

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The North Park Task Force

02/06/2020

7:00 PM

Type of Meeting: Monthly Task Force Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: North Park Task Force Committee

Invitees: North Park residents, North Park businesses and representatives from the City of Billings Police Department and City Council Representatives

7:00 PM Call to order

7:00 PM Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

7:02 PM Treasury report as follows:

A) \$4,461.39 money market account

7:03 PM Traffic Report

A) A letter with the cross walk and/ or stop sign was presented. There was a motion in favor and voted upon favorably in which John Armstrong will write a letter from the North Park Task Force request for a 4 way stop sign and cross walks. This will be presented to the City of Billings Traffic council in the next meeting.

7:05 PM Billings Police Department Report Officer Gunther as follows,

A) Please seek below for the Billings Police Department Task Force Areas Report: for full details of the report please visit:
<https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/2736/Monthly-Task-Force-Reports> . Please note the reporting agent is not up to date with the report for the review of January 2020.

B) A new officer was introduced to the area and his position is the parks police officer. Officer Peterson presented himself. His position covers strictly the parks within the city limits.

C) A reminder of please make sure your car is secure and locked while warming up the vehicle.

7:13 PM Program-

- A) Tom Rupsis, the current chair of the Park and Recreational Board. The meeting is once a month, the second Wednesday of the month. The last few months/ years focus in the developing the parks. The playground will be replaced at North Park 2021-2022. The current focus is Centennial park in which there was granted a \$2 million fund for this development. Colson park is a development within the phase of master planning through the Big Sky Economic Development will manage this project. There is a current group trying to fundraise for a park development, the west end of town, for a full developed ADA accessible.
- B) One member of the task force suggested lighting at Optimistic park as well at the skate park. The parks are open only certain times of the day and encourage residence not to use the park after hours. A member of the task force mentioned the safety and the negative activity that occurs during the nighttime at the parks. The suggestion of lights occurred to hope to deter the negative activity in the parks at night.

7:30 PM Old Business- none to report currently

7:30 PM New Business-

- A) A suggestion for a letter about security of the Albertons in the area. Mike Yakowich will draft a letter with a petition form for locals to sign.
- B) North Park Task force request for a Facebook page. There was suggestion from local residences to start a page and manage the page. There was not interest in the meeting to launch the Facebook page itself.
- C) Big Sky Economic Development, space to place grant (micro grants), Brian passed the information around. The purpose is to make a space into a place to help with the area. For the purpose of this information, the North Park Task Force agrees to apply for grant funding for the solar lighting of the trees at the park.
- D) Mike Yakowich spoke about a City Counsel update.
 - a. In 2 years, all lead pipes will be replaced within the Billings area.
 - b. The Billings Clinic Dialysis clinic is a little discouraged with folks coming in and using the bathrooms and messing the facilities up. A suggestion for the task force to stop by and say hello. Some of the employees are discouraged with the transit populations harassing them.
 - c. A mill levy is coming up with asking the community for a raise for more police employees.

- d. A dog and pony show are coming up and there is going to be an ask for the funding.
- e. A relocation for the City of Billings administration is underway. The City is looking at the Stillwater building and possibly some other locations.

7:52 PM Meeting adjourned