Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 612 N. Main Street
October 10, 2024

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Andy Jerke, President of the Board, at 6:00 PM

Present: Andy Jerke, Pat Skinner, Luke Norden, Dennis Thompson, Adam Schulz, Shaun Davis. Council Liaison: Dan Sabers

Absent: Clayton Deuter

Staff Present: Kevin Nelson, Kevin DeVries, Angel DeWaard, Steve Roth, Mayor Hanson

2. Oath of Office: Angel DeWaard To Issue Oath Of Office to New Park Board Member Shaun Davis

Angel DeWaard issued the Oath of Office to New Park Board Member: Shaun Davis

3. Citizen's Input

Joe Krall representing Palace City Pedalers informed the Board they maintain roughly 15 miles of trails in and around Lake Mitchell year round. There were three gentlemen who were instrumental in getting the trail started. They were Bill Platz, Dwight Scott and John O'Connell. Several years ago, we honored Bill Platz, who unfortunately passed too early in life, with a rock located over by the pump track. As a club, we got together and made two more rocks to honor Dwight Scott and John O'Connell for their continued dedicated year around work maintaining these trails. We would like to seek permission to place them in two places on the trail in each of their favorite parts which they were instrumental in building. Director Nelson noted we are seeking Board input and will bring it back to the next regular meeting for official approval.

4. DELEGATIONS

5. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Motion Schulz, Second Skinner to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

6. Minutes

Minutes of the September 12, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Motion Thompson, Second

Norden to approve the September 12, 2024, Minutes as reviewed. Motion carried.

7. Approve Financial Reports

Motion Norden, Second Schulz to approve the Bills as submitted with Jerke abstaining. Motion carried

8. Department Reports

Recreation Board Report
September 13-October 19
Kevin DeVries

Programs:

Our youth football programs and volleyball programs finished up the last week of September. Once again, I thought it was a great season for football and want to thank Todd for the hard work that goes into those two programs. Also want to thank the High School volleyball team for its work with the youth volleyball program and look forward to them again next year.

Our youth basketball program will be starting on October 21 and will be held on 4 consecutive Mondays. The High School boys' and girls' basketball coaches will be working with those kids.

Jamie offered level 1 and 3 swim classes that started October 7. She will be offering 2 more sessions by the end of the year just not sure on the levels yet.

Our men's flag football league started on September 11 and will be running through the end of October. Praying for good weather!!

Steve and his crew replaced the sand in the filters at the outdoor aquatic center. There are a few other parts to replace in that project and will be done in the coming weeks.

Recreation Center:

We are staying very busy after school with kids. We've had a great mix of kids and so far all is going well. We are adding new members all the time and are over 3600. Our revenue is up over last year as well and look to finish out the year strong.

Our sewer lines our being relined the week of September 30 and should all be done by the end of that week. The outside repairs will be done within the next few weeks and will finish off that project.

Adam held the snack pack program September 16. Want to thank all the sponsors who donated and helped pack and deliver to the schools.

We hired a new maintenance/custodian. His name is Shawn Lachnit and he will start on October 15. We are very excited for him to join our team.

Parks & Forestry

Board Report
October 2024

- Patton Young Playground is finished and open to the public.
- Had to move some sprinkler heads and add a couple around the playground at Patton Young
- Finished the dirt work and seeded around the playground at Patton Young
- Finishing up with some repairs at the outdoor pool and putting new sand in the sand filters
- Fixed an irrigation break at Rotary Park and in the flower gardens in Hitchcock Park
- Grinding tree stumps around the lake
- Tree piles got picked up around the lake
- Marking trees in the boulevards and in the parks that need to be removed this winter
- Got the sprayers ready to go so we can start our fall spraying of all the parks and around the lake
- Work is continuing on the concrete trail on the west end to the lake
- Contractor is still working on putting rock in for the jetty
- Day to day operations of cleaning restrooms, shelters, mowing and trimming

PARK BOARD REPORT – SPORTS COMPLEX
October 10, 2024

CADWELL:

- Park and rec tackle football finished Sept. 26. Flag football last night is Oct. 30.
- DWU baseball last day is Oct. 17. Softball last game is Oct. 11.
- Staff is mowing, cleaning, getting ready to spray, take down sun shades, batters' eye, backstop padding, batting cage net.
- Press box still needs gaps sealed up then that project will be finished.
- We will be blowing out irrigation starting Oct. 15th. Cadwell irrigation pump project will start Oct. 21.
- Met with mayor and 2 dog park reps to find location of shelter with ADA sidewalk and improvements to the dog park. Talked about shelter location inside big part in NW corner.

SOCCER:

- MSA youth soccer finished the end of Sept. Competitive league goes until the end of Oct.
- DWU men's and women's soccer last home game is Oct. 23, last regular season game Oct. 30. Then GPAC tournament.
- I have heard there could be a clinic or tournament Oct. 27. No one has contacted me on this yet.
- Staff is mowing, painting, cleaning, going through goals and nets from youth league,

will start spraying in a couple weeks and blowing out irrigation end of the month.

ICE ARENA:

- We had ice ready on Sept. 19. First on ice activity was learn to skate on Oct. 19, 6 classes. Try hockey free, pucks and ponytails and figure skating started Sept. 20th. Full hockey practices started Sept. 30. Power play clinic Oct. 4-6.
- Staff is working on cleaning, straightening mats, checking doors and closers.
- We had a condenser and compressor problem that is working now and will be fixed in the next couple weeks.
- South rink heaters are installed and working.

