

November 18, 2008

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD was held on Tuesday, November 18, 2008, at 4 p.m. at the Morningside Community Center.

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

Members absent: None.

Parks and Recreation staff present: Don Kearney, Dave Fischer, Kelby Mieras, Barb Hermanson, Tory Miedema, and Mike Tobin (Recreation Intern).

Others present: Chris Hill, Tom Jansa, Teri Ellis Schmidt, Karen Bankowski, Jon Jacobson, and Marty Wanzerski.

A motion was made to amend the minutes of the October 28, 2008, meeting by making the following corrections. Michael Crane reported on the Park System Planning and Development Committee items and Michelle Erpenbach reported on the Partnerships and Recreation Committee items. Michael Crane abstained from voting on the *Going Home Sculpture* gifting agreement. Anne Hajek's name was misspelled in places in the minutes. The motion to amend the minutes was passed. The motion to approve the minutes as amended was passed.

No public input.

For committee reports, Sandra Pay reported that all Marketing and Public Needs Committee items are on the current agenda. The Park System Planning and Development Committee did not meet. Michelle Erpenbach reported that all Partnerships and Recreation Committee items are on the current Park Board agenda.

No unfinished business.

Under new business, Kelby Mieras, Steve Thomas, and Jon Jacobson presented the Helen McKennan portrait bust donation. Kelby said the donation has been approved by the Visual Arts Commission. Steve said the Helen McKennan Foundation raised the money for the bust and commissioned Marty Wanzerski to produce it. Jon provided a handout of the master plan for McKennan Park and said the bust was planned to be located south of the pool along the primary walkway near the band shell. The bust will be fixed on a fieldstone base with landscaping, lighting, and a plaque about the piece. The Board wanted to make sure this piece was not located under a black walnut tree since the walnuts stain the concrete surrounding the bust. Jon assured them it is not. A motion was made to approve the Helen McKennan portrait bust donation. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas abstained, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Dave Fischer and Chris Hill presented the Municipal Bandmaster agreement. The existing agreement expires in December 2008. This would be a new three-year agreement. The changes made in the agreement include pay increases, a termination clause for the bandmaster, and requiring an annual report. The pay increases include a 7 percent increase in 2009 for cost of living and merit, and a 3.5 percent increase in 2010 and 2011 for cost of living. The termination clause requires the bandmaster to give

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90 days notice of termination so the department can find a replacement. The bandmaster has always given an annual report, but now it is required in the contract. A motion was made to approve the Municipal Bandmaster agreement. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Chris Hill presented the Municipal Band annual report. The attendance for the weekly performances has risen to 325 to 450 patrons per week, with the grand finale concert drawing around 700 to 800 people. In years past, only the grand finale would draw 300 to 500 patrons. Chris attributes the rise in attendance to increased publicity through radio station interviews and playing at large individual events such as the Mayor's Picnic at McKennan Park and the new annual concert at Veterans' Memorial Park. The band is able to play for people at these events that don't attend the weekly concerts. The Municipal Band also performed with three different nationally renowned soloists and one guest conductor.

Teri Ellis-Schmidt presented the Falls Park Visitors' Center annual report. She provided a report showing the number of visitors broken down by time of the year and where they are from. The visitor numbers were strong for the year, but are expected to drop in the next few months due to the national economy. The fluctuation in visitor numbers throughout the year can be attributed to weather, large tournaments, and special events. She passed around samples of the advertisements they have run in dozens of different publications. Teri reminded everyone to come to the Winter Wonderland event taking place on Saturday. The Board asked if the CVB has started to promote the Falls Park shelter that is due to be completed in May 2009. Teri said they haven't yet, but will include it in the next Falls Park brochure and the Summer Activities Guide.

Don Kearney and Tom Jansa presented the 2009 golf fees proposal. Tom said the proposed fees represent small increases across the board. Dakota Golf Management compared the fees to area golf courses and found them to be comparable or lower. The Board asked if these increases are necessary in light of the current economic conditions. Tom said they are necessary due to fixed costs and wages at the golf course going up. He said these fees represent the most they can charge and they have the ability to lower fees if needed to keep people coming to the courses. Don mentioned that the Golf Advisory Board recommended raising the fees at the Elmwood Golf Course higher than what Dakota Golf Management requested. Tom also said that the rates at the Prairie Green Golf Course remained the same as this year. A motion was made to approve the 2009 golf fees proposal. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Tom Jansa presented the 2009 Dakota Golf Management budget. The major changes from the 2008 budget are a higher budget for leased equipment and fuel usage. Dakota Golf has decided to lease all the fine-mowing equipment instead of buying to ensure that the equipment is new and stays in good condition. They have heard a lot of comments from golfers about how better the playing conditions have been since they have switched to the leased equipment. The Board requested to have Tom provide comparatives to the prior year's budget next year. Tom said he would do that. The Board wanted to point out that the city received \$280,000 in revenue and \$280,000 in course improvements this year. A motion was made to approve the 2009 Dakota Golf Management budget. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting

