



PRC PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: Monthly Meeting

MEETING DATE: October 12, 2022

LOCATION: Parks & Recreation Office Conference Room

ATTENDEES:

PRC Board Members: Thom MacLean, Jami Clark, Maia Dickerson, Chuck Platt, Jon Thompson

PRPL Staff Members: Mike Whitaker, Director; Kory Thomson, Recreation Superintendent; Cole McQuillan, Parks Supervisor; Mark Jarvis, Park Planner; Paul Reinhardt, Community Outreach & Engagement Coordinator

City Staff Members: Elyse Monat, City Planning

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Thom MacLean called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM

INTRODUCTIONS:

Dusty Eaton, Steve Shandera

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None

DIRECTORS REPORT: Michael Whitaker

Mr. Whitaker had no report

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT:

Public member wanted information on how he could keep track of progress on the Coulson Park project. Michael said we currently do a monthly report that we provide information on Coulson and other projects. Chairman MacLean commented for him to check the Big Sky Economic Development webpage for information.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Parks and Recreation Monthly Report:

❖ Recreation Superintendent Kory Thomson gave the Recreation Division report:

- Completed our first season of Miracle League last Saturday at Landon's Field. Looking forward to spring season
- NFL Flag football, Co-ed Adult basketball, Tennis Elementary, Girls' basketball has all started
- Staff is working on the winter brochure
- Last month we completed the pool liner at Rose; the pool has been refilled for the winter. This is done to keep the liner from cracking over the winter season.

❖ **Community Outreach & Engagement Coordinator Paul Reinhardt Report:**

- This Saturday is the 10th annual Refresh the Rims event
- Working on CDBG projects: Pioneer Park Heritage Trail is underway

❖ **Parks Supervisor Cole McQuillan report for Parks, Forestry, and Cemetery divisions:**

- Park staff has been busy this fall helping with facilitating recreation and School District 2 programs in parks
- Park seasonals are starting to leave for the season
- Starting to winterize parks irrigation systems and restrooms
- Did some top dressing and field maintenance at Dehler Park
- September was one of our busiest months with activities in parks

❖ **Park Planner Mark Jarvis report on Projects in Parks:**

- Poly Vista Park Improvements: just about finished; working on punch list items and final walk through
- Coulson Phase II: had discussion with Core of Engineering on the permitting
- Optimist Park Shelter: working on final punch list
- Castlerock Playground: moving forward on project, 65% complete and equipment has been ordered
- Cottonwood Master Plan: consultant is finalizing scope of work
- Castlerock North Parking Lot & Restroom: working with the consultant; moving forward on preliminary design
- North Park Playground Replacement: working with a manufacture representative to get concepts of the layout; also doing the same for Highland and Arrowhead playground
- Comanche Park Playground: working on placing an order; consultant working on making a assessable route to that playground
- North Park Adult Exercise Equipment and Shelter: consultant working on layout
- North Park Restroom: working with consultant on demolition

B. Billings Multigenerational Recreation Center Final Report:

Dusty Eaton from A&E Architects gave a presentation on the final report of the recreation center. A link to the report is located on the November agenda.

Dusty said this is the finalized concept of the center which includes parking, layout of lower/upper areas, amenities, outer design and landscaping, costs, and valid survey results.

Board member Thompson asked if the centers property line goes into the Amend Garden area. Mr. Eaton said no.

Mr. Thompson asked if the indoor courts are just for basketball or can they be used for other sports. Mr.

Eaton said yes, they can be used for other sports such as volleyball.

Board member Rott asked if the courts can potentially be used for tennis. Mr. Eaton said they have not talked about tennis. He was not sure how tennis would be lined out.

Board member Clark commented that the intent of this design is to not build a second sheet of ice. Mr. Eaton replied that was correct

Board member Dickerson asked if bike lanes are already built in the road area that connect to the center. Mr. Eaton said within our site there is yes, but outside of the site he was not sure. Ms. Monat from Planning said there is a trail on South Billings Boulevard on the east side of the street and on King Avenue East on the south side.

Board member Clark asked if there was a non-profit that could operate the facility. Mr. Eaton said yes, but if a non-profit would run it, there would not be value there as where there would be in having Parks and Recreation run it.

Following further discussion, Chairman MacLean requested action be taken by the board on the final design document on the Recreation Center as presented by Dusty Eaton from A&E Architects. ***Board member Jon Thompson recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Cemetery board recommends to City Council that the master plan or the guiding document for the design construction for the Billings Multi-generational Recreation Center plan be adopted. Board member Chuck Platt seconded. On a voice vote all were in favor and motion passed.***

C. Park Funding and Development Tools:

Michael Whitaker presented the third of four presentations on park funding. It focuses on park operations and development tools.

Board member Clark asked for an example of an operating levy. Mr. Whitaker said we would have to determine the scope of the levy, City Council would have to approve it, then that would have to go onto a ballot and finally it would be only used for parks and recreation services. Ms. Clark asked if there is an existing one. Mr. Whitaker said no but Police and Fire have two levies passed.

Board member Dickerson asked if the individual PMD's be sunset at any time. Mr. Whitaker said City Council would need to decide to not fund those districts during the budget season.

Board member Clark mentioned that the westend reservoir was not on last months presentation as a new development. Mr. Whitaker said that if it was not on the presentation, it should be.

Board member Thompson asked if Public Works will be managing the westend reservoir and if it was really a park and recreation facility even though there will be recreation facilities there. Mr. Whitaker said the funding source for the reservoir comes from the community's water and sewer fees. He said those fees cannot be used to develop parkland. He said Public Works could develop the lake but not develop any amenities around the lake for people to use. Mr. Thompson asked who will develop it. Mr. Whitaker said it will be a combination of this department and Public Works. He also said Public Works has not done a master plan of the site yet.

D. Parks and Recreation Matching Grant Program:

Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator Paul Reinhardt presented an updated document on the Parks and Recreation Matching Grant Program.

Chairman MacLean asked for a motion that the presented document be presented to City Council for adoption. ***Board member Jamie Clark made a motion to approve. Board member Jim Rott seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.***

E. American Legion Agreement:

Parks Supervisor Cole McQuillan presented the updated American Legion Agreement document for the boards review and action. He said the Parks Department recommends for the board to recommend City Council to approve the agreement.

Chairman MacLean asked for a motion. ***Board member Jim Rott so moved for the agreement be recommended to City Council for approval. Board member Jon Thompson seconded. On a voice vote, motion passed.***

F. Parks Board Discussion:

Chairman MacLean made a request for the department reports be sent in writing prior to meeting. Mr. Whitaker said he liked the conversation back and forth but said staff could come up more with a bullet list to present.

AJOURNMENT – Adjourned at 1:14 PM

(Please note these are summary minutes; this meeting is recorded and available to the public for any additional information discussed)