

**Park Board Meeting
June 10, 2013
Minutes**

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

Members Present: Charlie Bruckner, Michael MacDonald, William Ramsey, Karen Harant, Patrick Carroll, Russell Motschenbacher, and Shirley Davis

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

Others Present: George Forsyth, Ron Gessaman - Neighborhood Council #3
Courtney Lyerly, Jim Young, Mike Judge - Public Works

Board motioned to approve the minutes from May, 2013 as written, motion seconded and carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Mike Schultz has held a use permit for West Viaduct Park for more than 30 years; he has canceled his use permit effective June 30, 2013.
- Paris Gibson award nominations are due on Friday.
- Attended the Neighborhood Council 4 meeting to discuss the sale of Clara Park.
 - There is historical value to the park with Lewis & Clark markings
 - There is a large Water Tower and an electrical sub station
 - Park and Recreation is not in favor of selling Clara Park.
- Attended Neighborhood Council 3 to discuss the sale of the park property located next to Skyline School
 - Neighborhood Council 3 is not in favor of selling this parkland
 - There is a concern with increased traffic in the area
 - Property is used for walking dogs and it was suggested that maybe it should be a potential dog park location.
- Park Board had approved a Park Trust grant of \$7,500 to the Gibson Park lighting project that was completed last summer; funds will be paid out prior to June 30th. The \$7,500 was a match for CTEP funding.
- Giles Salyer, Park Superintendent will be retiring from the City effective July 31, 2013
 - He will be taking with him a lot of knowledge of the park system.

OLD BUSINESS

Sale of property by Skyline School

- Marty discussed in his Directors Report

NEW BUSINESS

West Bank Park Trail Improvements

Doug Wicks provided the strategy to continue downstream replacement of damaged/substandard sections of the River's Edge Trail including the last remaining segment of narrow trail in the downtown urban trail system. Showing Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3, and Phase 4.

Phase 3 is proposed for this year connecting between the current trail and 3rd Avenue NW; project will cost \$40,000 to complete plus the \$5,800 engineer costs (which includes Phase 3 and Phase 4). Doug is requesting the use of \$5,000 out of the funds received from Zayo for running the communication wires that they ran under the Weisman Bridge (funds have been dedicated to West Bank park improvements); In addition Doug would like to request a \$5,000 Park Trust Grant. RTI will pay \$15,800 (\$10,000 for trail and \$5,800 for engineer costs); RTI will then apply for the remaining funds through a Tax Increment Grant.

Board motioned to approve the Park Trust Grant of \$5,000 and the \$5,000 from the West Bank Park funds; all contingent upon RTI receiving the Tax Increment funding. Motion was seconded and carried.

Storm Drain Improvements

Public Works has three storm drain projects that will impact three parks. Mike Judge presented the projects as follows:

- Storm runoff from 23rd street and 21st Ave south all the way to the river will impact the current pond east of the BMX track (across from Multi Sports Complex). Current location will be enhanced approximately 70-80 feet and made deeper; area will be fenced.
- Storm runoff from 23rd Street and 15th Avenue South down to 17th Street and Central Avenue will impact Sandhills detention pond, located SW of Benefis. They will expand the pond to the south, add a walking path around the top and connect the path it to 15th Avenue South; (Doug Wicks asked if they would check landowners and see if the path can be extended to 16th Avenue South. The current path is cinder and the new path will be paved including irrigation and trees.
- This project will tie into the above project and go to Central Avenue; it will impact Chowen Springs, currently the park does not have a detention pond; the area would be sloped and have a depth of 2', they will sod and it will not be fenced. The only time water will be in the pond will be during major storms. They will do a temporary berm until the project is completed.
- These three project could take approximately 4 years to completion.

Board felt the storm water runoff plan is reasonable, adequate and will address problems that the city currently has; Board motioned for Public Works to proceed with the project as stated, motion seconded and carried.

Gibson Park Events Center

Doug Oswood was unable to attend the meeting. Item will be put on future agendas. Items to be on a future agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Giles Salyer, Park Superintendent

- Kids fishing day at Wadsworth was last Saturday with 1,500 people attending. Staff has redone the dock, cleaned up the area and fixed any pot holes in the parking lot prior to the event.

- Basketball court at Skyline park being put in this week (Optimist paying for the courts)
- With all the rain, staff is trying to catch up on the mowing.

Patty Rearden, Deputy Director

- Montana Senior Olympics scheduled for June 20th-June 22nd
 - 13 Sporting events offered
 - Kickoff will be June 20th
- Electric City Water Park opened last Friday
- Summer camps started this week at the Community Recreation Center
- Spray Parks opened last Friday, they are free until the pools open end of June.

Others:

Doug Wicks

- Commented on the "Dead Ringer" horseshoe sculpture at the Skate Park that Mike Hollern completed last summer; he is working on the landscaping now.
 - Giles added that he has created a new sculpture that will go at the entrance to Gibson Park (across from Hardee's). The first piece will be placed this summer, staff poured the bases for it last week.

Ron Gessaman

- Neighborhood Council #3 voted unanimously that there should never be parkland sold anywhere within the City. There are other options for funding to help maintain the parks.
- He suggested a program where a business would support the maintenance costs for a certain time and we would put a sign in the park for naming rights just during that time.
- Marty suggested if any business was interested they would go through the "adopt a park" process.

With no further business meeting adjourned at 4:15.