011.

Proposals are based on:

- Basic qualifications
- Menu items and prices
- Monetary bid with a minimum

There will be a committee of the Golf Pro, one member of the Park Board, and one member of the Golf Advisory Board, along with City staff that will review the proposals. Both Karen Harant and Patrick Carroll volunteered to serve on the review committee.

### *Pools Presentation*

Marian showed her power point presentation that was done at the City Commission work session.

Questions:

Season passes vs. punch card controls

Resident vs. non-resident – how to control

Season passes are unaffordable for multiple kids in a family

Message to the City Commission was that we are looking at more ways to generate more revenue besides increasing fees at the swimming pools.

## **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### *Staff*

Giles Salyer, Park Superintendent

- Warden park play structure that needed fall protection and border is completed
- Christmas decorations are all down
- Park clean up with the winds blowing daily
- Snow fence is up and is catching all the garbage that is blowing around
- Requesting through Community Development Block Grants a play structure for Pinski and Verde parks.

Todd Seymanski, City Forester

- Christmas lights are all down
- Vandalism at Overlook park with someone cutting through 19 light strings
- Trimming at golf courses
- Contract on the removal of 592 trees still continues in the boulevard district
- Bids request to go out to replace 592 trees within the boulevard district

Patty Rearden, Deputy Director

- Patty met with The Recreational Trails board and will cooperatively with the City of Great Falls and Recreational Trails put a proposal together to TBID asking for \$1,000 per year to assist with trail maintenance. Park and Recreation had submitted a budget for \$10,000 (an increase of \$5,000) and the City Commission denied our increase.
- Rebecca Richards, Supervisor at the Community Recreation Center ran the Electric City Winter Classic basketball tournament January 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> for 6-7-8 grade boys and girls. She had 51 teams registered and everything ran very smoothly.

- Election of officers will be done at the Park Board's February meeting.

Marty Basta, Director

- Malmstrom has play structures that are 5 years old and asked if we would be interested in them, they will be removed for new construction at the base. In addition they have a lot of trees in the same area if we are interested in removing them for transplanting.
- United Materials uprooted a tree in Skyline Park while working on a project for Public Works; they will be replacing the tree with 4 smaller caliber trees.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.