

Park & Recreation Board
March 12, 2012
Minutes

Members Present: Charlie Bruckner, Patrick Carroll, Richard Kavulla, Russ Motschenbacher

Members Absent: Karen Harant, Bill Ramsey

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, Giles Salyer, Todd Seymanski, Becky Hapka

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Board motioned to approve the minutes from February meeting. Motion seconded and carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Gibson Park lighting ceremony went very well
- Retreat with the City Commissioners, Mayor, and Department Directors is scheduled for March 28th
- Community Development Block Grants, the following has been recommended to the City Commission for approval at their next Commission meeting.
 - Natatorium Boiler (not with heat exchanger)
 - Pinski playground structure
 - Community Recreation Center after school program scholarships

OLD BUSINESS

Multi Sports Softball

- Registration has started, if we do not get enough team the program will be in jeopardy
- Budget based on 90 teams registering
- Increased fees by \$85 (includes registration and player fee)
- Budget has been cut as much as possible
- Maintenance hours will be reduced
- Play will be 4 nights instead of 5 nights
- A few annual tournaments, need more week-end tournaments

Flow Rider Update

- Pacific Elastomer was hired in the spring of 2011 to repair the pad, no long afterwards the pad failed.
- Pacific Elastomer has faulted on the warranty and the City Attorney is following up with the company
- A&W Contractors will be hired to repair the pad, working on contract with him now
- All that was done by Pacific Elastomer will have to be removed and replaced

Gibson Park Concessions Proposal

- Tropicool Concessions was the only bid received for Gibson Park portable concessions
- They are requesting exclusive concession rights at Gibson Park
 - Concern with Alive@5 and other annual events that are held in Gibson Park, City will not allow Tropicool exclusive rights to those events
- Meeting scheduled this week with Tropicool to discuss this concern

NEW BUSINESS

Skyline Storm Drain Detention Pond

- Skyline Committee is applying for a grant for storm drain retention
- Mayor Winters would like to see it as a recreational pond
- Public Works suggested a well be put in, then be used for irrigation of park
- Ideas to be explored more and brought back to the board

Pool Passes

Park and Recreation staff has been working with the Great Falls Voyagers and Great Falls Transit on a pass share. The following proposals are being considered.

- Voyager's Baseball is proposing a pass to baseball game and the water park. Purchase a 10 time pass for \$60.
- Great Falls Transit is proposing a pass to ride the transit and swim at the Neighborhood Pools. Purchase a 10 time pass for \$30

Board motioned to approve the Voyager pass/share; and the Great Falls Transit pass/share. Motion seconded and approved.

Complete Streets Presentation

- Board reviewed a presentation on the complete streets program
 - program is to provide safety and convenience to those who walk or ride bikes
 - provide sidewalks, bike lanes, handicap entrances, better lighting, better signage to new developments
 - Most of Great Falls streets are incomplete
- Complete Streets has formed a sub-committee and will be going to all civic clubs in Great Falls to present this idea

Dog Park Closure

- Staff met with the Animal Foundation to discuss the stress on the turf in the dog park without the snow pack the wear and tear has been tremendous
- Dog park will be closed Monday-Friday and re-open for Saturday and Sunday
- Staff will start irrigating
- Discussion on building another dog park in Great Falls

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff

Patty Rearden, Deputy Director

- Ice Breaker registration was scheduled to begin today; t-shirts will not be available until Wednesday
- Getting samples of dry-weave t-shirts with the ice breaker logo on them as a resale item; would be individual pre-orders. T-shirts would be black long sleeved, and if there is a lot of interest it will help with revenue
- Ice Breaker lost one of the \$5,000 sponsors so we are working with a very tight budget
- Easter Egg hunt scheduled for April 7th will be sponsored again by Jimmy Filipowicz with Steel Etc.

Todd Seymanski, City Forester

- Installing a brick path that will connect from the roadway to the flower garden
 - There will be a curb cut for handicap access
- Trees and shrubs all need either some snow or rain, they are watering when possible
- Will probably end up with some trees from Malmstrom; we will not be able to remove them until after April 1st.

Giles Salyer, Park Superintendent

- Removing the snow fence that wasn't needed this winter
- Cleaning up the parks
- Hauling dirt from Sun River Wadsworth Park area to our compost site, good dirt
- Rebuilding signs and painting trash cans
- Removed the lights at Multi Sports lower complex
 - lights have been there since 1954 and did not work, becoming a safety hazard
- Vehicle ran over the back-flow at Skyline Park; Police have filed a report and we will be charging him with the repair costs. Could be over \$4,800 in repairs, the driver was uninsured. The baseball club has insurance that will cover approximately 90% of the costs.

Board

Asked about the \$500 donation for the skatepark painting project

Staff is checking on a new product to remove graffiti, will try it on the trail that goes under the Central Avenue Bridge first

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for April 9th