

**Minutes of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting  
February 20, 2020**

The meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman John Simpson at 3:36 PM in the City Hall Prairie Room.

Members attending were: Don Templeton, Heather DeBoer, Rachel Arbach, Jeff Hanig and Aaron Fabel. Also present was Director Tom Farnsworth, Superintendents Mindy Cheap and Thomas Moore. Excused were Buddy Seiner and Commissioner Vona Johnson. There were no guests attending.

Templeton moved, second by DeBoer to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Hanig moved, second by Arbach to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

**2020 Plan of Work –**

Staff briefed the board on the 2020 plan of work for the year as of 2.19.20. A handout detailing the projects and other tasks was sent to the board in advance and made available at the meeting. The board reviewed this and asked questions of staff. Superintendents Moore and Cheap will have responsibilities of scheduling staff and carrying out the work during the year. The detailed plan of work is available for review.

**2021 Future project discussion and five year plan –**

Farnsworth led the group in a review of potential 2021 projects and offered updates to the Division five year plan. A handout detailing the projects was sent in advance to the board and available at the meeting. The board discussed these and staff used google earth map to illustrate projects in the various parks. The project list will be worked on throughout the year with the goal of finalizing for the 2021 budget discussions by the City Administrator, Business Manager, Mayor and Commission. The five year plan document will be used in an upcoming exercise by the Mayor and Commission as they look ahead to year 2025.

The board was also briefed on the budgets for projects in the past two years and how this compared to a budget request in the upcoming 2021 budget. At the current time, the 2021 budget request is estimated at \$483,000 for project work and \$100,000 for equipment upgrades for a total request of \$583,000.00 Commission budget discussions will take place in August and finalized by end of September for the year 2021.

**New Business**

**ADA sidewalk from Parkwood to City parking lot**

The board reviewed a potential project suggestion by Templeton to add an ADA sidewalk for residents of Parkwood to use to get to City property and illustrated the site on google earth map. Board discussion was positive to this idea and need. The board asked staff to continue to get quotes on cost and bring to the next meeting and a possible funding source could be the Healthy Hometown Grant award the City received in 2019 for \$5,000.00

**Griffin Park Riverbank Erosion**

Staff reported clearances have been issued by the CORP and GF&P to add Class B rip rap, approximately 175 ton to the section of the river bank eroded by high water last year in Griffin Park. Estimated cost of this project is \$6,500.00 The work will begin ASAP to make this repair. Moore will wait until fall to fix the sink hole damaged area of the park to allow the trail to be replaced as well.

**Wellmark Foundation Grants**

Staff reported the outdoor pool committee has submitted a \$100,000 grant request for the Wellmark Large Match grant fund. If awarded, the funds would be used for the new outdoor pool. June 5 is the deadline to submit a grant application for a Wellmark small match grant which is up to \$25,000 No project has been selected at this time although the Dog Park committee may be submitting for this one.

Simpson called on Recreation Superintendent Cheap and CEO of the YMCA Aaron Fabel for reports on activities. Senior citizen programming is going well. Walk with Ease program is starting up and information is on line for class sign up. March 14-15 is the state Special Olympics BB tourney in Pierre. Fabel explained the first half marathon is being planned for Pierre for August 2 and he used google earth map to show the route. Street masters may be a part of this event. Fabel is hoping for 75 plus participants in the first year. Cooperation is coming from the Pierre police department on the route and from the Parks department on running through the parks where needed.

In dialogue, staff pointed out new changes to the Parks department web page and encouraged board members to take a look at the various parks, the pictures illustrating the facilities and other amenities in each park. This has been a yearlong process to improve. The board was also given a proposed timeline for the new outdoor pool.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Farnsworth, Director