

City of Pierre
Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
6-23-16

Chair Anne Lewis called the meeting to order in City hall conference room at 3:35pm.

Members present were Chairwoman Anne Lewis, Dr. Craig Howard, John Simpson, Linda Ahrendt, Kelsey Smith and Bob Judson. Also present were Commissioner Jeanne Goodman and staff members Mindy Cheap and Tom Farnsworth. Todd Kelly was excused.

Guests included Tracy from CommTech, and Becky Burke with the Pierre Swim Team.

A motion to approve minutes of the May meeting was made by Simpson with a second by Judson; motion carried. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Judson with a second by Smith; motion carried.

Old Business and Project Updates

Capitol Creek Trail

Tracy with CommTech discussed the cameras recently put up in the City to reduce vandalism and improve safety in the Park and Recreation system. Additional cameras and potential locations were reviewed.

One idea was brought up to do an intentional graffiti project like Art Alley in Rapid City. The group discussed this as one option for areas with high traffic and potential for graffiti vandalism. It was noted that the City of Rapid is considering eliminating Art Alley due to unapproved graffiti and local vandals ruining the approved graffiti art.

Capitol Creek Trail is near completion. Signage and ADA railings are being installed. The trail is finished and lights in the tunnels have been installed. This week, Teen Court volunteers cleaned the tunnels and painted over the graffiti. Staff members are considering an "open house" type walk through of the finished trail and the Board agreed this was a good way to showcase the trail.

Recreation and Events Center

On Tuesday, June 21, the City Commission recommended a public vote on a 57,000 square foot Recreation and Events Center. The Discovery Center along with the Boys and Girls Club presented a need for an addition for the two facilities to be housed in the Rec/Event Center. The Commission expressed financial concern for the 57,000 square foot facility alone, so the Commission voted unanimously to move forward with a public vote. Language for the November ballot is due August 12. The two entities will work with the City to further discuss financial options and other opportunities. The Board thanked Commissioner Goodman for her work and the city's process undertaking this effort.

Dog Park

Dr. Craig Howard presented on the proposed dog park. There was a meeting this week at the park with subcommittee members, Beth from the Dog Park group, public members, Tom Farnsworth and Leon Schochenmaier. The next step is to layout the specific area. Moving forward there will be information

prepared for a presentation to the City Commission. Fencing materials and other components are still being considered and samples/options will be prepared. Once the size and layout is determined, irrigation lines and other utility sources will be evaluated. The goal is to not lose green space but *repurpose* it.

Modern Woodman Donation of funds

Two locations have been identified for new steel benches and approved by Steve Bass of Modern Woodman. The area just east of the pump house at south end of Chappelle St. will be bladed and shaped by the City Street Department. Modern Woodman is donating \$1,000 for the benches. They will be steel benches bolted into cement. There is also discussion about two wooden flower boxes being added and sponsored/maintained by local businesses or organizations/groups. No action or position on the flower boxes, Farnsworth asked the board to look at those by the National Guard museum as they were built by Steve Bass and would be the kind he would donate to the project. The board will continue to evaluate this option.

Hyde Renovation

The open house on June 22 was well attended and a great event. Two sections of the decorative fence are left to be completed as well as a few final items. City staff plans to wait until July 8 to play games to give the field more time. There is concern for lost revenue to the Legion baseball association.

Fishing Access at 4th Street

The Bass Club will sponsor a welcome sign. The only remaining projects are the road which is in the City street budget to be bladed and sealed. The new ADA parking sign has been installed.

Walkability Study

Staff is working on a presentation for the Department of Health conference July 26 in Mitchell which outlines the process the City undertook, what we learned and the outcomes. Presentations will be made by other cities on their grants and efforts to improve walkability in their cities.

Greening America's Capitals

Staff attended a meeting yesterday where the report was given to the State Engineer to review design options and evaluate what makes sense. The street south of the Capitol building, Capitol Avenue, is up for reconstruction in 2017 and some of the design options of the report may be utilized.

Bathrooms and the Boys & Girls Club

A request will be made for next year's budget to allocate \$75,000 for the bathroom remodel for ADA compliance at the Boys and Girls Club. Designs are being worked on.

Outdoor Pool

No new updates. The soils report was delivered and planning is ongoing. Guest Becky Burke confirmed conceptual drawings are being worked on.

CCBA Batting Cage

No new updates. The project still needs to be installed by the sponsor.

New Business

YMCA/Rec Dept.

Mindy reported that summer programs are going well and the Fishing Friday event for kids was a success. Water exercise classes at the outdoor pool began this week and attendance is good. The pool opened June 6.

Dialogue/Updates

Simpson reported that *the La Framboise Island Mountain Bike Race* had the most racers since before the flood. Staff are assisting with and preparing for *Oahe Days* this weekend.

The *YMCA CEO* position is being advertised.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm. The next meeting of the board is July 21 at 3:00pm for a tour of facilities with the Chamber Sports Committee.

Submitted by,

Kelsey Smith, Recording Secretary