

**Minutes of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting
September 19, 2019**

The meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Dr. Craig Howard at 3:35 PM in the City Hall Prairie Room.

Members attending were: Don Templeton, Rachel Arbach, and Jeff Hanig. Also present was Commissioner Vona Johnson, Tom Farnsworth, Aaron Fabel, Mindy Cheap and Thomas Moore. Excused were John Simpson and Heather DeBoer. One guest Elizabeth Bye.

Arbach moved, second by Hanig to approve the minutes of the August 15 meeting. Motion carried.

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

Dr. Howard introduced Elizabeth Bye who is the SD Central Region tobacco prevention coordinator. Bye visited with the board about her role in tobacco prevention services and how she assists entities like the City of Pierre if they choose to advance any no smoking or no tobacco use policies. Currently the City of Pierre has a policy that smoking will not be permitted in any city buildings, vehicles or enclosed equipment. In the Parks and Recreation Division there is one park, Hyde Baseball Park, that has a no tobacco use policy and this is posted at the facility. This policy had been requested by the Post 8 baseball board and was adopted by the Park board. Bye also distributed some model policies for the board to review. The board thanked Bye for attending and took no formal action to advance a policy at this time.

Old Business

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

2019 Projects Started/Underway – OSA softball field improvements, Down's Marina/Lewis and Clark Trail section improvements, Griffin Park Storm Shelter/Community room, HVAC unit replacement at the Aquatic Center, Griffin Park baseball field renovation. The Chamber re-landscape project is started with the foliage removed and ground sprayed and the community orchard shed and shelter project has started by a contractor paid for by a grant received from Deseree Corrales and girl scouts. The Marilyn Tassler memorial park bench concrete pad is being built and will soon be complete.

Projects moved to 2020 – parking lot rehabilitation West of Dan Kelley field (street dept.), FEMA sponsored high water mark sign, Steamboat Trail rehabilitation (Amphitheatre section, engineering did not get this out to bid), Landscaping, seeding, irrigation around the new storm shelter/community room, Landscaping, seeding west of Amphitheatre, this has to wait until the new trail is poured to adjust elevations and drainage, Landscaping, seeding, irrigation repair in Griffin Park where sink hole repairs are being made, Dog Park project, Design and costs for Down's Marina peninsula fishing access pods (work with SDGF&P staff), request made for more ADA accessible park shelters.

Dog Park Committee – Dr. Howard reported on the meeting at the site Sept. 18 where a review of the entrance and parking area and tree buffer was illustrated. The group will now work on layout and full design for review by the Park board possibly at the October mtg.

2020 Budget Process – Staff and Commissioner Johnson reviewed the summary report on the 2020 budget for the Parks and Rec Division. Questions were answered for the board on the various projects and equipment that received funding.

New Business

ADA accessible park shelters – Thomas Moore illustrated with the google map where additional park shelters in Griffin Park could have sidewalks added to increase our number of ADA accessible picnic shelters. There had been a citizen request for this. The board agreed it would be good to continue to add these improvements and also at other parks as feasible with funds available.

RTP Grant Award – Farnsworth informed the board the City was successful in obtaining a Recreational Trails program award for \$95,000 which will be used for renovation of the asphalt trail in Griffin Park. This will be a 2020 project and work done by a contractor.

YMCA/Rec Dept. report – Mindy and Aaron reported the sand filters were replaced for the aquatic center pool, work was being done on the pump motor and a new impeller was needed. Balancing the chemicals in the water is a challenge but it is getting better. The new HVAC for the roof is being installed. The Y football programs are underway and Mindy will start her seasoned citizens programs within the next week. Zumba Gold, Tai Chi and chair exercise classes will be offered. October 20 will be the underwater pumpkin patch program at the aquatic center.

In dialogue discussion was held on having citizens take the lead on where the skate park could be located when the new pool is built. Commissioner Johnson knew of a person that may help in this matter. A new site needs to be found for this activity.

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 October 17 at 3:30pm.

Respectfully,

Tom Farnsworth, Director