

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE
AND LOCATION: April 10, 2013
Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:

Rachel Cox, Mark Wahl, Margy Bonner, Alan King, Dayton Rush, Catherine Grott, Marcia Clausing, Darwin George

PRPL Staff Members:

Mike Whitaker, Director
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Joe Fedin, Recreation Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner
Mike Pigg, Park Supervisor

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Co-Chair Rachel Cox called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Alyssa Auvinen from Riverstone Health and Patricia Eastman, City Resident

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Co-chair Rachel Cox made a motion to approve the February 13, 2013 minutes. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed. Co-chair Rachel Cox made a motion to approve the March 13, 2013 minutes. On a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed.

C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

FY14 Budget was added to the agenda.

B. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

Mr. Whitaker remarked that the funds in the recreation scholarship program are low and we have not received any donations to replenish those funds. He asked for anyone with connections to any groups or business that might be interested in donating to this fund to please contact them.

Without these funds, low income families would not be able to send their child to one of our recreation programs such as girls volleyball or boys basketball.

C. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

None

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. City-wide Park District Projects:

Mr. Whitaker said the slides are moving full speed ahead. The parks crew has removed the old slides. The slides are being manufactured as we speak. Currently, we are on schedule but it is a tight schedule.

Mr. Whitaker said we hope to have a person on board the first part of May for the volunteer coordinator position.

Mark Jarvis said there has been a fifty percent review of the restroom drawings. A&E Architects is hoping to have the drawings finished by the first of May. He said they are still assembling the costs. They are on schedule.

It was asked if staff thinks we will be able to get all nine restrooms done. Mr. Jarvis said we are still working on that. He thinks we will be close.

Mr. Whitaker said Jon Thompson is currently working on the RFP for the playground fall protection. He said that Jon has hired an Arborist and will be interviewing for the Parks Equipment and Operator position. Those two positions are coming out of the district funding.

Jon Thompson said we have purchased a used turf sprayer that will help with spraying the weeds. We will be able to do the weed spraying in house now. He said they may start spraying as early as next week weather permitting. Plans are to target dandelions this spring in our general funds parks. Signs will be posted to let the public know a park is currently being sprayed and/or sprayed.

Mr. Thompson said the 90 new picnic tables should be coming in either by mid to end of May.

B. Centennial Park Lease:

Mr. Whitaker said City Council has sent a letter to the Billings Community Youth Foundation letting them know they are in violation of the lease and that they have 90 days to comply.

C. FY14 Budget:

Board member Catherine Grott asked for an explanation regarding the zero based budget and the priority based budget. Mr. Whitaker explained that this year council had asked for all the departments to do a scenario for a zero increase operating budget and how that would affect all general fund budgets. Mr. Whitaker said the City Administrator has said for this year's budget to only request for supplemental budget or SBRs. He said our SBRs are basically for regulatory issues.

Mr. Whitaker also explained that if a zero based budget would be used what areas within the department would need to be absorbed/cut saying that if hours had to be cut at the pools it would mean the wading pools and not Rose pool.

E. NEW BUSINESS

A. Youth in Action Mural:

Alyssa Auvinen from Riverstone Health came to discuss the 2nd annual Youth in Action service day planned for Saturday April 27th. She asked for the boards permission to have the local young people design and paint a mural on the tunnel under Shiloh Road as one of the service projects. She said they did the other side of the tunnel last year.

Ms. Auvinen presented seven concepts for this year's project. They included the PRPL logo, Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) logo, mountains and trees, kid playing volleyball, hockey, snowboarding, and western playground.

The board approved the PRPL logo, kid playing volleyball with the saying "Get Healthy, Stay Active", western playground, snowboarding with the MCC logo and what it stands for, and the mountain and trees.

Co-chair Rachel Cox made a motion to approve the artwork/concepts that were liked by the board. Board member Darwin George seconded. On a voice vote, motion passed.

F. ACTION ITEMS

- A request was made at the October 2012 meeting to have Chuck Barthuly from the Better Billings Foundation give an update on the Oasis water park.
- A request was made to recognize the Forbes family for their donation of parkland. Staff will be looking into options for that recognition.

G. DIVISION REPORTS

A. Recreation Division-Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin:

Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin written report was handed out at the meeting. He reviewed his report.

B. Park Division-Park Superintendent Jon Thompson:

Park Superintendent Jon Thompson written report was handed out at the meeting. He reviewed his report.

C. Park Planning Division-Park Planner Mark Jarvis:

Park Planner Mark Jarvis printed report was mailed out prior to the meeting. No additional information was given.

D. Cemetery Division-Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller:

Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller printed report was mailed out prior to the meeting. No additional information was given.

I. ADJOURNMENT

12:45 pm