March 15, 2011

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at 4 p.m. at the Kuehn Community Center.

Members present: Kevin Nyberg, Sandra Pay, Michael Crane, Patti Abdallah, Mark Millage, and Lorrae Lindquist.

Members absent: Pat Lloyd.

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

Others present: Alan Weiskamp and Ron Mielke, TSP, Inc.; Lyle Smith, Sioux Empire Baseball Association; and Cheryl Rath.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2011, meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2011, meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

No public input.

For committee reports, the Marketing and Public Needs Committee did not meet. Michael Crane reported that the Park System Planning and Development Committee discussed the Spellerberg Park planning process. Patti Abdallah reported that the Partnerships and Recreation Committee discussed a future gifting agreement. All other items are on the current agenda.

No unfinished business.

Under new business, Dave Fischer and Lyle Smith presented the Terrace Park scoreboard advertising agreement with Sioux Empire Baseball Association (SEBA). It is a three-year agreement with an option to extend an additional three years. The existing agreement has been in place for nine years and has expired. SEBA provided the scoreboards and is allowed to sell the advertising with approval of the content by the department. SEBA keeps all the proceeds to continue their program. Smith also gave an update on the grandstands construction project funded by SEBA. The grandstands will be ready for the upcoming season with a ribbon cutting scheduled for June 14, 2011. A motion was made to approve the agreement. Motion was passed with Nyberg voting
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yes, Pay voting yes, Crane voting yes, Abdallah voting yes, Millage voting yes, and Lindquist voting yes.

Tory Miedema and Alan Weiskamp gave the Veterans’ Memorial Park Interpretive Center presentation. The proposed location of the building is in the northwest corner of the park. The location is an unimproved part of the park close to parking that wouldn’t interfere with sight lines or other uses of the park. The building was patterned after a successful military museum in Madison, Wisconsin. All major wars and conflicts would be represented in the building by displays with an emphasis on local ties and contributions to the war efforts.

Alan Weiskamp and the Veterans’ Advisory Board worked with Bill Hoskins from the Siouxland Heritage Museum to lay out the space, formulate an operations plan, and calculate yearly operational and exhibit costs. Ron Mielke said the Veterans’ Advisory Board is working on a proposal to submit to the Community Appeals in August for the 2014 fund-raising slot. They also plan to continue talks with the Siouxland Heritage Museum and the City to identify how the Interpretive Center will be operated and where the funding for those costs would come from. Their goal is to complete design in 2014 and construct in 2015. An informational packet was provided in the Park Board packets with more detailed information.

Don Kearney presented the Falls Park Horse Barn RFP. He highlighted the major points of the RFP draft for the Board. The Board was concerned with the timeline for proposals. Staff agreed to push the deadline back one month to allow more time. The Board would also like the RFP to be more definitive regarding the compatibility of the proposed uses with existing park uses. Staff will revise to require the proposed use of the Horse Barn to be compatible with existing uses within the park. The Board also would like the City to require all subletting of the building to be approved. Staff will revise the RFP to say all subletting subject to prior approval from the City. Staff will also clarify that monthly electricity usage will be metered and be the responsibility of the applicant.

Under the Director’s report, Dave Fischer and Kelby Mieras gave an update on what steps the City and the department have taken in the flood response plan. Fischer reported that the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been activated and is meeting daily. They are working with the Army Corps of Engineers to let an emergency project to temporarily raise the levees to provide more protection from the flood. The City is concentrating their efforts to protect critical infrastructure first. Mieras said the department has moved equipment to high ground, placed barricades at parks in preparation for closing the parks, and shut sanitary sewer valves in the restrooms to prevent
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floodwater from entering the sewer system. Kearney reported that airport officials are revisiting the runway safety area/golf course encroachment issue again. They have provided funds to hire a golf course architect to design potential mitigation plans to lessen the impact to the golf course.

The department will be requesting an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program to spend the Big Sioux River Environmental Trust Fund dollars on the section of greenway from Eighth Street to the railroad bridge instead of Sixth Street to Falls Park. This will help the department keep up with the private redevelopment. Staff met with TSP to discuss the Spellerberg master plan update and expects a proposal shortly. The new bridge on the greenway project will probably not get set next week as planned due to the flooding conditions.

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