

**Minutes of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting  
January 17, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Director Tom Farnsworth at 3:30 PM in the City Hall Prairie Room.

Members attending were: Don Templeton, Jeff Hanig, John Simpson and Dr. Craig Howard. Excused were Todd Kelly and Torry Zeller. Also present was Aaron Fabel, staff member Tom Farnsworth and Mindy Cheap and Commissioner Vona Johnson.

Introductions of board members and staff were made and a welcome given to new board member Jeff Hanig. Farnsworth stated the board was in need of new officers as Ahrendt and Judson were term limited. Motion made by Templeton, second by Simpson to elect Howard as chairman and Simpson as vice-chair for the coming year. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Farnsworth volunteered to be recording secretary for the meeting.

Templeton moved and Simpson seconds a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6 board meeting. Motion carried.

Simpson moved and Hanig seconds a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

The board reviewed the 2019 project list and staff answered questions as needed.

**2019 Projects Underway/To Be Completed** - Marilyn Tassler memorial bench, Parking lot improvement west of Dan Kelly field (Street Dept.), Downs Marina/Lewis and Clark Trail Improvement (Wellmark Foundation grant), Steamboat Parking lot landscaping/seeding to be done after the Steamboat Park Trail reconstruction project (RTP grant) (Amphitheatre section), Griffin Park Storm shelter completion June 15, Chamber of Commerce landscaping (removing flowers/shrubs and planting grass), Softball field improvements with OSA and BID board funds, Griffin Park baseball field improvements with CCBA and BID board funds, high water mark sign (FEMA sponsored), flag pole for Community Orchard.

**Capital City Baseball Association Griffin Park baseball field traffic/safety issue** – Farnsworth illustrated a plan to improve safety/traffic flow past the baseball field during games. The illustration showed use of Type I barriers in three locations, which would prevent motorized traffic to travel on the road past the ballfield during game time only. The board discussed this option and directed Farnsworth to show this illustration to CCBA for their reaction. Hanig commented the teams could possibly manage the placement and removal of the barriers as game schedules will vary. This would avoid the City having to do this. Other comments were this could be a test method for this season to see if we want a more permanent type of barrier or swing gate. A report will be brought back to the board for further discussion and action. A solution will be needed before the spring season in 2019.

**Outdoor Pool Committee** - Farnsworth stated the committee is ready to give their report to the Park board. The board decided to hold a special meeting Jan. 24 to host the pool committee and hear their report and recommendations. Simpson also reported on Farnsworth speaking to the local Rotary Club about the status of the pool project and opportunities for Rotary to partner with the City on funding a component or amenity of the project if approved by Commission.

**City Welcome Signs and Banners** – Farnsworth reported the Chamber of Commerce CEO Jamie Seiner is willing to ask her board about being involved with this potential project, form a committee and work towards a long term solution for welcome signs and banners for the City. Farnsworth will meet with Seiner and report more on this project at the next board meeting.

**Dog Park Sub-Committee** – The first meeting of the new sub-committee will be Jan. 24. Templeton and Howard will represent the Park board. Reports will be brought back to the board as needed.

**Railroad and Playground Safety Fence** – Simpson reported he has contacted officials with the RR company, sent an illustration to them indicating the need for a safety fence at the location of the Pleasant Drive park, this was also illustrated to the board members, and he is asking the RR company for a donation that would cover the cost of the fence materials. So far no response from the RR Company.

**FEMA Grant submitted** – The City grant submitted Dec. 15 for a storm shelter/bathroom facility in west Steamboat Park was not selected for the Hazard Mitigation Grant program. Farnsworth stated Gidget Palmer will continue to work towards adding public restrooms to the new water treatment plant as it will be located in this section of the Park. Farnsworth will keep the board informed on status.

**New Business** – The dog park ideas was addressed at the beginning of the meeting with guests.

**Down's Marina peninsula** – Farnsworth informed the board that when the trail improvement project is completed in the summer, there is discussion of blocking the peninsula to drive in traffic and make this area a walk in only for recreational use. This was illustrated on the google earth map. The board expressed interest and several comments about developing this site for improved rec use, primarily shore fishing access. Farnsworth stated there is staff at SDGF&P that looked at the site with him and is going to report back to the board on opportunities for improved fishing access. The board agreed to continue to have these discussions.

**LaBarge Park Scoreboard request** – Farnsworth reported that CCBA baseball is talking to BankWest about sponsoring a scoreboard for the baseball field at this location. If BankWest agrees to sponsor this the board would be installed in 2020. Full costs need to be developed and determined who will fund. Future developments will be brought back to the board for discussion and approval.

**YMCA/Rec Dept. report** – Fabel reported on the construction project at the YMCA, it is going well. Fabel stated his board and the City Park board will need to think about how best to use the \$15,000 each entity budgets for improvements at the Y/Aquatic Center. This is included in the MOU between the City and YMCA. Cheap handed out the senior winter program schedule and will report to the Mayor and Commission Jan. 22. Work is underway planning the 2019 recreational programs for the summer.

**Dialogue** - Dr. Howard thanked everyone for attending, reminded the board of the Jan 24 special park board meeting and the board still has a vacancy position to fill.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully,

Tom Farnsworth, Director