

**PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011
MINUTES**

Members Present: Bryan Thies, Karen Harant, Jim McCarvel, Charlie Bruckner, William Ramsey, Russell Motschenbacher, Richard Kavulla

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, Todd Seymanski, Cindy Stein

Others Present: Mike McDonald

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm, with no corrections to the minutes board motioned to approve, motion seconded and carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Marian will be presenting her marketing strategy for the swimming pools at the City Commission work session for December 20th.
- MOU with Get Fit Great Falls will be on the December 20th Commission agenda for approval.
- The Great Falls Voyagers have approached Park and Recreation to partner with them on a special "package deal" that includes baseball & swimming passes as a package. The fee will be \$60 for 10 time passes.
- River's Edge Trail has received final notice that they did receive the PPL grant as applied for the River's Edge Trail Master Plan.
- River's Edge Trail also received a grant through Montana Parks for \$28,000 to change the alignment of the trail and connect to the tunnel in Gibson Park.
- Gibson park lighting project update, at this time there is not start date on putting up the bulbs. waiting on their start date
- Flow rider pad replacement update: The City Attorney is now involved in getting the vendor to complete the project, they are currently in the fact finding stage.
- Pacific Steel has purchased the Yaw Kenny building and the Heisey warehouse along the River by the Electric City Water Park; they are working with Pacific Steel on improvements that involve the River's Edge Trail alignment (attached); RET will take the proposed alignment to the Design Review Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Review Park Board Applications

Bryan Thies term on the Park Board expires in December and Jim McCarvel has opted to not renew his term.

- Mike McDonald
- Bill Walters
- Aaron Weissman

- Patrick Carroll
- Casey Cummings

After reviewing all the applicants the Board recommended to the City Commission Bill Walters and Casey Cummings.

CDBG Grant Proposals

Board received a list of projects that staff is recommending for funding through CDBG.

- Natatorium Boiler – if we lose the boiler we are done at the Natatorium
- Play structures – have applied for Pinski several times and not received
Skyline & Jaycee play structure replacement are not included in our list since Leadership Great Falls will be applying for grant through the Chamber.
- Sewer line to Hurd restrooms – with the tennis courts rebuilt we will be seeing more usage of the restrooms and the current vault toilet may not be able to handle the increased usage.
- Gibson Park – ADA sidewalk to Vinegar Jones cabin that will extend past the flower garden and to the service road, includes handicap access.
- Recreation Center energy efficient upgrade with windows and furnaces.
- Handicap accessible golf cart which allow handicap golfers to swing clubs from the cart and are light enough to across areas where regular cart are unable to.
- Oddfellows park restroom upgrade to ADA standards.
- Scholarships for Recreation Center and swimming programs
 - We have received \$5,000 each for programs for last several years.

Staff will be working on all the grant requests. Public Works is also requesting a grant for sidewalks and handicap ramps. Community Development is also hoping to use funds for a position, in addition to all the other non-profits that will be applying. Total amount of CDBG funding available is \$720,000.

Get Fit Great Falls Memorandum of Understanding

Patty and Rebecca are part of the committee Get Fit Great Falls which includes many other partners from Great Falls businesses. The focus of Get Fit Great Falls is on getting fit and healthy living. Staff has initiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the City and will go to the City Commission at their December 20th meeting for approval.

Board approved the MOU with Get Fit Great Falls and recommended to the City Commission for final approval. Motion seconded and carried.

Gibson Park Sale a Portion of

There has been an inquiry on the small piece of property on 8th Avenue North and 6th Street. This portion of property was appraised in 2008 and at that time the Board approved selling; the City did not receive any bids.

- There are utilities that run through the parcel.

- Party interested in purchasing for a driveway access to his property. Also he would like to build a buffer from the street.
- 2008 appraisal came in at \$35,000, utility easement was not considered in the appraisal
 - The property value is not near that price
- Options to consider
 - Take the appraised value
 - Phil Rowen, original appraiser, can do an addendum and re-evaluate the property with the utilities taken into consideration for an additional fee of \$400.
 - Take back to the interested party and ask them to pay the \$400 additional appraisal.

Board recommended that Park and Recreation not pay the \$400 for the appraisal addendum and inform the interested party that they would be responsible for the 2nd appraisal fee.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff

Todd Seymanski, City Forester

- Leaf pickup completed
- Christmas lights are all up
- Trimming at golf courses and working through the tree removal contract.
- Bid opening in January for tree replacement contract
 - April 16- June 15th will be the planting schedule of 492 trees within the Boulevard District

Patty Rearden, Deputy Director

- Moving forward with hosting MT. Senior Olympics in June. This will be a qualifying year and we have more control over marketing the event then we have had in the past.

Board

Dog grooming and hair salon update?

- Marty to meet with the building official again to find out exactly what needs to be updated before we can lease out. There are areas that are very questionable, in addition Marty to discuss with the City Manager on renting the facility out and what risk it will be to the City on any repairs down the road.
 - Since we own the building and it is not up to city code are we obligated to bring it up to City Code?
- United Materials removed a pine tree in Skyline Park; they left it in the ditch.
 - Staff to investigate

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

