

MINUTES
PARK & RECREATION SUBCOMMITTEE
December 5, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mel Dreyer, Tim Henderson, Vivian Jorgenson, Randy Powers, Robert Schlotman, Wes Storm, Crystal Thompson, Sheri Zimmer

STAFF PRESENT: Marcia Elkins, Rodell Grosz, Keith Johnson, Rod Johnson Bill Lass, Doug Lowe, Sharlene Mitchell, Lon VanDeusen

Call to Order

Zimmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of the November 7, 2000 Minutes

Dreyer moved, Jorgenson seconded and carried unanimously to approve the November 7, 2000 Minutes.

Financial Report / Project Update

K. Johnson provided a brief review of the Financial Report noting that the Babe Ruth Association has remitted their portion of the lighting project. In response to a question from Zimmer, Elkins noted that the Finance Department has indicated that all unexpended project funds would be carried forward to the 2001 budget.

Review of Reference Materials

Lass indicated that the East Greenway and West Memorial Master Plans were provided in order to keep potential projects before the Subcommittee during the budget process.

Grosz presented the Bureau of Reclamation xeriscape project for the northeast intersection of I-190 and West Boulevard. Grosz reviewed the maintenance and educational assistance requirement of the project. Grosz identified the various funding sources being considered for the project noting that it is anticipated that the project will take three years to complete. Grosz indicated that the current Bureau of Reclamation grant can be increased by an additional \$25,000 if the City can provide the required \$25,000 match.

R. Johnson commented on the opportunity available to the City to increase the available funding for the West Memorial Park project. Lass commented briefly on the extent to which the project will provide education on the use of xeriscape landscaping.

Discussion followed regarding the existing vandalism problems in the area. Elkins suggested reviewing the area problems with the new Police Chief. Discussion followed regarding securing TEA-21 funding for the West Boulevard park area.

Zimmer recommended that the \$25,000 West Memorial Park budget request be reviewed in conjunction with the annual budget process.

North Middle School Park Proposal

R. Johnson presented the proposal to develop a multi-purpose turf area including soccer, baseball and football with potential expansion of the tennis and basketball court areas, parking facilities, restrooms and storage facilities. R. Johnson indicated that the facility would work to address area recreational needs. R. Johnson indicated that the proposal has been presented to the City/School Committee noting that Community Development Block Grant funds would be

utilized to develop the facility. R. Johnson requested Subcommittee endorsement of the proposal.

Discussion followed regarding the development timetable for the facility. Lowe reviewed the various camps that would be organized to introduce area youth to various recreational sports noting that the major factors limiting youth participation in existing recreational programs are financial and transportation. Discussion followed regarding utilization of a scholarship program to bring the North Rapid area youth into the existing recreational programs.

K. Johnson provided financial estimates for the project noting that the availability of Community Development Block Grant funds should be clarified by January 2001.

Jorgenson moved, Schlotman seconded and carried unanimously to recommend support for the North Middle School Park Proposal concept with the understanding that additional information regarding development costs will be provided when available.

2001 Prioritized Community Recreation Project List

Zimmer encouraged the membership and staff to identify projects they feel need to be addressed in the prioritization process. R. Johnson provided a brief review of the existing prioritized projects. The Subcommittee members and staff identified the following additional projects to be incorporated into the prioritized listing:

Staff Project Proposals:

- Robbinsdale Park/Shelter/Landscape Improvements BMX Track
- Canyon Lake Park: bike path improvements/roadwork, lighting, playground equip
- Memorial Park: 6th Street Bridge
- Memorial Park: Irrigation
- Memorial Park: Pond Improvements
- Memorial Park: Bike Path Improvements
- Memorial Park: Electrical Improvements for Park Events
- Memorial Park: Bandshell area improvements
- Memorial Park: Fountain
- Memorial Park: Creek/shoreline improvements
- Memorial Park: Service Access Improvements
- Whitehead Field: restroom/picnic shelter/lighting/bleachers
- Star of West: irrigation/concession building improvements
- Existing Restroom Rehab (city wide)
- LaCroix Links redesign
- Wilderness Park Irrigation System

Subcommittee Member Proposals:

- Storybook Island Improvements/ Carousel
- North Middle School Park Proposal
- Canyon Lake Little League - Bleacher Improvements
- New York Street Park Improvements (Silver Fox Field Relocation)
- Hammerquist Field Improvements
- Minnesota Street / Playground expansion

Zimmer recommended that the East Greenway Master Plan be reviewed for additional project recommendations. Discussion followed regarding the elements of the East Greenway Master Plan. Zimmer requested that staff review the project recommendations and provide a revised prioritized list for final review at the January 2001 meeting.

Request for Improvements Funding Application

Discussion followed regarding updating and incorporating new information into the application form. Elkins indicated that Planning Staff would update the application and provide the revised document for Subcommittee review at the February 2001 meeting.

Report from Park Superintendent

VanDeusen briefly reviewed the annual maintenance being undertaken by the Parks Department including the City ice rinks and greenhouse plantings. VanDeusen commented on the National Park Association Agency membership provided for the Subcommittee members.

Report from Recreation Director

Lowe commented on the increased revenues of the Recreation Department noting that the proposed Community Centers will enhance the City's recreational role. Lowe commented on the substantial reduction in pool subsidies for the 2000 season. Lowe encouraged the members to attend the locally sponsored National Park Association conference to be held in Spearfish noting that the conference agenda and program itinerary will be provided to the members as soon as possible.

Other Business

Dreyer indicated that he would present the East Greenway Master Plan to Senator Daschle's office for Federal assistance consideration.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.