

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD was held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008, at 4 p.m. at the Park Office Conference Room.

Members present: Steve Thomas, Kevin Nyberg, Michelle Erpenbach, Sandra Pay, Michael Crane and Brad Jans.

Members absent: Anne Hajek

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

Others present: Kirk Bloomendahl

It was moved by Michelle Erpenbach, seconded by Michael Crane, that the minutes of the February 18, 2008 meeting be approved. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

Kevin Nyberg asked for more information about the amendment request Don Kearney brought before the City Council for funding for 4 park/school sites. Don said he originally requested \$1.9 million, but increased the request to \$2.2 million at the first reading. He said the increase is due to the developer constructing the streets instead of the city, an increase of \$84,000 in fill from updated survey estimates, and contingencies. The second reading for this amendment will be taking place on March 10th. The funding would be taken from the \$7.1 million dollars in undesignated capital improvements funds left over from the past year. This request does not show up in the Capital Improvement Program worksheets the Park Board has been provided, but will show up when the actual park development is planned, if the amendment is approved by the City Council. Don noted that there are some councilors who would like to use the entire \$7.1 million dollars, plus \$4 million dollars per year taken from quality-of-life projects to fund street improvements. The \$4 million dollars per year would be taken primarily from the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program.

Kevin Nyberg said the board's review of the Capital Improvement Plan was their chance to discuss and influence the direction the department will be taking in the future. He also wanted to remind the board of their purpose, which is as follows:

The purpose of this Board shall be to establish, improve, care for, regulate and manage the system of public parks, zoological parks, parkways, and boulevards and to operate a system of public recreation, playgrounds and children's parks in and for the city in accordance with the empowering laws of the City of Sioux Falls as set forth in City Ordinance Chapter 27-17 and the laws of the State of South Dakota which are set forth in the South Dakota Compiled Laws at SDCL 9-38-1 et seq.

Tory Miedema went over the changes that were made to the 2009 – 2013 Capital Improvement Plan that was presented at the last meeting. The land acquisition

project was increased by \$350,000 to include funds for the purchase of the future southwest pool site.

The Zoo Improvements phase 2 project was changed from a portion of the Children's Zoo to the Gateway to the Zoo. This was done to coincide with the community appeals fund drive the Zoo was chosen for in 2010, which is designated for the Gateway to the Zoo project.

The Spellerberg Park project was increased by \$40,600 in 2009 to include funding to convert two tennis courts to youth courts for the Quick Start program the SFTA is trying. The department was approached by the SFTA this year with the idea, but no funding was available to do the work this year. They will start the program this year using temporary nets to judge the popularity of the program. If it is successful, the courts will be converted next year permanently.

The Memorial Park project was increased by \$284,000 to include funding to complete the master plan improvements. This project was in the program last year and was taken out to help balance the citywide capital program. The project was removed so staff could reevaluate the way the department provided ice skating opportunities throughout the city. These dollars represent the features of the master plan that haven't been constructed and don't involve ice skating.

Sandra Pay asked why there was \$10,000 in the Van Eps project instead of the \$15,000 Tory said he would request. Tory explained that a master plan for a typical 5 to 10 acre park costs around \$15,000, but Van Eps Park was much smaller and a master plan could be done for \$10,000.

Kevin Nyberg asked why there weren't any Drake Springs Pool/Nelson Park projects in the program beyond the pool. Don Kearney said the department is waiting for the master plan work to be completed before proposing any projects in the program. The master plan is being done in conjunction with the pool project and will include a phasing plan and detailed cost estimates. He said he expected to see a phase of the master plan submitted for next year's program. Everyone agreed to wait until next year to propose another project in the park. Michael Crane asked about the median and turnabout construction on Fairfax Avenue. Tory said the plan was to try striping Fairfax Avenue this year as a temporary solution until the medians can be budgeted and constructed. The Park Board was not in favor of the striping plan. Don said staff would bring this plan to the Planning and Development Committee for comments before any decisions are made. Steve asked if crosswalk lights could be put in similar to what is done at the hospitals and schools. Tory said the system costs \$15,000, so staff would like to see how the pool functions prior to spending the money. Don also mentioned that the parking lot was sized to handle the all of the pool parking needs.

