

**Minutes of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting
March 21, 2019**

The meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Howard at 3:30 PM in the City Hall Prairie Room.

Members attending were: Don Templeton, Jeff Hanig, John Simpson, Rachel Arbach, Heather DeBoer and Aaron Fabel. Also present was Tom Farnsworth and Commissioner Vona Johnson. Excused were Mindy Cheap and Todd Kelly.

Templeton moved and Simpson seconds a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21 meeting. Motion carried.

Simpson moved and Arbach second 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 stated he will schedule the board recommendation with the City Commission in the coming month. Road closures require permission from the City Commission. Farnsworth will work with Commissioner Johnson to schedule this. The recommendation of the board has the approval of the City safety committee.

Outdoor Pool Committee – Dr. Howard congratulated the pool committee on the passage of their recommendations at the March 19th City Commission. The next steps are for the Mayor to form a capital campaign cabinet, meet with the pool consultant to review the opinion of probable construction costs of the alternate items that will be funded with the funds raised by the campaign and continue the professional services agreement with Burbach Aquatics. The pool committee will continue to meet as needed to assist with the project. Fund raising will take two years, final design to be completed in 2021, and construction to start in 2021 with new pool opening in 2022. The plan is to run the current outdoor pool in the years 2019 and 2020 if feasible. Simpson reminded everyone the board will need to work on finding a new location for the skate park.

City Welcome Signs and Banners – This item has been tabled by the board until further direction from the Mayor. Farnsworth brought new information from the SDDOT asking if the City wanted to consider flying banners on light poles on Euclid Ave. as they are designing the improved street and lighting. The City would have to pay for the reinforced light poles if we choose to use them for banners. The board agreed further direction is needed from the Mayor. Farnsworth will set up a meeting with his supervisor, the Mayor and Commissioner Johnson to discuss.

Dog Park Sub-Committee – Templeton and Howard briefed the board on progress. An illustration was included in the board packets showing location design to date which is east of the Park shop on Sully Street. The next meeting is set for March 28. The committee is still working on final design and exact location. Reports will continue to come back to the board. Howard stated they hope to have costs and all project details complete this summer and include in the plan of work as a 2020 project

Boys and Girls Club Remodel – Farnsworth updated the board stating the new design for the project is about 90% complete. The City is preparing a new lease for the facility with CACS. Construction will be this spring with completion in fall of 2020. Farnsworth illustrated how the gym could then be rented out by the City Recreation dept. at times it is not used by the Boys and Girls Club.

New Business

2019 RTP grant – Farnsworth explained the new grant application would be for rehabilitation of the asphalt trail through Griffin Park. Support letters are needed. Dr. Howard provided one from the board. Simpson suggested contacting Mike Mueller the chair of the Oahe Wheelmen bike club. The Pierre Running club will also be contacted for support as well as the Chamber of Commerce. Grant deadline is April 12. All agreed the asphalt conditions of the trail are deteriorating and replacement to a concrete surface 10ft. wide would be good to do.

Aquatic Center HVAC replacement – Farnsworth included in the packets the bids for the replacement of this original HVAC unit on top of the City aquatic center. Tessier's won the bid and was within budget for the project. Work should take place this fall with minimal interruption of use of the indoor pool.

2020 Capital Outlay plan – Farnsworth and Johnson reviewed the potential 2020 projects and equipment for the 2020 Parks and Rec Division budget. This will move forward through the budget process of the City with final budget action in September. Board input is welcome. A Q/A was held with the board on the projects.

YMCA/Rec Dept. report – Cheap was attending her CPO training. Work continues for planning the 2019 recreational programs for the summer. Seasonal applications are coming in. Winter programming will conclude March 27. Fabel reported work continues on the remodel project at the YMCA and they hope to work on Phase II expansion in the coming months.

Dialogue - Farnsworth gave an update on the process to replace Todd Kelly who is retiring as Park Superintendent with the City. Todd has been employed for 38 years plus and his last day of work will be March 31. A motion was made by Simpson; second by Hanig to formally thank Todd Kelly for his 38 plus years of dedicated service to the City of Pierre and in his honor a new park bench shall be placed in the parks at a location Todd prefers. The dedication plaque shall be funded by the board members. Motion carried with unanimous support.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM. The next meeting of the board will be April 18 at 3:30pm.

Respectfully,

Tom Farnsworth, Director