

Park and Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, November 9, 2015
Minutes

Members Present: Patrick Carroll, William Ramsey, Charlie Bruckner, June Sprout

Members Absent: Shirley Davis

Staff Present: Patty Rearden, Todd Seymanski, Cindy Stein

Others Present: Commissioner Bob Kelly

Board motioned to approve minutes from August, 2015; motion second and carried.

Board motioned to approve minutes from October, 2015; motion second and carried.

Director's Report

Joe Petrella was absent from meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Park and Recreation Masterplan Update

Staff held a conference call with Michael Svez, with PROS Consulting along with Jana Cooper with TD&H last week to discuss the project.

- Michael will be in Great Falls on December 7th & 8th for first meetings.
- Will be meeting with staff and focus groups that will be scheduled during the two days he is here.
- He will meet with the Park Board; meeting will be scheduled for December 7th.
- He will begin working on survey questions and have ready early December. Survey will be mailed out and also electronic on line. If they don't receive enough responses they will do random calls.
- He will return again in January and is scheduled for the January 19th Commission Work Session and town meeting on the 20th.

Golf Fee Resolution

The City Commission passed the golf fee resolution at their November 4th Commission meeting. 6% increase in membership fees at Eagle Falls only; discontinued cyber cards and couple membership. Our fees and memberships are still cheaper than Bill Roberts and other courses around the state. Will start work on a 5 year business plan for the golf course to determine what direction we will go with maintenance and staffing. The master plan does not include golf; it will touch on it but not be focused on golf.

Westbank Park Project

- Restroom is 70% completed, (will be open summer only)
- Parking lot curb and gutter is completed
- Paving the parking lot this week
 - Will also pave Bay Drive trail at the same time.
- Vault toilet is completed (will be open year round)
- Sidewalk to the vault toilet will be completed when pouring other concrete.

There were issues with contamination under the soil and all materials used are not your home style materials, adding costs to the project.

To be completed next summer

- Irrigation and landscaping.
- The rest of the trail work

We have not heard anything more on the railroad track at Westbank Park.

NEW BUSINESS

Trail Manager

Doug Wicks is officially retired. We will be hiring a Trail Manager; this will be a working management position. Position will be paid in part through Planning funds. There will also be seasonal labor positions hired.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Todd Seymanski, City Forester

- Leaf pick up will be completed early this year.
- Will go back to trimming trees through the winter.
- Christmas lights will be put up week of Thanksgiving
- Moving the City's Christmas tree on the 20th; coming from Fox Farm this year.

Commissioner Kelly

- The State Track meet held at Eagle Falls golf course was a spectacular two day event. The Golf Course received \$2,000 from TBID to compensate the loss at the golf course.
- Commissioner Kelly feels there may be younger people who would like to sit in on Board meetings or be on Boards.
- The Park Board is important to the public with trails and recreational aspects in determining what is needed in Great Falls.

Bill Ramsey

- With Great Falls being centrally located, we have a lot to offer to our citizens and the word needs to get out.

June Sprout

- Concerned with the Nathaniel addition (Riverview area) and the drainage. There is no park scheduled for that area, the developer has paid cash in lieu of parkland.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.