

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

Members Present: Patrick Carroll, Mike McDonald, Russell Motschenbacher, Charlie Bruckner

Members Absent: Bill Ramsey, Karen Harant, Shirley Davis

Staff Present: Marty Basta, Patty Rearden, John Smith, Todd Seymanski, Becky Hapka

Others Present: John Juras, Mike Dalton

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

With no additions or corrections to the minutes from January Board motioned to approve at written. Motion seconded and carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Staff looking at all fees and programs offered within the department and will adjust if feasible.
 - Public hearing next Tuesday on adoption of new fees
 - Swimming Pool Fees
 - Events Fees
 - Golf fees have already been passed
 - Reviewing Community Recreation Center next
- Commission/Department Head retreat held in January
 - Discussed core services
 - Look at what programs can be reduced or eliminated and then meet again
- Diseased tree Ordinance change is scheduled for a Public Hearing in the Commission Chambers during their March 4th regularly scheduled meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Electric City Rugby Club (MYRA Fest)

Electric City Rugby Club has asked to be rescheduled for March Board meeting.

The New Old Bridge

Mike Dalton, Executive Director Sunburst, Ltd.

- 2nd year of Westside Orchard Gardens
- Flower Farm has donated a slightly damaged 100'x100' greenhouse; they would like to move it to the garden area
- CDBG funds received for drip irrigation, liners, etc. from rain water collections into water ponds
- 2,000 lbs of tomatoes, cucumbers and various other vegetables went to Head Start program.

- Mike discussed an idea of using the 10th Street Bridge for greenhouses, markets , interpretive center; idea is very preliminary.
 - Discussion continued with ideas on using the 10th street bridge.

Trail Maintenance Plan

RET has grown to nearly 50 miles and the City has been budgeting \$5,000 yearly to maintain the trail, in addition to various costs associated with the trail and maintaining it. John Juras with TD&H presented the draft plan to the Board.

- RTI applied for a grant to cover the costs of creating the River's Edge Trail Maintenance Plan
 - TDH was hired to create the maintenance plan
- Park & Recreation Staff, RTI and FWP spend equal amounts on trail maintenance
- Plan will predict costs on maintenance
- Plan will manage trail maintenance
- Need to replace Doug Wicks and create a position within Park & Recreation as the Trail's Manager.
- There is a long inventory list of maintenance needed

Group is scheduled to present the draft River's Edge Trail Maintenance Plan to the City Commission during their regularly scheduled work session on March 4th.

Board motioned to recommend the approval of the draft RET Maintenance Plan to the City Commission for their approval; Motion seconded and carried.

Transportation Alternatives Program Project Selection

All CTEP funds have been transferred into the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP); there is \$500,000 currently that can be applied for through grants. RTI/ Park & Recreation's list includes RET connection with Warden Park, along Overlook Drive to 10th Avenue South; Westbank Park trail south parking lot connector trail and widen concrete portion. To be discussed again at March Board meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff

Forestry - Todd Seymanski

- Todd and Patty have been working on the Diseased Tree Ordinance changes that will go to a public hearing on March 4th.
 - Nuisance abatement, currently Boulevard District pays within the District
 - Three areas that define responsibility
 - Title 8 of City Code, Abatement of Diseased Trees: Nuisances like Dutch Elm or Pine Beetles, City pay for removal outside of Boulevard District – change wording to be consistent with other nuisance abatement that states the property owner is responsible
 - Costs Boulevard \$2,000 each for removal of trees outside Boulevard District

- Possible Emerald Bore Beetle showing up in Montana, if it happens it could cost the City millions of dollars to battle tree losses.
- Trimming trees when weather permits

Park – John Smith

- Removing snow
- Regular winter maintenance
- Will be ordering the new swans this week

With no further business, meeting adjourned