

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE AND LOCATION: October 31, 2014
Community Center



ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:
Rick DeVore, Tom Rupis, Darwin George, Catherine Grott,
Marcia Clausing, Rich Lorenz

PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, Director
Kory Thomson, Recreation Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Rick DeVore called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

David Salvage, part-time Sub-Contractor /Planning Consultant for the Land Group and a manager for the City of Missoula. He has 25 years of experience in parks and recreation. He specializes in long range planning.

II. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

None

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Centennial Park Master Plan:

- All user groups were contacted to attend a meeting with the consultant. Of all the groups, only four did not respond/meet with the staff and the consultant.
- David Salvage is here to see what the communities needs and demands for Centennial Park. He believes Billings is a regional hub. He said Parks and Recreation is essential to this community.
- Centennial is classified as a community park.
- There is a lot of growth in the surrounding neighborhood.
- There are more demands for neighborhood parks.
- We are currently servicing only half of what the community needs.
- Primarily we are looking at ballfields and athletic facilities. There is a shortage of these.
- Parks and Recreation should meet with user groups regularly. The meeting should include discussing the safety of all fields and facilities.
- User permitting is important as well as making sure the costs for the

permits should help cover maintenance costs.

- There is not enough indoor space. We could use at least 160,000 square feet of space. User groups for indoor space would include swimming, volleyball, basketball, hockey and recreation programs such as exercise classes.
- We are in need of more outdoor space for baseball and athletic fields (soccer, special needs groups, football, and lacrosse).
- Additional dog parks are needed.
- Playground is needed.
- A community/multi use center is needed.
- Challenge for Centennial is its located on a busy street and residential street. Will probably need some sort of protection such as trees and possibly fencing.

Mr. Salvage will be taking the information and feedback he received from his meetings with staff and user groups back with him and do his analysis. Once he is done with that, he will forward his results on to the Land Group.

I. ADJOURNMENT

2:25 pm