



CITY OF RAPID CITY

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
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To: Mayor Sam Kooiker

From: Jeff Biegler, Director

Subject: Urban Wildlife Committee Structure

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Date: March 5, 2013

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As a result of numerous problems involving wildlife within the City limits, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended that a committee be appointed to deal with these issues. In reviewing all aspects of forming this group the Board 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 will come up in the future. Based on this recommendation, the Urban Wildlife Committee was established as a sub-committee by the City Council on January 15, 2007.

Appointments to the Committee were made by the Advisory Board based on specific positions that needed representation on the Committee.

The Urban Wildlife Committee was intended to be a sub-committee that would meet on an as-need basis to deal with issues as they arise. They do not have bylaws or operating procedures at this time, although it may be appropriate to develop some type of mission statement for the sub-committee.

In 2012 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board appointed Bill Clayton to the sub-committee as a Member At Large. Mr. Clayton was then elected to the City Council and his position changed to City Council Liaison. Also in 2012 the Mayor's Office began reviewing the Citizen Interest Forms for individuals expressing an interest in the Urban Wildlife Committee and requested that the City Council approve appointment of two individuals to the sub-committee. These appointments were not made or reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

After serving the community for several years, the Urban Wildlife Committee is requesting that the positions be changed slightly to provide a more diverse representation. They have suggested that the following positions be represented on the Urban Wildlife Committee:

- Hunter
- Biologist
- Park Employee
- Representative from City Golf Course
- Liaison from Parks and Rec Advisory Board
- Representative from Industry (especially animal control)
- Environmentalist
- Two At-Large Members
- Liaison from SD Game, Fish & Parks
- Liaison to City Council

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board reviewed and approved this request at their meeting on February 13, 2013.

In reviewing the information available, it is the view of the Department of Parks and Recreation that the Urban Wildlife Committee was appointed as a sub-committee of the Advisory Board. As such, appointments to the sub-committee should be made by the Advisory Board. All actions of the sub-committee should be forwarded to the Advisory Board for approval, and if necessary, forwarded to the Public Works Committee and City Council for final action.

There are currently three seats open on the Urban Wildlife Committee. We request that a public notice be distributed to the media requesting that citizens interested in serving on the Urban Wildlife Committee submit an interest form. It is important that we inform the public we are interested in individuals with environmental interests or experience in the industry, especially animal control.

I don't believe any action is required of the Public Works Committee or the City Council at this time however I will provide an update on the Urban Wildlife Committee structure at the next Public Works Committee meeting. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at your convenience.

Dear Parks and Rec Committee,

February 12, 2013

The Urban Wildlife Committee at our February 6 meeting outlined a committee structure we think would work in the coming years. Here it is:

A hunter

A biologist

A park employee

A representative from the city golf course (open seat)

A liaison from the Parks and Rec board (to be appointed by Parks and Rec Board)

A representative from industry (especially animal control businesses)

A liaison to the City Council (non-voting)

Two at-large members (one open seat)

An environmentalist (open seat)

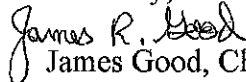
A liaison from SDGF&P (non-voting)

Total: 11 members, two non-voting

Once the Parks and Rec Board has approved this structure and a liaison person to replace Rick Askvig, who has indicated that he will be leaving our committee, we will ask the mayor's office to advertise in the Rapid City Journal for the vacant slots. We hope to have a full committee within the next two months.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


James Good, Chair

make an attempt to have the Five Year Plan ready for approval at the March Advisory Board meeting. It will then be submitted to the CIP Committee for consideration.

Urban Wildlife Committee

A letter from the Urban Wildlife was received with the following proposed representation on the Urban Wildlife Committee: a hunter, biologist, park employee, representative from the city golf course, liaison from the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, representative from industry (especially animal control business), a liaison to the City Council (non-voting), 2 at-large members, an environmentalist, and a liaison from the SD GF&P Department (non-voting). Rick Askvig is the current Advisory Board liaison to this Committee. He explained that he must resign from the Committee because of time constraints. Domico Rodriguez indicated he would serve in this liaison capacity. Askvig also reported that the Committee did table the idea of a bow hunting season within the City for at least one year. The Committee meets at 7:30 AM on the first Wednesday of each month in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room. Motion was made by Tinant seconded by Thompson and carried to approve the proposed structure revisions for the Urban Wildlife Committee.

Motion was made by Askvig seconded by Thompson and carried to appoint Domico Rodriguez as the Advisory Board liaison to the Urban Wildlife Committee.

Sponsorship Guidelines

Recreation Division Manager Doug Lowe presented proposed revisions to the Scholarship Guidelines for the Recreation Division. There has been no funding in the budget for scholarships for several years, so this would be a way to provide some financial assistance to youth in the committee who want to participate in recreation programs. He added that the assistance would only be for programs, not pool passes. Other organizations already offer free or reduced priced passes to citizens in the community who qualify under the financial guidelines. Rather than providing scholarships, the Division would sponsor individuals who are eligible. Motion was made by Askvig seconded by Rodriguez and carried to approve the Sponsorship Guidelines as proposed.

Beautification Committee

Beautification Committee President Steve Doshier presented information to the Advisory Board on the Committee and how it operates. Since there is a lot of information to go through it suggested that the committee members review the information and it can be discussed at the March Advisory Board meeting. Schild directed that this item be placed on the agenda for the March 14th meeting of the Advisory Board.

Project Updates

Landscape Designer Alex DeSmidt updated the Advisory Board on the Skyline Wilderness Trail Construction project, the BMX Track Location, and the Central Irrigation System for the Parks Division.

Director's Report

Biegler informed the Advisory Board that a group of people did ask about the possibility of locating a motocross track in the community, but there were no sites available in the