

## **PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

**Monday, February 11, 2013**

### **Minutes**

Members Present: Charlie Bruckner, William Ramsey, Michael MacDonald, Patrick Carroll, Shirley Davis

Members Absent: Russ Motschenbacher, Karen Harant

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, Giles Salyer, Cindy Stein

Others present: Chad Schend, Josh Bolender, and Mackenzie Bolender representing the RC Track Club; and Kelly Manzer.

Meeting called to order at 3:05pm.

**With no corrections or additions to the minutes from January, Board motioned to approve as written. Motion second and carried.**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Skate Park Mural.*

Rachael Kaiser, who painted the mural on the skate park that was vandalized, has printed "raize up" bumper stickers as a fundraiser for the skate park mural. First project will be to paint a mural under the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North bridge (Westbank of the Missouri)

Bike/Walk Group

Marty is a member of the Bike/Walk Group and there is House Bill #437 on the floor to open up bike/walk maintenance districts. Summit for Bike/Walk Montana is scheduled for March 14-15.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Underutilized Park Land*

Marty did a power point presentation of what will be showed at the Commission Work Session in February in reference to underutilized (under developed) park land. (attached)

Discussion continued on the parks listed:

- There are parks without amenities in them that does not mean they are not being used; we do not recommend selling those.
- Once they are gone they are gone forever.
- Selling portions of some parks to develop the other park, such as skyline?

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Remote Control Car Club

Chad Shend and Josh & Mackenzie Bolender.

They are looking for a new location to build their remote control track after Montana Refinery purchased the Westgate Mall where they were located.

- Great Falls is the only major city in Montana that doesn't have a track;
- Prior to losing their track they had about 50 people involved in their club;
- Gatherings every week-end;
- Lots of military personnel are involved with remote control;
- Some are electric, some are gas run;
- They need a dirt surface, they will build the track and best if it is not in a residential area, Chad has been involved in several RC track developments;
- Would require areas for parking.
- Butte, Billings, Bozeman, and other cities have tracks and they could have competition's in Great Falls;
- 25 cars at the most have been on the track during a day, 8 is max at one time

What they would do if the City allows them the use of parkland:

- They would take care of the land;
- They would build a small structure for handicap and sun protection;
- They would dig down instead of build up to help with the noise level (track);
- Season would be from May-October, 11:00-3:00 every other week-end.

Discussion on possible locations such as Multi Sports softball complex behind field #7.

**Board motion to approve the idea of finding a spot within the city and staff to continue to work with the RC Club once a location is determined.**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENT**

##### *Staff*

- Parks working on River's Edge Trail moving kiosk and rocks along the trail.
- Installed new lights on outside of Park & Recreation building;

##### *Public*

Kelly Manzer issue with West Side Viaduct Park and Mike Shultz lease

Eric Hanson and Kelly went to look at parcel and took photos within the fenced area, and outside the fenced area.

- Weeds and garbage, broken glass, winds blow leaving buried junk exposed;
- Since it is on a state interstate is it possible there is CTEP funding to fix the park;
- Leaseholder needs to keep in acceptable condition, maintain the property; not being done at this time; needs to have fill dirt brought in;
- Weeds are to be sprayed in the spring and not the middle of summer;
- Kelly does not feel the leasee is keeping the parcel in good condition and is opposed to the renewal of the lease.

City response:

- The parcel does not qualify for federal funding to develop

- There are a lot of project that have been prioritized around the City and this parcel has been listed as excess parkland;
- It sits between the interstate and a bridge
- Concerns with selling the property due to liability with junk being dumped there years ago.

**With no further business meeting adjourned at 4:25pm**