

**Minutes of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting
July 19, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Linda Ahrendt at 3:30 PM in the City Hall Conference Room.

Members attending were John Simpson and Aaron Fabel. Also present was Commissioner Vona Johnson and staff members Tom Farnsworth, Todd Kelly, Mindy Cheap and Gidget Palmer. Absent were Howard, Templeton, Zeller and Judson. Guests were Bob Gray, President of Capitol City Baseball Association (CCBA) and Kalin Miller President of Pierre Young Professionals (PYP). Ahrendt stated a quorum of board members was not present so we will not conduct any official business but will hear reports and the request of the guests.

Ahrendt welcomed Bob Gray to discuss his requests. Gray has been working with his board and Todd Kelly and presented a facility improvement plan for Griffin Park baseball field. Items included grass infield, concrete work to move dugouts and provide a three ft. wall from dugout to dugout, new dugouts and gates, back stop netting and dirt work and drainage was included. Total estimated cost was \$87,418 for the makeover with City share being labor at an estimated \$30,500, CCBA cash at \$28,459 and a BID board request of \$28,459. Gray stated there were 360 kids in CCBA, Griffin is the showcase field and with this being the third year of being in the "SD Little League" there is now potential to attract tournaments at the under 10 and under 12 age groups if not more. A city needs a grass infield to host. The board had a Q/A with Gray. The partnership was a good idea, Johnson wants input from Kelly on timing, costs and work load with other park projects for next year. Ahrendt told Gray to keep working on the numbers, communicate with the BID board and Kelly and return to the next Park board meeting in August to continue discussions. Those present were certainly open to more discussion. Gray thanked the board for the opportunity and will return to the August meeting.

Ahrendt welcomed Kalin Miller to discuss his requests. Miller shared a handout on the history and how the PYP has been running the Pierre area Corn hole league since 2016. The request was to place a storage shed for the equipment in a central location in Steamboat Park, by a bathroom building, to give the league more visibility vs the present location by the Chamber of Commerce building which does not allow for bathroom access in the evenings when the league plays. The shed may be 10 ft. x 20 ft. or smaller. There will be no cost to the City, Kalin was looking for location and permission and would take responsibility for maintenance of the shed and security. Ahrendt requested John Simpson and Kelly meet with Miller to review location and other issues and report back at the August meeting. Miller thanked the board for the opportunity.

Ahrendt welcomed Gidget Palmer who updated the board on the Griffin Park Storm shelter project. This project is estimated at \$600,000 with grants from FEMA of \$450,000, the State of SD of \$120,000 for a 28 ft. x 84 ft. storm shelter with bathrooms, showers. Estimated capacity of 400. The project is to be bid in early August with a May 1 completion. Parks staff will need to remove the large trees east of the tennis courts where the building will be located. This project will provide shelter in the event of storms and also serve as a facility that can be rented to the public for indoor events/picnics, etc. The board appreciated the update and thanked Palmer for the presentation.

Old Business

Projects Underway/To Be Completed – Farnsworth gave an update on the following projects: With the announcement of the RTP grant award for trail improvement in Steamboat Park (Amphitheatre trail

section) staff will hold on the landscaping/seeding west of the Amphitheatre until 2019 after the spring completion of the trail project, Dan Kelley field safety railings will be installed on the corners of the concrete elevated seating area to protect citizens, Musco light towers will be installed later this season once a contractor is selected. The Garneau memorial benches are installed; the Youngberg Memorial bench and Marilyn Tassler memorial bench are yet to be installed. Park staff is finishing landscaping of the Steamboat Park new trail. Water fountain is installed and will soon be working. Parking lot west of Dan Kelley field still needs grading and graveling by Street Dept. Griffin Park storm shelter will be put out for bids in August. The board was shown the memorial bench for Leon Schochenmaier that his daughter Amy has contributed funds towards; it is located just upstream from the highway bridge.

Chamber of Commerce Landscape project request

This is a follow up to the request by Jamie Seiner at the June meeting. The board reviewed the site and request to remove vegetation and plant grass at the entrance area of the Chamber and at the sign. This is a 2019 project.

Outdoor Pool Committee

The fifth meeting of the pool committee will be held today at 6:00PM. An agenda was handed out. The meetings are open to the public. The August meeting is the 16th at 6PM at the new City hall. The committee is working on the design and costs of a new outdoor pool.

2019 Capital Outlay projects

Farnsworth highlighted the 2019 projects being considered for the parks department plus needed new equipment. Budget work sessions with the Commission and all Directors are scheduled for August.

Mateer Park fountain

Kelly reported this will be repaired and returned to service.

New Business

Oahe Softball Association/BID board funding

Mark Gageby, President of the Oahe Softball Association was successful in his project presentation to the BID board to seek funding for improvements to the softball complex. The BID board awarded them \$22,000, this will be combined with OSA funding and City labor to replace fencing, gates, add jox boxes, a shelter, sound system and shade structures to the softball complex. A new safety net will also be placed over the playground structure. Some of these improvements may take place this fall with the majority to be scheduled in 2019.

RTP Grant Award

Farnsworth stated the SD GF&P has awarded the City \$125,000 in grant funds for reconstruction of the trail in Steamboat Park, the section that runs from Poplar St. to Central through the park. Convert the old 8 ft. wide asphalt to 10 ft. wide concrete, add bump outs, a drinking fountain and improve drainage. This will be a spring 2019 project similar to the one just completed in west Steamboat Park.

YMCA CEO Aaron Fabel reported on their Phase 1 renovation project showing an illustration of the new improvements. Ground breaking was Monday. They have a March 2019 completion date.

Cheap stated new programs "Walk With Ease" is going ok and "Water Exercise Classes" are averaging 14 to 16 adults with numbers picking up. The Outdoor Pool is slow for attendance and primarily the Boys and Girls club attends on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully,

Tom Farnsworth, Director