

City of Pierre
Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
01-21-2016

Members present were Chairwoman Anne Lewis, Dr. Craig Howard, Bob Judson, John Simpson, Kelsey (Webb) Smith, Linda Ahrendt, Jeff Filipek and staff members Mindy Cheap and Tom Farnsworth. Excused member was staff member Todd Kelley.

Guests included Sean Blanchette, Beth Haskins, Staci Goc and Jason Mahto.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm by Chairwoman Lewis. A motion to approve minutes of the December 17 meeting was made by Judson with a second by Simpson; motion carried. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Howard with a second by Simpson; motion carried.

Old Business

Lacrosse Update

The Board received an update on the soccer response to use of Hilgers Gulch field for this proposed new sports activity. Staff has met with soccer reps regarding the request. President of Oahe F.C. soccer association Shawn Blanchette reported that discussions are ongoing with the Lacrosse representative and is optimistic scheduling and logistics will work. Currently scheduled use such as ultimate Frisbee has been communicated. Fees are not assessed. The basic agreement is permission to use as long as the field is maintained by the City and soccer associations. The City does not paint/stripe the fields. The lease does not stipulate any restrictions on use. Players and clubs are insured through their respective state associations. A comment was made that this type of cooperation would be an excellent model for Pierre. A motion was made by Judson and seconded by Simpson to support lacrosse as a new activity. Motion carried. Staff will contact Lacrosse representative Corey Mitchell to recommend he continue communicating and moving forward and that we appreciate his collaborative approach.

Rec/Event Center Update

The Commission approved consultants Conventions, Sports and Leisure (CSL) to provide research and analysis relative to the recreation and events center. The information will include pricing analysis and operational costs. The deadline for the report is April 1, 2016. The estimates will be based on the size and events discussed today (57,000 square feet). Designs and layouts are still being considered. The next meeting is February 18 at the Capital University Center starting at 7pm.

Project Updates

Hyde Stadium

Tom provided a written progress report and the Hyde Stadium project is still on budget and on time.

Capital Creek

Staff is reviewing signage and locations for the trail with the grant provider. Handicap railing placement will be reviewed and decisions made on its location. The project is 98% complete.

Fishing Access at 4th Street

Contractor R&W hired by SDGF&P, reviewing access points for fishing spots/piers.

No updates on Walkability or Greening America's Capitals.

New Business

Dog Park proposal

The Board heard from Staci Goc, Beth Haskins and Jason Mahto regarding a proposed dog park in Pierre. The intention is to bring the community together to create a dog park. Today, the Bark for the Park group hopes to receive permission to move forward. The group hopes to obtain 501C (3) status or join with an already established nonprofit group. There are fundraising and partnership plans, including a possible membership to the park, plaque sales, grants, local events, etc... . A park would include an area for small and large dogs and a sign with rules. The estimated cost average is \$18,799 to build the park relying on local businesses' estimates. The City would be asked to provide water, garbage pickup and mowing. Realistically the park could be built in three phases: developing the land, building fence, seating and signage; plumbing, shading and a pet waste station; enhancement of anything mentioned above, agility equipment, and/or pet sprinklers. Location ideas include the area near the 4th Street fishing pond, Divine Park and the Army Corps of Engineer Land in southeast Pierre. The group is concerned with parking, accessibility, landscaping, and access to water for a human and dog drinking fountain, shading, and others. If a park was established, there would be an agreement document with the City clarifying responsibilities. Nothing would be official until the City Commission approved a location. Chairwoman Lewis commented that we need to be thoughtful about the process. Farnsworth recommended a subcommittee of Board members to work with the Bark for the Park group to further discuss locations. Board members Howard, Filipek and Simpson agreed to serve on the committee. A possible recommendation of a wood fence might be made to muffle the sound of barking. The group will convene with staff and begin discussions on locations to be considered.

YMCA/Rec Dept.

Filipek and Cheap gave updates on aquatic center and YMCA activities. The price quote for the replacement play feature in the zero depth entry area of the indoor aquatic center was approximately \$60,000 for purchase and installation. This is a budgeted item in the 2016 budget that is expected to be approved next week. This project will be let for bid.

Cheap has been working on the Imagination Destination Playground grant and will continue the next steps with the grant application. She requested a letter of support from the Park and Recreation Board. Chairwoman Lewis agreed to write the letter and will distribute a draft for review.

Staff/Dialogue Updates

The Pierre Swim Team decided not to move forward with their previous request at this time but is still considering the project.

Farnsworth is meeting this week with the Boys and Girls club to continue evaluating their bathroom situation. The bathrooms do comply with code but additional space and improvements are needed.

The meeting adjourned at 5pm. The next meeting of the board is February 18 at 3:30pm.

Kelsey (Webb) Smith, Recording Secretary