

**Park and Recreation Board  
Monday, March 14, 2011  
Minutes**

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

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

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm

**With no additions or corrections to the minutes, motion to approve and seconded. Motion carried**

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Board members received The City of Great Falls Board & Commission Handbook as a reference from the City Clerk.

Public hearing for West Bank Park Master Plan is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting.

We have received final approval of \$40,000 River Fund Grant to build a non-motorized boat launch at West Bank park. Funds will be available end of March.

Giles Salyer, Park Superintendent is overseeing the clean-up and repairs to remaining lights at Centene Stadium. Remaining poles will be re-welded; replacement poles are estimated at \$32,500 each; clean up costs has reached over \$2,500; TD&H has done a survey of all the remaining poles. Total costs so far is \$36,930, includes one pole replacement.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Skate Park Event – July 16<sup>th</sup> - Brad McCullough*

Brad McCullough, Capstone Community Inc., is requesting to host a skate board competition at the Riverside Rail Yard on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Event is free to those participating, event coordinators would like to have live music during the event. Rental of the skatepark is \$500, Brad is requesting that the fee be waived. They are expecting an attendance of 500 people.

Capstone Community Inc. will be responsible to carry insurance for this event, naming the City as additional insured.

**Board motioned to approve the Skate Park Event for July 16<sup>th</sup> to be held at the Riverside Rail yard and waive the \$500 fee. Motion seconded and approved.**

*Park & Recreation Logo*



New Park and Recreation logo was presented to the Park Board. Chuck Fulcher, Lodestone Advertising designed the logo. Staff is still pursuing the costs for an electronic sign in front of the Park and Recreation office.

#### *Allowing Bikes in Skate Park – Bryan Thies*

Bryan Thies has done some research and has put together a response to previous meeting. Bryan has presented his request at a Commission work session previously. Board received a copy of the research that Bryan will forward to the City Commission; Marty requested that Bryan's response letter to the City Commission not include Chairman of Park and Recreation Advisory Board unless it is supported by the entire Park Board.

Any changes to the Skate Park Ordinance will require a public hearing by the City Commission. This will give the public their opportunity express their opinions, skateboarders and bike rides alike.

#### Concerns:

- what will happen to skateboarders when bikes are allowed?
- Bryan suggested a trial period, this would provide information for future use.
- Bryan's objective was to find the facts to present. Bryan would like to know where to go from here?
- Marty suggested that Bryan send his response and finding onto the City Commission, and if the commission desires to rewrite the ordinance then they would have to hold a public hearing.

Bryan would like to present his finding as the chairman of the board and would like the Park Boards approval to present it to the City Commission with the title of chairman of the Park and Recreation Board.

Board feels that Bryan has done all the research and it should come from him as a citizen and not a board chairman.

A copy of Bryan's findings is attached.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENT**

##### Forestry – Todd Seymanski

- Putting pre-emergent in landscaped areas.
- 114 stumps on the boulevard that need to be removed
- Temporary employees will be starting next week

##### Parks – Giles Salyer

- Broadwater Bay completion to be done this spring
- Snow fence that will be removed when snow is gone – behind on this project
- Boston Heights building on Central Avenue and 32<sup>nd</sup> Street is a building where donated bikes are stored and repaired and also a storage area for Park Maintenance equipment has received a new ceiling.
- Ice Breaker organization started
- Centene stadium lights repair – this will only be a temporary repair to the current lights.

Williams Ramsey complimented Rebecca and staff at the Community Recreation Center, on doing a wonderful job of increasing the number of users at the Center.

With no further business meeting adjourned.