



CITY OF RAPID CITY

300 SIXTH STREET
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

Parks and Recreation Memo

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Date: January 3, 2007
To: Mayor Jim Shaw
City Council Members
From: Jerry Cole, Director
Subject: Formation of Urban Wildlife Subcommittee

From the ever-present deer in the Rapid City community, to the ducks and geese that call Canyon Lake Park home, and foxes that have taken up residence at Meadowbrook Golf Course, the City is experiencing more wildlife within its municipal boundaries than ever before. While this is generally believed to be a wonderful thing for our community, there are negative issues dealing with this wildlife that must also be addressed

To that end, the City Council requested that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board prepare a recommendation on the formation of a committee that would be charged with all aspects of urban wildlife in Rapid City.

At their meeting on December 7, 2006, the Advisory Board recommended the formation of an Urban Wildlife Subcommittee which would have the following membership:

- 2 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members
- 1 City Council Member
- 1 Beautification Committee Member
- 1 Urban Forestry Board Member
- 1 Hunter
- 1 Master Gardener
- 1 Rapid City Parks/Golf Division Employee
- 1 Audubon Society Member
- 1 State Game, Fish and Parks Staff Member, and
- 1 Biologist

The Advisory Board looked at all aspects of forming a Task Force or a subcommittee and felt that a Subcommittee appointed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would be an appropriate long-term entity that would be able to handle current issues as well as those that may come up in the future.

As a result, the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is that an Urban Wildlife Subcommittee be formed with the membership outlined above. This Subcommittee would handle all issues relating to urban wildlife in the Rapid City community and make recommendations to the Advisory Board. Those recommendations would then be forwarded to the Committees and City Council for final action.

It is the hope of the Advisory Board that this issue be addressed as soon as possible so that wildlife issues throughout the community can be addressed.

If you have any questions, contact me at your convenience.