

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE October 10, 2018
AND LOCATION: PRPL Office



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Rick DeVore, Tim Warburton, Chuck Platt, Lew Morris, Clark Johnson, Rich Lorenz

PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, Director
Kory Thomson, Recreation Superintendent
Mike Pigg, Park Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner
Chris Waite, Volunteer Coordinator
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Manager
Officer Lam, Park Police Officer
Planning Staff Members:
Elyse Monat, Alternative Modes Coordinator

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Rick DeVore called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM

A. INTRODUCTIONS

None

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

“Board Decorum” was added under New Business after item A.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Michael Whitaker

- On behalf of Michael, Park Superintendent Mike Pigg announced that staff will be having a retirement party on October 30th for Cemetery Superintendent Lee Stadtmiller. Everyone is invited to attend.

III. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Par 3 Golf Course 2019 Proposed Budget:

Discussion was postponed until next month

B. Additional Items Discussed:

There was discussion on the opt in/opt out for trails on the water bills. The plan for this option is to help raise funding for the cities trail system. Currently, City Council is discussing this. Staff and park board plan to discuss this further at next month's board meeting after additional information on this has been received.

Rick discussed briefly with the board new development funding options. He announced there will be a special park board meeting in the next couple weeks to discuss further funding.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Major Park Projects Update:

Park Planner Mark Jarvis gave the following update on park projects;

- Shade structures for Hawthorne have been ordered; should arrive at the end of the month. Weather permitting, the 4 (2 large/ 2 small) structures should be installed.
- Optimist parking lot is complete
The playground replacement equipment for Optimist has arrived; waiting on the installation contract to be signed
- Dehler Park black mold removal is continuing
- Closing out the Rose pool building project; just finishing a few punch items
- Finishing adjustments at South splash pad
- Had the one-year warranty inspection at Yellowstone Kelly's interpretive site
- Council has approved the project at Centennial Park. Staff is looking into grant funding to assist in funding the project
- Coulson Park selection committee will be meeting today to discuss the applications from various firms on the master plan project. The committee includes staff and representatives from SETA, Planning Department and park board.
- Primrose Park locate in the heights, is set to receive playground equipment. Funding for this project is from PD1
- There is discussion on installing artificial turf on one of the fields at Amend. Funding for this is from the South Urban Renewal Association District (SUBRA)
- Friends of Billings Dog Park will be having a kick off fundraising event at Centennial Park on Saturday October 13.

B. Centennial Park Development:

An update will be done on Centennial at the November/December board meeting.

C. Park Board Members Decorum:

There was a motion on the floor from the September 12, 2018 meeting regarding

the issues presented on board member Clark Johnson's. The motion was that he be removed from the park board. The motion was to allow one month to go by and address the situation/motion at the October Park Board meeting.

Board member Tim Warburton made a motion that his requested motion for Mr. Johnson's removal he presented at the September 12, 2018 meeting be withdrawn. Board member Lue Morris seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Board Chair Rick DeVore made a motion to censure Board member Clark Johnson. The censure would be a formal notice that if Mr. Johnson's unacceptable behavior continues, then a recommendation for his removal would be presented to City Council. The censure states as follows:

- *Whereas the Parks Board is a volunteer group working to inform City council on important issues related to our parks system, and*
- *Whereas the success of the Parks Board is highly dependent on having active, engaged, educated, and credible members, and*
- *Whereas Clark Johnson has repeatedly sent disrespectful, rude, and personally insulting emails to members of the Parks Board, and*
- *Whereas he has stated repeatedly that he has no respect for some, if not most, members of the Parks Board and Parks staff, and*
- *Whereas he has repeatedly spread false, inaccurate and misleading information regarding the Parks development Plan, the master plan at Centennial Park and the actions and motives of the Parks Board and its members through his Facebook pages and elsewhere, and*
- *Whereas he has represented Billings and the Parks Board poorly by interrupting and berating Councilman Yakawich and mayor Cole during a Council session on August 20, and*
- *Whereas his behavior has been generally disruptive and detrimental to the goals of the Parks Board, and*
- *Whereas it is our sincere hope that he adjusts his behavior in order to become a more effective advocate for his ideas,*
- *It is resolved that Clark Johnson be formally censured.*

Board member Lue Morris seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor.

VIII. DIVISION UPDATES:

A. Recreation Division-Recreation Superintendent Kory Thomson:

In addition to his written report, Kory reminded the board on the following:

- There will be an upgrade to our RecTrac software system in a couple weeks. The system will be down for a few days.

B. Parks Division – Park Superintendent Mike Pigg:

No additions to his report

C. Park Planning Division – Park Planner Mark Jarvis:

No additions to his report

D. Volunteer Coordinator Report – Chris Waite:

No additions to his report

E. Park Patrol Report – Officer Nick Lam

Officer Lam touched on the following;

- Discovered a person that had gone missing from Coulson Park. Working with the Sheriff and Fire Departments in locating this person. It is believed this person fell into the river.
- Our first search warrant has been signed by a judge to look into one of the city's notorious graffiti's artist in the park. This allows the Police Department to gain all of this persons Instagram information, Facebook information to post their graffiti.

F. Cemetery Division – Cemetery Superintendent Lee Stadtmiller:

No additions to his report

G. Planning Report - Elyse Monat:

Spoke on the Morledge property and future trails.

IX. AJOURNMENT – 1:00 pm

(Please note these minutes are summary minutes)