

## CLARIFICATION

Regarding two points brought up at the Parks/Recreation Subcommittee meeting December 4, 2001

I. A statement was made by one of the "Friends of Mary Hall Park" that the proposed shelter/classroom facility would be in the flood plain. The response by James Kissel, president of Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Committee, Inc., was that it would be located on a hill and would be above the 500-year flood level. The Base Flood Elevation below the hill and just below the bicycle path crossing of the creek (middle of the park) is 3,319 feet elevation. The land where the base of the building is planned on the hillside is 3,326 feet to 3,328, for a difference of some 7 to 9 feet above the Base Flood Elevation.

II. A statement was made that the disturbed area is some 40 percent of the park. The park is approximately 10 acres, which is 435,000 square feet. The proposed nature trail is approximately 800 feet long and, at 8 feet wide, would require 6,400 square feet, for a total of 1.47 percent of the park. If the percentage figure was supposed to be related to the riparian area, and the riparian area is 3 acres, the percentage is 4.9; if greater than 3 acres, the percentage is proportionately less.

*James / Kissel*  
*K-MHPK, Inc*  
*President*

## **Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Committee, Inc.**

P.O. Box 9711, Rapid City, SD 57709-9711

### **What Is Kiwanis?**

Kiwanis is a worldwide service organization of women and men who share the challenge of community and world improvement. Kiwanis clubs take on humanitarian and civic projects that public authorities are not prepared or able to perform.

### **What Is The Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Committee?**

It is a six-person committee authorized by Rapid City's two Kiwanis clubs in 1999 to develop the possibility of a recreational/ecological learning center park for the citizens of Rapid City. On August 27, 1999, it was chartered by the State of South Dakota as a non-profit corporation "to develop and operate a children's recreational park and learning center in cooperation with the Rapid City Public Schools as an area for ecological studies." A month later the Internal Revenue Service declared it exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.

### **What Were The Objectives?**

The initial objectives were (1) to provide a non-structured play area for area youth and (2) to provide an environmental study area for the region's school systems. Capital outlay would come from the Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Committee, Inc., and routine maintenance would be provided by the city parks department.

### **Why Was This Location Chosen For A Park?**

The property known as Mary Hall Park was originally part of the homestead of William and Mary Hall who purchased 160 acres west of Rapid City in 1892 including 9.7 acres that is now the park. Their son and daughter, John and Ida Hall-Reder, conveyed to Rapid City all interest in the parcel in 1952, stipulating that the land be used for "public park purposes only." Very little development ever occurred. In April, 1999, committee members,

wishing to undertake a project for civic betterment, learned that Helen Daughenbaugh, Mary Hall's granddaughter, would support and approve developing the site as an educational and recreational area. Several other potential sites were ruled out.

### **What Legal Steps Did The Committee Take?**

The committee conferred early with the city attorney relative to a variety of issues. It made its first presentation to the Parks Subcommittee of the Common Council's Capital Improvements Committee. On December 9, 1999, the Rapid City Planning Commission approved a Use on Review in Brookside Subdivision "to allow a park on tract A of Brookside Subdivision, Section 4, T1N, R7E, BHM, Rapid City, etc." The Common Council approved the Use on Review on December 20, 1999. All actions since are within the proposals as presented to the Common Council in the Use-On-Review process. Kiwanis-Mary Hall is a city park.

### **How Did The Committee Proceed?**

The committee sought input and assistance from a variety of sources including a representative of the Rapid City Board of Education, biology teachers, the city park superintendent and other city employees, park developers in Sioux Falls, and representatives of the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. It solicited gifts, the most valuable being a layout plan courtesy of Wyss Associates, Inc. Both Rapid City Kiwanis clubs provided money for operational expenses, and the committee accepted donations of money, equipment, materials and services from individuals, companies and organizations. The value of 21 gifts exceeded \$22,000 on November 15, 2001. Since its inception, the committee has spent more than \$2,100 for liability insurance, charter application, a non-profit filing fee, materials and equipment rental. It obligated itself for construction work and future capital improvements, including signage. In late summer, 2001, Kiwanis club volunteers broke ground for the nature trail and learning sites that will give students access to Lime Creek's flora and fauna. Hard surfacing was planned for this fall.

### **How About The Bicycle Path?**

Early on, the committee learned the parks department wished to serve the South Canyon area with an extension of the bicycle path, and members agreed with the merits of this proposal. Subsequently, the bicycle path was incorporated in the conceptual plan by Wyss Associates. This year, the city extended the bicycle path through the park and a connecting link to West South Street. The Kiwanis-Mary Hall Park Committee agreed to pay for the connecting link at a cost of \$5,565.

### **What Else Is Planned?**

Capital improvements will be phased in as funding becomes available. The park concept calls for a parking area to enable buses to deliver students, including the handicapped, to the trail system. It also calls for an interpretive learning structure where students would be under shelter and teachers could have a locked storage area for course materials. The concept also identifies a "tot lot" play area.

### **Who Is To Be Served?**

Supporting youth of the community is a primary objective of Kiwanis. By combining efforts, Kiwanis and the City of Rapid City can provide recreational and enriched educational opportunities to children of the Black Hills area. For them, Mary Hall Park can be the foundation for future academic growth and environmental stewardship. Developing this facility will enhance the vision of our community as one that is concerned about its youth and their future.

### **Who Are The Committee Members?**

The committee is composed of the following Kiwanians: James Kissel, president; Walt Roetter, vice president; James Kuehn, secretary-treasurer; James Bell; Ed McLaughlin and Stacy Titus.

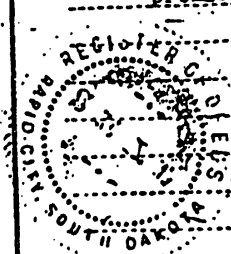
John S. H. Hall & Ida Hall Reder, Grantor  
of Rapid City, Pennington County,  
State of South Dakota, for and in consideration of

One and no/100 --- (\$1.00) --- DOLLARS  
conveys and claims to the City of Rapid City, a municipal corporation

of Rapid City, South Dakota, the grantee,  
real estate in the County of Pennington, P. O. all interest in the following described  
in the State of South Dakota:

Tract A of Brookside a sub-division of Government Lots  
1-2 and 3 in the north one-half of Section 4 T. 1 N. R.  
7 J. B. H. M. As shown on plat filed 7-17-52 in steel  
file in the Register of Deeds Office, Pennington County  
South Dakota, all in the City of Rapid City, Pennington  
County, South Dakota.

This grant is made for Public Park purposes only, and upon  
the condition that the title to the described premises shall  
revert to the said grantor if the grantee ever abandons the  
premises for such purposes.

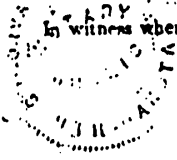


710587 STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,  
COUNTY OF PENNINGTON, ss.  
Filed for record this 7 day of  
Aug. 1952 at 10 o'clock  
and recorded in Book  
96 page 279  
By [Signature] Register of Deeds.

Dated this 6th day of August, 1952.  
John S. H. Hall  
& Ida Hall Reder

ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY INDIVIDUAL

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, ss.  
County of Pennington.  
On this the 6th day of August, 1952, before me,  
Oswal H. Sawyer, the undersigned officer, personally appeared  
John S. H. Hall & Ida Hall Reder  
known to me or satisfactorily proven to be the person whose name subscribed to the with-  
instrument and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained.  
In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and official seal.



Oswal H. Sawyer  
Notary Public