

August 19, 2008

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2008, at 4 p.m. at the Elmwood Golf Course.

Members present: Anne Hajek, Steve Thomas, Kevin Nyberg, Michelle Erpenbach, and Sandra Pay.

Members absent: Michael Crane.

Park Department staff present: Don Kearney, Dave Fischer, Kelby Mieras, Barb Hermanson, and Tory Miedema.

Others present: Cheryl Rath, Theresa Stehly, Lyle Smith, Mike Van Burgen, Terry Wolf, Matt Hanson, and Ida Alderman.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2008, meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

No public input.

For committee reports, Michelle Erpenbach reported that the Marketing and Public Needs Committee discussed the Winter Activities Guide and received an update on the implementation of the ActiveNet system for reservations. Steve Thomas reported that all Park System Planning and Development Committee items are on the current Park Board agenda, except the Helen McKennan bust that was forwarded to the Visual Arts Commission for approval prior to Board action. Michelle Erpenbach reported that all Partnerships and Recreation Committee items are on the current Park Board agenda.

No unfinished business.

Under new business, Don Kearney and Tory Miedema presented the Nelson Park master plan. The report that was handed out is a summary of the results of the public input process held in October. The information contained in the report has not changed from that meeting. More detail and a preliminary cost estimate were added to aid in future programming of the improvements. A copy of the Nelson Park master plan has been put on the City website for the public to access. The first phase of the master plan is the Drake Springs pool replacement and is under construction. The Parks Department will look to program the future phases into the Capital Improvement Program as possible. The Fairfax Improvements discussed in the public input meeting are not being done in conjunction with the pool replacement due to budgetary constraints. Don is working with the Public Works Department to install speed tables on Fairfax Avenue to slow traffic down until they can budget for the street and water main improvements. Tory said the pool project is currently on schedule to be completed in May of 2009. A motion was made to approve the Nelson Park master plan. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, and Sandra Pay voting yes.

Dave Fischer and Lyle Smith presented the SEBA grandstands gifting agreement. SEBA would like to make these improvements to the championship field to be able to attract higher level tournaments such as state, regional, and national. The grandstands would provide sufficient permanent seating, a press box, and umpire and team dressing rooms. Staff has addressed all the concerns brought up during the committee meeting and

included them in the agreement. The grandstand and amenities would be available to non-SEBA entities with the terms and conditions to be approved by the Park and Recreation Department. A motion was made to approve the agreement. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, and Sandra Pay voting yes.

Kelby Mieras and Matt Hanson presented the Canaries Baseball gifting agreement. The gift is an 8 foot by 20 foot wall sponsored by Topps Baseball to honor baseball scouts. There are walls being constructed in seven different stadiums throughout the nation. The scouts honored on the wall must have scouted the areas that they are honored in. The Board asked if local sport heroes could be recognized on the back of the wall temporarily until the front fills up. Matt said he would check into the possibility with Topps. The Board also asked that a sign be placed on the wall explaining what the scouts did and their tie to South Dakota. Matt said he will do it, but it might not be up until next year since there are only three games left. A motion was made to approve the gifting agreement. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, and Sandra Pay voting yes.

Under the Director's Report, Don asked Tom Jansa to give the Board an update on what is happening at the golf courses. The 1st Tee program had 500 youth participants this year. The SD Golf Association is the nonprofit group, and their goal is to raise enough money to build a permanent junior program building in an area near the driving range. Dakota Golf added paved cart paths on the East Nine. They built a canopy and patio at the Prairie Green Clubhouse. The VFD pump at Prairie Green failed and was replaced this year. They also plan to fix the sunken areas on hole No. 8 at Elmwood by filling and regrading the area to drain. With savings on other projects in the Golf CIP, they will look to replace the A/C unit and fix the windows at the Prairie Green clubhouse. Dakota Golf is meeting with the GF&P to try to find a solution to the geese problems at Prairie Green. The Prairie Green clubhouse replacement project remained in the City CIP despite an effort to delete it from a City Council member.

Don shared a positive Comtrak (the City customer inquiry system) he received about the bike trail which he handed out. He also stated that while we have had complaints on the older parts of the trail, we have plans to resurface; those same people registering the complaints have now ridden the entire bike trail and found it to be very well kept. Don also shared a column he found about the reasons people choose to live where they do, which reinforces that quality of life amenities are the top reason people chose to live where they do.

Under reading of communications to the Board, Steve Thomas said he was to pass on thanks from a person who attended the McKennan 100-year celebration. She said a great job was done on the program and the improvements to the park looked very nice.

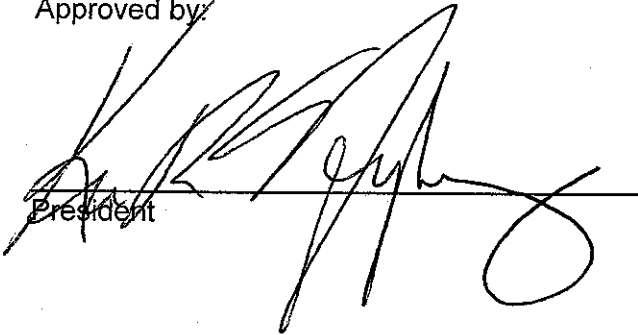
Under open board discussion, Steve Thomas brought up that McKennan Park is not just a park representing one nationality, but a public facility for all. Michelle Erpenbach said she is not in favor of any more sculptures being added into the southwest corner of McKennan Park. Kelby Mieras said there has not been significant vandalism at the Japanese Garden this summer. Tory Miedema said the levy raising project is on schedule and should be paved in the following couple weeks between 41st Street and 49th Street. There was a lot of discussion concerning the railroad relocation project. It was decided that the issue will be discussed at all committee meetings next month.

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There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously; meeting adjourned.

  
Secretary

Approved by:

  
President