

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE
AND LOCATION: June 12, 2013
Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Rick DeVore, Catherine Grott, Mark Wahl, Alan King, Dayton
Rush
PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, Director
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Joe Fedin, Recreation Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Rick DeVore called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

None

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

None

C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

B. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

Mr. Whitaker reported that Pioneer Wading pool is currently closed while park staff is draining it for repairs following an injury by an attendee.

He said he will be meeting with Ed Kemmick from the Billings Gazette to discuss the tennis courts in Billings and interview the new volunteer coordinator position.

C. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

Rick DeVore asked if the pump at Veterans had been replaced. Jon Thompson said yes. The repairs cost around \$12,000.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. City-wide Park District Projects:

Mr. Whitaker reported:

- All three new positions funded by the district have been filled.
- Started weed management in general fund parks.
- Restroom project goes out to bid this coming Friday June 14th.

- Playground fall protection goes out to bid later this month.
- Most of the new picnic tables have been placed in our parks.

E. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY14 Budget:

Mr. Whitaker gave a PowerPoint presentation on the FY14 budget. It was noted that this year's budget has not changed much over the last few years. General fund budget has increased by 2.5% from last year's budget. Increase is mainly from supplemental budget requests, which includes wage increases, Cottonwood Master Plan update, Cemetery tree plan, road improvements and section 15 improvements.

The City-wide Park District Assessment is proposed for \$1.895 million. 73% of that goes towards deferred parks maintenance and the other 27% goes towards ongoing park maintenance. Proposed maintenance projects:

- Rebuild Castlerock tennis courts
- Replace South Park playground equipment
- Rebuild Pioneer Park tennis courts
- Replace batting cage equipment
- South Park Sprayground
- Emergency and general maintenance

Proposing a 12.5% increase in our Park Maintenance Districts (PMD) fund. Due to the drought in previous years, our water costs have increased causing us to have to increase assessments in the PMDs.

B. Rose Pool Waterslides:

Construction on the slides has had some issues. We still do not have a date yet on when the slides will be complete. We are hoping for some time in July. Will begin working on the grand opening ceremony.

C. Open Board Position:

Margy Bonner has turned in a resignation letter from the board. The Mayor has an applicant for the position. The person's application will be reviewed and voted on at an upcoming Council meeting. Plans are to have this person on the board for next month's meeting.

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. Mr. Whitaker has contacted Mr. Barthuly but he is currently busy.
- 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 handed out prior to the meeting.
- D. Cemetery Division-Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller:**
Cemetery Manager Lee Stadtmiller printed report was handed out prior to the meeting. He reviewed his report.

I. ADJOURNMENT

1:00 pm