

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: Special PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE June 1, 2011
AND LOCATION: Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Tom Iverson, Rick DeVore, Rachel Cox, Margy Bonner, Todd Royal
PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, PRPL Director
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Manager

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Iverson called the meeting to order at 11:40 am.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Youth from the Montana Conservation Corps

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

Mr. Whitaker notified the board that Senior Office Assistant Dana Jefferson has been out of the office on medical leave, which has caused the department to be short at the front desk during our busy season. He said we have seasonals and Melonie trying to cover the front desk.

Mr. Whitaker reported that this year, the department has hired on two interns for the summer. Devin will be working with Kory Thomson in the Recreation Division and Landscape Architect Darian, will be working with Mark Jarvis.

Mr. Whitaker said City Council will be voting on the High Sierra Park Master Plan Update on June 13th. (The updated plan does include disc golf.) He also said at that meeting, the Exchange Club will be presenting \$20,000 to the city from some of the revenue received at PAR3 Golf Course.

Mr. Whitaker said board members Cathy Grott, Rick DeVore, and Margy Bonner have made a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce Board on the Parks and Recreation Funding proposal. He also said Park Superintendent Jon made a similar presentation to the Bike Trail Committee.

City Council will be given a presentation on funding by the board at the June 20th work session.

He reminded the board that there will be a joint board meeting with the Library Board on June 9th to discuss the Library levy and the Park Funding proposal.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Parks and Recreation Funding-PMD's:

Park Superintendent Jon Thompson gave an educational presentation on the Park Maintenance Districts (PMD's). The following are some of the comments he made from the presentation.

- We have 34 functioning/created PMD's and 4 non-functioning/non-created PMD's.
- Some of the subdivisions that are part of the PMD's are: Ironwood, Rolling Hills, South Gate, Josephine Crossing, and Copper Ridge.
- Harvest Subdivision was the first PMD created. It was created around 79' 80'. The last one created was Terra West Entrance in 2007.
- Each PMD is given a number starting with 684001/Harvest – 684038/Terra West Entrance.
- PMD 684026 started out to include only the Uinta subdivision. It was recently expanded to include Twin Oaks subdivision.
- PMD's 684021/Ramada; 684034/Foxtail and 684037/Reflections of Copper Ridge have not been created because the portion of parkland has in those subdivisions have not been developed yet. PMD 684035/Bitterroot has been partially developed but it has not been created due to the developer maintaining the portion of parkland that has been developed.
- Over the last four years (2009-2012), we have raised the PMD assessments \$200,000. Each PMD was reviewed and assessed based on costs for maintenance, utilities, and street assessments. Not all PMD's have had their assessments raised significantly or at all.
- Lowest cost in property assessment is \$13.79 for PMD 684010/Lakeview. Their assessment is based on the square footage times the number of properties. Highest assessment is paid by PMD 684013/Broadway/City Hall and is based on sq. footage times number of properties. (These numbers are based on the FY12 budget. A copy of the spreadsheet showing the breakdown was included in the board packet)
- If it was considered to eliminate the PMD's, Mr. Thompson gave a scenario that shows only 31 of the 38 being eliminated. The remaining seven would be kept due to the costs involved in maintaining the special features of that PMD. A special feature is considered such things as street lighting maintenance.
- The current FY12 budget for the PMD's is \$772,146. If 31 PMD's are eliminated during the FY12 budget then that amount would decrease by approximately \$296,240.

Following Jon's presentation, the board was asked to give their input on how to handle the PMD's with the citywide assessment. It was commented that the board after studying this issue and the information provided by Mr. Thompson that the PMD's should not be included with the park assessment to fix the 9 million in deferred maintenance. It is another subject for another day.

It was also suggested that we cannot fix this issue over night and to focus on what to do to fix our 9 million dollar deferred maintenance.

Chairman Iverson and Jon Thompson asked the board to make a decision/motion on the PMD's.

Board member Darwin George made a motion to have the PMD's tabled right where they are at and do not address them as part of the citywide park assessment. (They will continue be assessed as they currently are and would get the new citywide park assessment in addition.) Board member Rick DeVore seconded. On a voice vote, all were in favor.

The board concluded the discussion with a plan to come up with their reasoning for this decision and present it to the Council at the work session on June 20.

I. ADJOURNMENT

1:00 pm