

# Minutes of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair DeMers at 4:12 p.m. in the Training Room of City Hall.

Members attending were Rachel Arbach, Jeff Hanig, Leah DeMers, and Krisi Potter. Also present were Parks Superintendent Jay Jensen and Park Crew Leader Nick Schultz, Recreation Superintendent Torry Zeller, Director of Parks and Recreation Bryan Tipton, and Commissioner Todd Johnson.

Absent were Co-Chair Don Templeton and YMCA CEO Aaron Fabel

Potter moved, second by Arbach to approve the minutes of the July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting. Motion carried.

Hanig moved, second by Potter to approve the agenda for this meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Motion carried.

## Reports:

### **YMCA - Fabel absent**

**Rec. Dept.** - Zeller reported the summer recreation program being finished. 27 seasonal staff for the year. A Kickball league meeting is coming up on Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Historically 8-10 teams for the league sent emails to previous year's teams to get them interested again. Senior games are coming up September 7-10<sup>th</sup>. Summer recreation will be assisting in disc golf, swimming, and pickleball. Ordered two mobile nets to use. Two locations for pickleball: inside the Boys and Girls Club and an outdoor one. 15-20 different events in the Senior Games between Pierre and Ft. Pierre. The Boys and Girls Club gym is being rented and used by different parties so far. Zeller gave a presentation at the Senior Center to get them interested in events available for them. Equipment list getting put together for the outdoor pool and what we will need for furnishings. Spreadsheet put together to look at current Summer Recreation Programs, what works, and what is not working. Looking into new programs for the future. Zeller discussed developing a better communication system with parents in case of sickness, injury, severe weather, kids in the wrong place, etc. if the kid would need to be picked up in a quicker time. Further discussion on the future project list for the Aquatic Center. Looking into new sheds for the YMCA/Aquatic Center for better storage and more space inside. Discussed other future project ideas. Zeller asked the board for ideas for future programs that could be implemented in the Rec Department.

DeMers commented on the leadership Zeller is bringing to the program and the passion he has for making City Recreation better for members of our community. DeMers asked if there was support needed from the city. Zeller mentioned possibly needing to purchase equipment or find staff for new programs.

**Parks Dept.** - Jensen reported this time of the year gets a little less busy. Two shade structures going up at LaBarge with no additional cost. The pickleball fence will go up. Two new irrigation zones in Harrison Park. Hydroseed water treatment area. Dutch Elm tree list putting together. Level all the sports fields. Going to start putting fertilizer in the parks. The Horseshoe state tournament is coming up with league softball finishing up. Flag football and soccer programs going down at the softball fields. Tipton shared a photo of the Pickleball court surface getting completed.

### **Old Business**

**2024 Budget Request** - Tipton reported the budget being in the finalizing process. DeMers asked Zeller if there was enough money in the budget to start some of the new programs. Zeller reported that there is enough money to start a few of these programs but will need to purchase some equipment for some of these new projects. Tipton reported that in the budget there is about \$562,000 for the new pool for operation (lifeguard, utilities, etc.). Tipton reported the budget for the lights at Griffin Park was cut out of the 2024 budget and moved to 2025 with the purpose of reengineering the light foundations. The resurfacing of the 8 tennis courts was approved. It is \$72,000 but there is over half being produced by outside entities.

**Playground - Steamboat Park** - Steamboat Park playground was approved and will be funded out of the Water Treatment Plant funds to replace what was taken out. Plan C of the playground plans was approved with a play structure and zipline. The project cost was about \$136,000. Discussion of what type of surface will be used around the play structures.

### **New Business**

**2023 Winter Parks Project List** - Jensen and Tipton reported lists for winter projects to show what the Park Department is working on. Discussion of the fountain for Mateer Park. Hanig discussed putting in more appealing landscaping on the Pierre side when the new bridge is done. Johnson reported similar areas that are getting torn up with construction that will also need attention. Euclid entry irrigation was damaged and that has caused it to look less appealing.

### **Dialogue**

Time did not allow for dialogue.

Motion by DeMers seconded by Hanig to adjourn the meeting at 5:01 p.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting is on September 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Arbach, Secretary