Kevin Nyberg said he would like to revisit the priorities at Falls Park. Don Kearney said the master plan will be redone this year through a grant received from the Xcel Foundation. Once the master plan is completed, staff will review the priorities and bring them to the Park Board for discussion.

Michelle Erpenbach asked why there are no other bike trail projects identified in the program after 2009. Don Kearney said staff is working on trails through the Dawley development and along the future SD100. He said once the projects in the program are complete, staff would work on securing more federal funding to build other segments. Kevin Nyberg asked about widening the trails where possible. Tory Miedema said that is being addressed with the bike trail reconstruction project.

Michelle Erpenbach asked if we needed to reserve a spot for a new hockey arena at Sherman Park. Don Kearney said we'd have to amend the master plan to do that. None of the improvements done at Sherman Park have affected the location so far, and staff will meet with the hockey association before proceeding with improvements in that area. The hockey association has been looking at other potential sites for the arena. Don also mentioned that the idea of the city selling the SFIRC and contributing the proceeds towards a new arena was still a possibility.

Michelle Erpenbach asked what happened to the in-line rink project at Tuthill Park. Don Kearney said it was not a high priority for the department and there is no longer a representative user group asking for it. Steve Thomas asked if the disc golf course upgrades at Tuthill Park should be moved forward. Tory Miedema said the plan was to build the disc golf course at Elmwood Park first to alleviate the demand at Tuthill Park and to provide a place to play while the upgrades at Tuthill are taking place. Dave Fischer said we may get some new ideas for the upgrade during the design of the Elmwood course. Don said staff will look for an opportunity to move it forward during the balancing process.

Michelle Erpenbach asked why the Explorer Elementary community center got moved from 2009 to 2013. Don Kearney said it was moved last year to balance the citywide capital program.

The Park Board members did not think they received a copy of the approved 2008-2012 Capital Improvement Program. Staff thought it was sent through email, but will make sure they get the approved copy this year.

Michelle Erpenbach asked why there wasn't a play structure replacement project in 2008. Tory Miedema said it was moved to 2009 to balance the citywide capital program. Michelle also asked about the rubber surfacing for the 2013 project. Tory said the department is looking to switch from fibar surfacing to rubber due to maintenance concerns. He said the department will be installing the rubber surfacing in a project this year to see how it functions and holds up, with the idea of converting to rubber for all replacements in the future.

Kevin Nyberg asked if the Southwest Family Aquatic Center was the next priority for aquatics in Sioux Falls. The board and staff discussed the renovation of old pools and the construction of this pool, as well as timelines and the priorities. Don Kearney said staff will compile some information and bring it to committee for further discussion. It was agreed that there is plenty time to adjust the projects to fit the priorities since this project is in the back end of the program.

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Michelle Erpenbach asked if there has been a commitment for the donated funds to help build the Junior Football complex. Kirk Bloomendahl, Junior Football representative, said they have committed to come up with those funds through in-kind donations or sponsorships. They are interested in building or raising funds for the football related items, while the City would build the infrastructure and do the initial site work. The Junior Football Association and City staff are looking for possible future sites to build this complex.

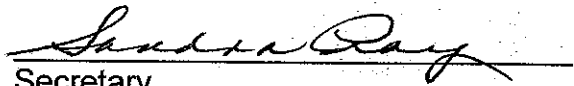
Michelle Erpenbach asked if there were any commitments for the donated funds to build the refrigerated outdoor ice system. Don Kearney said there weren't any commitments to date. Staff is looking for possible donors and hopes to find one by that time. There were other Board members that would like to see the rink built to provide another winter recreational opportunity.

Steve Thomas made a motion to include "Martin Luther King Memorial concept plan" in the project description for Priority 56 Van Eps Park Improvements. Michelle Erpenbach seconded the motion. Motion was passed with Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

The Board discussed the CIP approval process and decided to make the first Tuesday of March a regular meeting every year for the CIP approval. They also would like staff to present the CIP at each committee meeting prior to the regular February meeting. Staff agreed.

Steve Thomas made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Program 2009-2013. Michelle Erpenbach seconded the motion. Motion was passed with Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

There being no further business, it was moved by Michael Crane and seconded by Michelle Erpenbach to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously; meeting adjourned.


Secretary

Approved by:


President