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yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Tom Jansa presented the 2008—2012 Golf CIP amendments. The pump for the Tomar well that provides water for the Prairie Green Golf Course needed to be replaced. The air conditioning and furnace at the Prairie Green clubhouse needed to be repaired. The window casings for the clubhouse also needed to be replaced. Tom said he thinks these items will be able to be done without going over the total budgeted CIP amount for 2008. A motion was made to approve the 2008—2012 Golf CIP amendments. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Tom Jansa presented the 2009—2013 Golf CIP. The large items for 2009 are restrooms and shelters, which have been a recurring request from numerous golfers. The majority of the items in the CIP focus on Elmwood because it is an older course in need of updates. The Board said some golf courses were taking out cart paths because they affect play and wondered if Dakota Golf considered this. Tom said they have not heard many problems with cart paths affecting play. They like the paths because they direct traffic during substandard conditions. A motion was made to approve the 2009—2013 Golf CIP. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Dave Fischer presented the Pasley scoreboard advertising agreement extension. The existing agreement is a three-year agreement expiring in December 2008 with an option for a three-year extension. The Sioux Empire Baseball Association provided the scoreboards and maintains them. The agreement allows them to sell advertising on the scoreboards with the revenue going toward the maintenance of the boards and the youth program. The advertising is subject to approval by the department. A motion was made to approve the Pasley scoreboard advertising agreement extension. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Dave Fischer presented the proposed additions and/or changes to the Park Policies and Guidelines. A summary of the changes and additions was provided in the Board packets. The Board had a lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of prohibiting metal detectors in the park system. A motion was made to amend the proposed addition to the Park Policies and Guidelines regarding placing banners on the Phillips Avenue Arch to read "Nothing will be allowed to be hung on or attached to the Phillips Avenue Arch, pillars, or structure of the arch". Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Kevin Nyberg voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes. A motion was made to approve the proposed additions and/or changes to the Park Policies and Guidelines as amended. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting no, Kevin Nyberg voting no, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, and Michael Crane voting yes.

Kevin Nyberg reported that the Mayor has appointed Pat Lloyd to the Park Board effective January 2009.

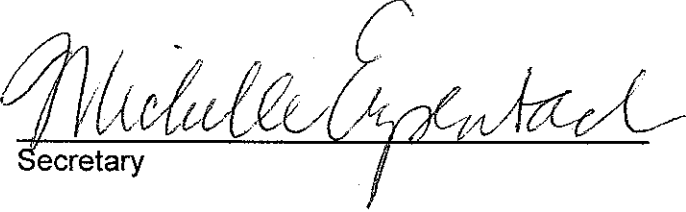
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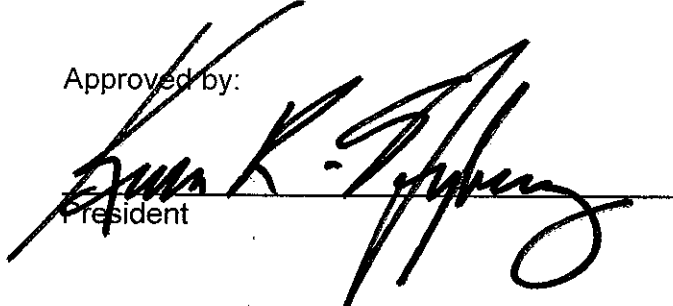
Under the Director's Report, Don said the approved CIP 2009—2013 worksheet was in the Park Board packet. Park staff is working on the NRPA accreditation process to become a certified park and recreation agency by the national agency. The process will take 12 months, with the department hoping to become certified in the fall of 2010. The accreditation process focuses on best practices for all the department's processes and procedures. The contractor will be working on the Drake Springs Family Aquatic Center through the winter using cold weather construction techniques. Work will also continue through the winter on the Falls Park shelter for the Farmers' Market. The contractor will have the shelter done by the May 2009 completion date, but the associated parking will be gravel until the asphalt plants open in the spring. Asphalt crews will be working at Tuthill Park for the next two days with the hopes of completing the top lift of asphalt on the lots and roads. If they do not finish the asphalt work, the contractor will transition the asphalt where needed and open the park for the winter. Michael Crane said the effort to protect Great Bear from the adjacent mining operation went well. A number of stipulations were added to the mining company's pending conditional use permit. Mike Tobin presented the results of his study on the Spencer Dog Park. He went to the park three times per day in October to count the people and dogs and conduct surveys. The park had an average of 40 people and 35 dogs visit per day. The visitation fluctuated depending on the weather, time of day, and day of the week. He noted that the park was in good condition, patrons were following the rules, and that there were adequate doggie bag dispensers and garbage cans. One area of concern he noted was that owners were not picking up after their dogs outside of the dog park from the parking lot to the gates. He recommended installing doggie bag dispensers and signs at the parking lot to correct this problem.

No reading of communications to the Board.

No open board discussion.

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

  
Secretary

Approved by:  
  
President