A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, at 4 p.m. at the Morningside Community Center.

Members present: Kevin Nyberg, Sandra Pay, Michael Crane, Patti Abdallah, Mark Millage, and new Board member Lorrae Lindquist who was appointed on October 18, 2010.

Members absent: Pat Lloyd.

Parks and Recreation staff present: Dave Fischer, Assistant Director; Kelby Mieras, Operations Manager; Alicia Luther, Recreation Manager; and Tory Miedema, Park Development Specialist.

Others present: Dan Grider, Greater Bear Recreation; Jerry Gross, Thurman, Comes, Foley & Company; Tom Jansa, Dakota Golf Management; Lary Etten and Deana Larson, Falls Park Sound and Light Show; Cheryl Rath; and John Mieras.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2010, meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

No public input.

For committee reports, Kevin Nyberg reported that all Marketing and Public Needs Committee items are on the current agenda. The Park System Planning and Development Committee did not meet. Patti Abdallah reported that the Partnerships and Recreation Committee discussed future uses of the Horsebarn at Falls Park and pool usage figures for 2010. All other items discussed are on the current agenda.

No unfinished business.

Under new business, Dan Grider and Jerry Gross presented the Great Bear audit report. In prior years, Great Bear Inc. has been required to perform a financial review. This is the first year an audit has been required through the management agreement with the City. Since this was the first year of being audited, no comparative data was available. Jerry reviewed the report in detail and explained the accounting principles used and estimates made by management in evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The audit found that the financial statements presented a fair financial position of Great Bear Inc., and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The audit provided two recommendations to improve Great Bear Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting. They recommended segregation of duties and preparing GAAP financial statements, but note that organizations of this size typically don't have the resources to do these things or choose to run more efficiently. General recommendations for improvement included making payments only from original invoices that are canceled with the date they are paid, using software or some organized method to track receivables, and keeping written minutes of their Board meetings. A motion was made to accept the audit report. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.
Tom Jansa presented the proposed 2011 Dakota Golf budget. Dakota Golf is proposing nominal rate increases, which equate to a 1.5 to 2 percent increase in total. The golf rates are comparable or slightly lower than the other public courses in the area. The budget and rates have been approved by the Golf Advisory Board. A motion was made to approve the 2011 Dakota Golf budget. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.

Tom Jansa presented the Golf Course CIP. The 2010 projects changed to take advantage of an opportunity to use a specialty construction company to reconstruct the bunkers at Elmwood in one month instead of doing the work in house throughout the summer. Some smaller projects were postponed as a result. The main projects in the 2011 CIP are reconstructing six bunkers at Prairie Green using the same company, repair work on the maintenance building at Elmwood, and the first phase of an aggressive tree replacement plan in advance of the Emerald Ash Borer. A motion was made to approve the Golf Course CIP. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.

Lary Etten and Deana Larson presented the Falls Park Sound and Light Show annual report. The attendance for the year was estimated at 35,375, which is about the same as 2009. The production of a new show has been delayed because the Sound and Light Show Committee has only raised half of the funding required to produce a new show, as well as possible coming changes to Falls Park under the updated master plan. A motion was made to accept the report. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.

Dave Fischer, Lary Etten, and Deana Larson presented the Falls Park Sound and Light Show agreement. This is a three-year management agreement to run the Sound and Light Show, including the work done during Winter Wonderland. A new section was included to allow the City to reduce the funding in the agreement if the City receives insufficient yearly revenue to meet all of its budgeted expenditures. The funding would be reduced by a percentage amount equal to the percentage by which the City’s general fund operating budget is negatively impacted by spending constraints implemented at the direction of the City’s Mayor. Parks and Recreation spends $13,000 to $15,000 supporting the show in addition to the management fees in the agreement. The Board expressed their concern about getting the new show produced to freshen the experience. A motion was made to approve the agreement. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.

Dave Fischer presented the Park Board Committee assignments for 2011. The Marketing and Public Needs Committee will consist of Kevin Nyberg as chair, Mark Millage, and Pat Lloyd. The Park System Planning and Development Committee will consist of Michael Crane as chair, Kevin Nyberg, and Sandra Pay. The Partnership and Recreation Committee will consist of Pat Lloyd as chair, Patti Abdallah, and Lorrae Lindquist. A motion was made to approve the assignments. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.
Dave Fischer presented the 2011 Parks and Recreation Board meeting calendar. A motion was made to approve the calendar. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.

Under the Director's report, Alicia Luther handed out updated pool reports with the Pioneer Spray Park attendance taken out for comparison purposes. The Falls Park Winter Wonderland kickoff is scheduled for Saturday, November 20, 2010, at 6 p.m. The Greenway project groundbreaking is scheduled for 11 a.m., Monday, November 22, 2010, at Cherapa Place. Kevin Nyberg will be speaking on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Board. Staff will try to reschedule the 2010 December Park Board meeting from December 21 to an earlier date to stay away from the holidays.

No reading of communications to the Board.

Under open Board discussion, the Board discussed the railroad relocation topic and will continue to follow the developments. The Board would like to discuss strategies for acquiring the Willow Run Golf Course at an upcoming Planning and Development Committee meeting. They would also like to discuss the Falls Park Sound and Light Show further at a committee meeting, in particular the need to produce a new show.

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

Secretary

Approved by:

President