

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Parks and Recreation Conference Room
Thursday, February 11, 2016 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Justin Carlson	Roy Christensen	Jim Crook	Emily Graul
Peter Levitov	Anne Pagel	Jeff Schwebke	Kathi Wieskamp
Robert Ripley	Larry Hudkins	Bradley Brandt	Joe Tidball
Susan Deitchler	Sherrie Nelson	Todd Fitzgerald	

Members Absent:

Olive Martin

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director
Jerry Shorney, Assistant Director
Terry Genrich, Assistant Director
Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Adm.
JJ Yost, Planning Design & Const. Manager
Jocelyn Golden, City Law Department

Call to Order & Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act': As per law, Chairperson Peter Levitov announced that the Board follows the regulations of the Open Meetings Act, and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS (other than those listed on the current Agenda):

None.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** . It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes from December, voted, minutes approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Futures Committee – Bob Ripley (Chair) 471-0419 or 488-5131**

Jerry said Bob is not in attendance, he gave revisions that were received by e-mail basically giving rule and regulation amendments regarding the Dog Facilities Master Plan. It put protocol issues on whom to call for enforcement to problems at the dog parks. It was removed to have a small dog park & charge admission to the dog parks. Location recommendation was to change Oak Creek Dog Park to Roper Dog Park and some changes to Rickman's run. Peter asked for comments. Jerry stated that we did work with the Friends of the Dog Parks regarding rules and regulation changes.

A gentleman that owns an indoor dog run offered their services to help the Dog Parks. Friends of the Dog Parks opened their membership up to the public and have added 22 new members. Friends of the Dog Parks are also offering their services to help grow Dog Parks.

Ann asked if the public trainers and Veterinarians were asked to complete the survey. Jerry said no, we did not reach out to individuals but we advertised that to everyone that we were taking comments and doing a survey.

Someone said that water is an issue with Richman's Run area. Her dog gets ear infections from the water so she hopes the new areas don't have a creek thru them. Jerry said we are talking about 4 dog parks, one in each quadrant and not all of them will have water issues. Jerry stated he was asked if we were going to charge and if we were in competition with private companies and said no to each. A correction was made to state that Kenl Inn downtown is now called Wolf. They are now two separate enterprises. Voted: unanimous to adopt the Master Plan.

- **Fees & Facilities Committee – Susan Deitchler (Chair) 488-4224**

Recommendation to approve Terry Genrich's suggestions to change fees for some of the programs in Recreation. Terry gave us the goals for last year and which ones we met the goal, including Ager Indoor Playground and before and after school programs. Unfortunately, due to the wet spring, we didn't meet cost recovery goals at pools. We have a new slid going in at Star City Shores and hope that will raise revenue. New youth activities are being introduced to help raise interest and revenue. Nature Center programs generated 60% recovery for them. Terry said this helps to determine what fees need to be charged to get the revenue needed for the programs.

Neighborhood pools did not meet the recovery goal. Lynn stated that we try for a 60% recovery. Bob stated that there is a lot more competition for children's time and energy now than there used to be. Terry stated that by shortening up public hours at the pools it has opened up rentals at the pools and that has helped. Air Park is the least revenue, it is a large pool. Star City Shores covers most of its operating expenses. Lynn stated that pool attendance has gone down as has adult softball and golf. Before and after school programs continue to grow. Trail use is one of the most significantly used park features in the City.

Terry was asked if the adaptive programs had a fee increase and answered yes. Lynn discussed the way fees are determined. Lynn stated that we are asking the Board to approve the new fee structure. Peter asked for more clarification next year on determining factors to change fees. It was also asked for dollar amounts to see what 60% represents. This will help determine how much the public pays vs how much the public pays thru taxes. Peter asked for the vote: unanimously approved

- **Golf Report – Brad Brandt (Chair) 473-9619;**

Last Saturday was the last meeting of the Golf Committee. They had a telephone call to help determine the best course of action. They have come up with some new ideas to create revenue. They will soon be presenting their suggestions to the Mayor. An article was in the paper of ideas that were brought up. The group was not in agreement on a professional model. Everyone agrees that something needs to change but are not sure of what the new model is. Keno is budgeted to give about a million dollars to the golf program. We are hoping for more from them. They will present ideas to this Board in March. Lynn stated that they have discussed a golf manager, a contracted golf management or which is best. The group is split on ideas. Golf needs to be thought of as recreation programs instead of enterprise programs. They will probably need additional funding sources to keep them going. Discussion of bond issues, keno funds and other fund raising sources took place. The Mayor thinks of the Golf program as a community challenge, not just a golf program challenge. That is the reason that non-golfers were on the committee. Lynn suggested reaching out to the Journal Star

editorial group to put an article in the paper to bring more awareness to the community of the golf issues.

Recommendation regarding Golf Membership and Pass Program for 2016: Brad stated that most of the passes are at a reduced price, especially for senior members. Peter asked for the vote on the membership and pass program, voted unanimously approved.

- **Executive Committee – Peter Levitov (Chair) 488-2742**

Last fall it was noted that no officer can hold the same office for more than two consecutive years. A slate of officer candidates was presented. Chair: Anne Pagel, Vice Chair: Brad Brant, Peter asked for other nominations, none given, voted: unanimously approved. Congratulations Ann, voted on vice chair, unanimously approved, Congratulations Brad.

Lynn asked Anne and Brad how they would like to handle chair positions for committees? He passed around a list of committees to let people sign up for whichever committee they would like to serve on. Peter suggested sending an e-mail to all Board members to let the Board members not in attendance to add their name to a committee.

Lynn thanked Peter for being Chair on behalf of the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

