

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

**MEETING DATE
AND LOCATION:** November 10, 2010
Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Tom Iverson, Rick DeVore, Rachel Cox, Todd Royal, Margy Bonner, Catherine Grott, Dave Williams, Darwin George
PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, PRPL Director
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Manager
Kory Thomson, Recreation Supervisor

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Special guests: Sam Studiner, Gary Roller, Mike Radke, Jim Beal, Ron Sexton, Charles Hamwey, Jim Wertman, Jeff Rice and Jeff Gruizenga.

B. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 13 & 27, 2010 MINUTES

Chairman Iverson made a request to have the October 13, 2010 minutes approved. Board member Rachel Cox made a motion to approve the minutes. Board member Margy Bonner seconded. On a voice vote all present approved and motion passed.

Chairman Iverson made a request to have the October 27, 2010 minutes approved. Board member Rick DeVore made a motion to approve the minutes. On a voice vote all present approved and motion passed.

C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

No report

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Par 3 Budget:

Exchange City Golf Cooperation Board members Jeff Rice and Jeff Gruizenga gave an oral report on Par 3's budget for 2011. Printed copies were handed out to the board for review prior to the meeting. Mr. Rice and Mr. Gruizenga highlighted the following items on the report:

- Range ball rental fees will be increasing by \$.50 to help cover the purchasing costs of new quality range balls.
- Green fees will increase a \$1. Nine holes will increase to \$12 and 18 holes will increase to \$18.
- Golf cart fees will increase to cover costs to replace non-repairable cart and purchase a new one.
- The projected 2010 and proposed 2011 annual green fee, range and golf cart rental show an increase in revenue. The projected 2010 and proposed 2011 memberships show a decrease in revenue.
- Under other expenses, interest will be reduced due to paying off the loan that was taken out for repairs on the irrigation system.
- Under Club House Expenses, miscellaneous refers to money that is budgeted for any damage done to vehicles by flying golf balls.
- Travel expenses are budgeted for Mark Hahn to attend the PGA Professionals or the First Tee. The amount budgeted is not always used up.

Board member Dave Williams made a recommendation to approve the Exchange City Golf Course/PAR 3 budget for next year. Board member Margo Bonner seconded. On a voice vote, the budget was approved.

B. Review of Parks & Recreation Fees:

Mr. Whitaker said due to questions regarding the number of scholarships that our department issues in free pool passes, it has been requested of the PRC Board to make a recommendation to City Council on how to handle them this next year. Mr. Whitaker asked for two volunteers from the board to meet with Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin to come up with a proposal to bring back to the board. Board members Rick Devore and Todd Royal accepted.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Dehler Park Museum Proposal:

Sam Studiner presented on behalf of the Billings Baseball Preservation Society (BBPS) the concept to add a baseball museum to Dehler Park stadium to hold baseball artifacts, memorabilia, and trophies. CTA Architects was asked by the BBPS to do the conceptual drawings of the museum for the presentation. Jim Beal of CTA was at the meeting and gave a brief overview of its design. The renderings showed the building located next to the Mustangs clubhouse near the north entry gate. The exterior would be similar in color to the other buildings and would range in size of around 7,000 square feet. The floor plan shows five exhibits, each one representing the following: Little League, American Legion, college baseball, Billings Mustangs, and traveling or special baseball teams. It will also include a gifts/memorabilia area, receiving area, administration office,

information desk, auditorium, restrooms, storage, and research library. There will be two entrances, one on the north side and one on the south side. It is designed to be an 8-5 facility. Mr. Beal commented that the museum would be first of its kind in the western United States.

Ms. Studiner told the board that the museum would be owned by the city, but operated by the Billings Baseball Preservation Society (BBPS). She said cost to develop and create a maintenance fund would come to be around \$3 million. Ms. Studiner said they would like the museum to be initially free to the public.

Mr. Whitaker asked the board to vote to approve or disapprove on the proposed concept. ***Board member Rachel Cox made a motion for the board to support the concept for a baseball museum at Dehler. Board member Rick DeVore abstained from voting because he is on the Billings Baseball Preservation Society Board of Directors representing Little League. Board member Dave Williams seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.***

Ms. Studiner will present the concept to City Council for their approval before proceeding with fundraising for this project.

B. Disc Golf:

The current summer disc golf course at Pioneer Park will be switching to its winter course on November 20. Signage has been put up outlining the new course and rules. “Air Fairways” was able to assist in both the layout and construction of new sockets and baskets for the winter course. The summer course will re-open May 1.

C. Recycling in the Parks:

At a previous board meeting, Mr. DeVore had asked for recycling bins to be placed in our city parks to encourage the community to recycle. He commented that he would like to see the Parks Division get into some kind of union with the Solid Waste Division on promoting recycling. Mr. DeVore was recently able to come up with examples of closed secure recycling bins the department could purchase. Park Superintendent Jon Thompson responded by informing the board and Mr. DeVore that it is logistically a little more difficult for us to do it in the parks. He said that we could do a pilot program in a few of our parks to try it out. Mr. Thompson will be doing more research including talking with the Solid Waste Division and local recycling companies.

D. Department Mission and Vision Statements:

Mr. Whitaker told the board that a meeting is scheduled for November 16 to discuss the departments’ mission and vision statements. Those who will be attending the meeting are board members Margy Bonner and Catherine Grott, John Brewer of the Billings Chamber of Commerce, Recreation Supervisor Kory Thompson, Park Planner Mark Jarvis and Mr. Whitaker.

VI. DIVISION UPDATES

A. Recreation Division-Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin:

Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin was not able to attend the meeting so Recreation Supervisor Kory Thomson gave an overview on the operations report for the Recreations Division summer programs. A copy of the report was given out to the board for review. Mr. Thomson expressed that overall, admission to the pool was slightly lower this year but pool revenue was up showing the effects of the increase in admission fees. The pool revenue does include paid admission, pool rentals, and concession sales. There was a net profit of over \$10,000 in concession sales. A net profit of \$7,203 from the Batting Cages shows to be the lowest net revenue summer since its start of operation. Summer programs report shows the Playhouse program and not netting any profit. Overall, the summer programs generated a net profit of over \$28,000.

In addition to discussing the summer programs and pool operation, Mr. Thomson also gave an update on VSI and credit card transactions and shelter rentals bottom line report. Overall transactions and rentals were both up from the previous year.

B. Park Division-Park Superintendent Jon Thompson:

Park Superintendent Jon Thompson printed report was handed out at the meeting. Mr. Thompson did give an update on the trash truck. He said that after several issues and repairs with the emissions standards on the truck, it should be arriving hopefully in the next week.

C. Park Planning Division-Park Planner Mark Jarvis:

Park Planner Mark Jarvis printed report was included in the board packet. Mr. Jarvis did update the board on the current funds raised for the dog parks; to date it is around \$27,000.

D. Cemetery Division-Cemetery Superintendent Lee Stadtmiller:

Cemetery Superintendent Lee Stadtmiller printed report was included in the board packet. No additional comments or questions.

I. ADJOURNMENT

1:15 pm