October 2024 Director's Board Report

Patton Young Playground

The playground has been completed, and it has been opened to the public. The playground has since been VERY popular with kids and families. We did have a concern expressed that someone's two-year-old was flipping over the side of the 'curly-Q' slide as he entered the first curve, and he was allowed to continue doing so as his dad caught him each time. I responded on social media that toddlers are top heavy, and as such, parents should use caution when allowing this age group to use equipment that is designed (and labeled as such) for children 5-12 years of age.

We are hearing requested need for additional (bench) seating around the perimeter of the playground, and we will be pursuing that as the budget allows. We've placed a portable bench on site to provide additional seating (to the two stationary benches that were already there).

Restriction of E-Bikes from Pump Track

'No E-bikes Allowed on Pump Track' policy and signage: This will be an action item at the October board meeting.

Possible Permitting for Non-Stationary Vendors to be Doing Business Within City Parks

Related to this discussion item from the September Board meeting, I have sought similar information from other Class 'A' communities including Sioux Falls, Brookings, Watertown, and Pierre. Watertown and Pierre do not have such in place. Brookings permits such within city parking lots, but the 'park' parking lots are not designated as park land, as they are in Mitchell; they are simply 'municipal' lots, so those (in Brookings) can be permitted and used like any other parking lots. I also found that their (City of Brookings) permitting for food vendors (be it in a park or a municipal parking lot) is event specific, not for an entire season, as had been the request (by the owner of 'Dog on Cart') at Mitchell's September Park Board meeting. This will take further information gathering and board discussion to determine a 'best' course of action. Some discussion points to consider are as follows:

1. Single-event permit versus season permit?
2. Allowed to compete with long-standing stationary vending, such as Exchange Club during State Amateur Tournament at Cadwell, the golf course parking lot, or similar? (Note: The golf pro at Lakeview has vending rights as a part of his contract).

3. City take share of gross profits versus permit fee?
4. If fee, what amount? If percentage of gross profit, what amount?
5. Multiple permits per event or single permit (via bid process)?
6. Other?

New Concrete Bike/Pedestrian Trail from Frank's Bay to Lion's Point Park

The majority of the stretch was completed as of the writing of this report, and the entirety of the pour should be done prior to the board meeting. It sounds as though some of the stretch got too hot (and began to cure) during the pouring process, resulting in some less-than-desirable concrete in a couple of areas. Thus, some short, 'faulty' sections of concrete have already been removed and replaced.

Some rock fill will still need to be added to shore up at least one low area bordering the trail, and the concrete will need to cure for at least one week prior, or, I am told, the contractor will need to perform this fill work by hand (versus machine).

Grading and seeding the dirt along both sides of the trail (the full length of the trail) will also follow yet this fall.

The parks crew will re-install posts and cable as necessary.

The Palace City Pedalers have offered to provide a ribbon-cutting/trail-opening ceremony. We'll coordinate with them on public relations as the date approaches.

Playground Equipment Grant Application Approved by South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks

Our application for $95,000 in matching funds for the planned playground at Gainer Park was recently approved by GFP, so now comes the wait for the federal approval, which is anticipated to take place in the window of April through July of 2025. Although it might not be considered by some to be a fast turn-around time, it is ideal for placing a fall (of 2025) playground equipment order for delivery and installation in 2026, as discounts apply for equipment ordered in advance (of winter) that would then be constructed in their factory over the winter months.

Fun Note from a Concerned Citizen

A neighbor nearby Dry Run Creek Park phoned late last week to let me know that there were three men in the park with a shovel and a small wheelbarrow, and they were digging. She was concerned, as they didn't appear to be city employees. I investigated and found that it was three individuals placing temporary disk golf baskets, in preparation for the upcoming disk golf tournament. I then called and thanked the lady for her concern as a 'neighborhood watch' participant.

Campground Hosts

All are done for the season.

9. Approve 'No E-bikes Allowed on Pump Track' policy and signage

Motion Thompson, Second Norden to approve 'No E-bikes Allowed on Pump Track' policy and signage. Motion carried.

10. Discussion - Possible Permitting for Non-Stationary Vendors to be Doing Business within City Parks

Director Nelson reviewed information from a couple of neighboring communities regarding nonstationary park vendors as follows: Brookings does permit them per event, forms must be submitted at least 14 days in advance of the event; Sioux Falls requires a permit for any person to promote, sell or offer to sell any article or anything of any type in the parks, even if they are giving away items with a fee of $50 per event. Items to be discussed are as follows: Single permit versus season permit; Allowed to compete with long-standing stationary vending; City takes share of gross profit versus permit fee; If fee or gross profit, what amount; Multiple permits per event or single permit (via bid process). Clifford Chamberlain, owner of Clifford's dog on cart addressed the Board, noting a simplified one-page application with the allowance of one or multiple dates would be preferred. After a lengthy discussion, the Board would like to veer away from gross profit and review more information on possible season permit with site specific, multiple dates, a list of locations that are off limits-as well as a list of locations that are acceptable and what amount of fee would be required.

11. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 6:00 PM

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:50 PM