



MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: Special PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE: December 1, 2008
Dehler Park Conference Room

ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Tom Iverson, Richard Deis, Margy Bonner, Wanda Walker,
Rick DeVore, James Strecker
PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, PRPL Director
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Joe Fedin, Recreation Superintendent
Lee Stadmillier, Cemetery Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Parks Planner

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Iverson called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Introduced was John Shoff from HKM Engineering, Chuck Barthuly with the Better Billings Foundation, Alex Tommerup with ATR Picture, and Pat Bellinghausen with the Billings Gazette.

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

- Mr. Whitaker invited Board members to attend the department Christmas Party on December 17th at 11:00 am.
- Mr. Whitaker reminded the Board that the monthly PRC Board meeting will be held on December 10th at its regular time.
- Mr. Whitaker announced that Board member James Strecker has resigned from the Dog Park committee as board representative due to a change in work scheduling. He asked for anyone interested in replacing James to please notify him at the December 10th meeting.
- Mr. Whitaker informed the board that on tonight's council work session there will be several items from this department reviewed. He invited everyone to attend.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were made from the public.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sahara Park Master Plan:

The master plan for Sahara Park gives outlining areas for a future library, aquatic center, community center, playground, open spaces for variety of outdoor activities and parking. The park is a total of 9.95 acres.

Chairman Iverson asked if this park would be a regional park. Park Planner Mark Jarvis yes it is and any improvements to the park would be paid by city wide residents and not through SID's. He did say that it is possible for SID's to be tagged on to area residents for the buffer zone.

It was discussed that there are no waivers of protest from area residents and any funding for the improvements would come out of the general fund.

It was asked based upon the master plan drawing if the section marked bus stop already existed. Mr. Jarvis said there are plans in place along Aronson Avenue but he would have to check with MET Transit to confirm.

A request was made to make a motion on the master plan. *Board member Margy Bonner made a motion to recommend Sahara park master Plan be submitted to City council for review. Board member James Strecker seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.*

B. Better Billings Foundation's Family Aquatic Center Vision:

Chuck Barthuly of the Better Billings Foundation presented to the board their vision for a family aquatic center.

C. Community Thank You Letter:

Board members reviewed the thank you letter and discussed making several changes. Board member Wanda Walker agreed to make the revisions and send a revised copy to board and staff for their final approval.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Rick DeVore made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:35 pm. Board member Wanda Walker seconded. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned.