

March 3, 2009

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at 4 p.m. at the Park Office Conference Room.

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

Members absent: Kevin Nyberg.

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

Others present: Larry Leveranz.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2009, meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

Under new business, Don Kearney and Tory Miedema presented the 2010–2014 CIP proposal. Don said the Zoo project in the CIP was cut considerably because the Parks portion of the plan can't absorb large projects like these in sales tax and keep up with the other needs in the rest of the park system. Don shared a comment from Kevin, who was out of town on business, regarding the importance of sustaining the flow through the Big Sioux River to enhance the scenic and recreational value of the River Greenway. Don said there have been discussions about inflatable dams and other methods to ensure adequate flows and that this will be discussed further with the permitting agencies when we are working on the Sixth to Eighth Street improvements.


The Board also discussed the future sunken garden feature at Nelson Park. The Board felt that the project should stay as proposed in the CIP. Don said 65 percent of the proposed CIP was dedicated to improvements and maintenance at existing parks, while 35 percent was dedicated to the development of new parks and expansion of existing parks. On average, the department proposed 21 major construction projects per year in the CIP from 2005 to 2009. From 2010 to 2014, the department is proposing 15 projects per year. The average sales tax dollar requests from the department for 2010 to 2014 are \$6.8 million per year. Tory went through the rest of the changes requested by the board during the last meeting. A motion was made to approve the 2010–2014 CIP. Motion was passed with Anne Hajek voting yes, Steve Thomas voting yes, Michelle Erpenbach voting yes, Sandra Pay voting yes, Michael Crane voting yes, and Pat Lloyd voting yes.

Don Kearney told the board he had been contacted by residents in the McKennan Park neighborhood concerned about the restroom/tennis/maintenance building the department is planning to construct this year. They are concerned about the proposed location of the building, its appearance, and the activity the building will attract in the future. They also believe the park doesn't need another restroom and the funding should be used to renovate the existing restroom. The neighbors asked to attend the informational meeting on Monday, March 2, so the City Council could hear their concerns. To address their concerns, the department offered to plant large pine trees to the east of the building to screen the view from the houses across the street, as well as move the building 25 feet to the west. Don also informed the residents that there are four Police Officers dedicated to parks, as well as plenty of activity in the area to help discourage vandalism and indecent behavior. Staff provided usage statistics for the

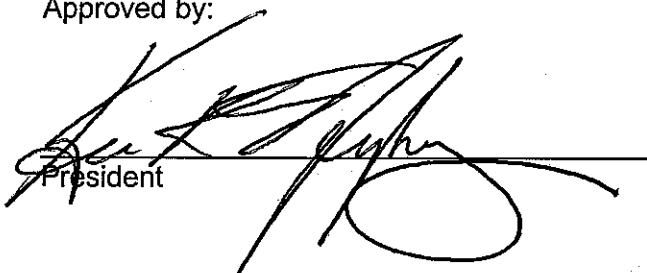
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tennis courts, picnic shelter, and wading pool to justify the need for the additional restrooms. The City Council asked staff to delay the bid for two weeks to hold a public meeting to further discuss the issues. The consensus of the Board was that the department should build the project as planned.

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


Secretary

Approved by:


President