

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE November 9, 2011
AND LOCATION: Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Tom Iverson, Catherine Grott, Margy Bonner, Rick DeVore,
Rachel Cox, Darwin George,
PRPL Staff Members:
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Iverson called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

None

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Board member Margy Bonner made a motion to approve the October 12, 2011 meeting minutes with a correction to change “from the general fund” to “from the city” under bullet two Parks and Recreation Funding final sentence. Board member Rachel Cox seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

No report

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Pioneer Park Playground:

Park Superintendent Jon Thompson reported the playground equipment at Pioneer Park is in need of major renovation. He said the park crew has removed several playground pieces (merry-go-round, slide, rocket and soon the swing) this year due to safety issues and age. Cost for replacement equipment is around \$80,000.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Parks and Recreation Funding:

Director Mike Whitaker noted that City Council would be voting on the intent to create a City-wide Park District on Monday, November 14th. He made a request for the board to show their support by getting out and talking to the public.

Board and staff discuss the following regarding the citywide district:

- There would be no time limit on this tax. City Council can dissolve it at any time.
- Council has the option to increase, decrease or keep it the same amount from year to year.
- 1.5 of the 2 million will go towards deferred maintenance.
- In three years, the board and staff will decide the course of action regarding the Park Maintenance Districts (PMD's). Until such time no changes or decisions will be made to the PMD's if the citywide district passes.
- PMD's would not be charged a double tax if the citywide district passes but would have an additional tax.
- It is the intent if the citywide district passes that the funding from the general fund would not decrease.

Mr. Whitaker told the board that the public can go the PRPL website to get additional information regarding the citywide park district proposal, which includes the intent to create, resolution, and three-year spending plan.

VI. DIVISION UPDATES

A. Recreation Division-Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin:

Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin printed report was handed out at the meeting.

B. Park Division-Park Superintendent Jon Thompson:

Park Superintendent Jon Thompson printed report was handed out at the meeting. In addition to his report, Mr. Thompson said the Billings Figure Skating Club has donated \$5,000 for the purchase of an ice skating rink liner.

C. Park Planning Division-Park Planner Mark Jarvis:

Park Planner Mark Jarvis printed report was sent in the mail.

D. Cemetery Division-Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller:

Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller printed report was sent in the mail.

I. ADJOURNMENT

12:00 pm