

Park & Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2014
Minutes

Members Present: Charlie Bruckner, Michael MacDonald, Patrick Carroll, Shirley Davis
Members Absent: Russell Motschenbacher, Karen Harant, William Ramsey
Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, John Smith, Cindy Stein

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

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

Others present: Representing Neighborworks: Jeff Jordan, Sheila Rice and Lee Neelis with Community Development; Representing Skyline Park Committee: Aaron Violet.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Last meeting we discussed fees; pool fees and events fees were approved at Feb 18 Commission meeting.
- Reorganization of department with events/theater moving out of Park & Recreation to the Manager office.
- March 4th City Commission presentation of the draft trails maintenance plan, received favorable response from commission.
- March 4th Commission public hearing to change ordinance dealing with diseased trees outside the boulevard district.
- Recreation Center fees will be reviewed with the Commission at a later date.
- Department head retreat in a couple of weeks to review services the City provides.
- City Commission is reviewing residency requirements for boards, requirements that you must reside in the City. There are issues that border the city limits and having urban boundaries accepted into the requirements.

Board motioned to change the requirement that the residency requirement be moved to include the urban boundaries for commission on the Park Board. Motion second and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Swan's

A pair of Australian Black Swans and Mute Swans have arrived happy and healthy. They are quarantined from the rest of the fowl to allow time for them to get use to the environment, they will not be breeding this year as they are young birds.

Board suggested we have a naming contest for the birds.

NEW BUSINESS

Gibson Park Bandshell Roof Repair

Cooney Memorial Band shell built in September 1930, Cooney served on the park board for 19 years. The cedar shakes need to be replaced, the bandshell has historic significance. Repairs will be paid through the park trust.

Board motioned to approve the use of park trust funds to replace the cedar shakes on the band shell at a cost of \$12,000.

Park Trust Grant Request Skyline Park

Aaron Violet with Skyline park development group. Have been working on improvements for the past couple of years. Leadership GF raised money for the play structure uptown optimist donated the basketball court and others that have donated benches and trees; \$70,000 has gone into the park so far. Youth groups use the large open space for soccer and football practice. Goal is to get matching funds for soccer goals. Steve Pretat is heading the fundraising and he has received a quote for a pair of soccer goals for \$5,000; they had a donor for \$2,500 that backed out. They are asking for a matching grant of \$2,500 for the purchase of the goals.

There was a bond issue used to build the soccer park, we agreed that when the soccer park was built we would not allow games to be played in city parks and to support the Seibel park.

Board tabled the request until more information is available.

Valleyview Park

Jeff Jordan, Lee Neelis, Sheila Rice

Valleyview Park (a portion) has been listed as underutilized parkland.

- Neighborworks is working on a housing development that could include part of Valleyview park.
- Lee Neeles, Dept director of Community Development; Only a portion of the park is annexed into the City
- Neighborworks is looking for a parcel of property that can be develop, they are working with another group on purchasing additional property in the same area and they would like to swap 3 acres in another location (close to Valleyview) for the county portion of Valleyview park.
 - Have talked to an engineer and received a conceptual plan to give infrastructure and installers something to go on
 - Back into a purchase price and make an offer to owner
 - Know the year will relapse for the 10 lots each year they need
 - Being priced out right now
 - They would build through their self help program 10 homes along the northern portion of the park.

Motion that we agree with the neighborhood and the city as a conceptual idea and it should go forward, being conservative to the fact that money needs to be available to purchase Valleyview Park and attorney has agreed with land swap and City Commission. Motion second and carried.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS//ANNOUNCEMENTS

Park Department – John Smith

- Did sandbagging today just in case of flooding
- Snow removal
- General routine

Patty Rearden

- Eagle Falls Golf course may open on Friday; Anaconda needs to wait until the frost level is better to turn on water.
- Ice Breaker scheduled for April 27th
 - Registration starts March 17th
 - Poster available for handout
- Summer Guide scheduled in the GF Tribune for April 6th; program registration to begin April 21st.
- Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 18th Gibson Park
- Softball league registration started today with league play starting end of April