

Park & Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2014
Minutes

Members Present: Charlie Bruckner, Russell Motschenbacher, Michael MacDonald, Patrick Carroll

Members Absent: William Ramsey, Karen Harant

Staff Present: Patty Rearden, Lonnie Dalke, Todd Seymanski, Cindy Stein

Others Present: Doug Wicks

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm

Board motioned to approve minutes from June meeting. Motion second and carried.

Director's Report

Patty Rearden, Interim Director.

- Visitor Center operation has been handed over to the Convention & Visitors' Bureau effective July 1st. Three of the current employee have been terminated that worked at the Visitor Center with this change.
- Valleyview Park – Neighborworks has withdrawn their request for parkland exchange with Valleyview Park. Neighborhood was not in favor of the housing development.
- Patty also met with the same neighborhood and they have requested that Valleyview Park never is sold or any other parkland. They also discussed developing the park through fundraising efforts.
- Senior Olympics was a successful event, increase with the new sport of pickleball
- Lions Family Fun Fest was a huge success, Erica, Recreation Center Supervisor organized all the children's activities for the event and also ran those program.
- Park Trust matching grant program has in the past used the interest earned for matching grant requests. In 2014 there is only \$215 available for matching grants.
- Mike Dalton with the Community Orchards has extended an offer to the board for a tour of gardens, just need to give me a call.
 - There is no update on the use of Wadsworth Park for the new gardens at this time.
- Received a grant (CTEP) for vault toilets at Bay Drive and West Bank Park.
- Doug Wicks along with Park staff and Public Works are reviewing projects for the trail that will qualify for Riverfund grant monies and TIF grant monies. Looking at restroom with water and sewer and irrigation for Westbank Park (Riverfund Grant)
 - West Bank Park Masterplan included a sand volleyball course. The Folf committee may be interested in building it as their next project.
- Pet & Doll Parade is Thursday, July 24th, looking for volunteers to assist with judging. Charlie and Mike have volunteered.

OLD BUSINESS

Lions Park Climbing Rock Update

- Lions Club received the funding for a climbing rock at Lions Park. Project is completed and was dedicated on July 1st. Was used extensively during Lions Family FunFest last Saturday.

NEW BUSINESS

West Bank Park Signage

Phil Scriver was not present to discuss this agenda item

Miscellaneous Reports & Announcements

Public

Doug Wicks, River's Edge Trail

- They are putting up 9 interpretive panels along the River's Edge Trail.
- They have a donor that will install a telescope at Westbank Park in place of sign that has been removed
- FWP would like to put up a sign at Broadwater Bay on aquatic invasive species to inform the public of the dangers to our waterways
- Would like to install a fountain at Westbank Park; possible use the funds received from the cell phone connection across the Central Avenue Bridge.

Staff

Park Maintenance, Lonnie Dalke

- Mowing and watering parks
- Fixing irrigation breaks

Natural Resource, Todd Seymanski

- Removing elm trees
- Watering new trees
- Weeding flowerbeds
- Budgets have been a challenge this year, facing substantial cuts
- Will be contracting out tree trimming of 98 boulevard trees – have funding of \$50,000 to cover contract.
- Have planted trees in Gibson Park and West Kiwanis Park.

Miscellaneous

- A traveling memorial “The Wall That Heals” is scheduled to be in Great Falls July 24 – 27. They will set up at Elk's Riverside Park and be open 24 hours a day.

With no further business meeting adjourned at 3:51.