

PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 12, 2008
6:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order by President Curt Stepanek.
- 2) Roll Call: Members Present: Curt Stepanek, Audrey Stowell, Dale Berg, Bob Hoekstra, and Brian Flynn. Absent: Lisa Bjork and Tony Kovach.
Staff present: Dick Hebert, Bill Faherty, and Terry Johnson.
- 3) Approval of January 8, 2008, Minutes: Motion by Brian Flynn, seconded by Bob Hoekstra, all present voting aye, to approve minutes of the January 8, 2008, meeting. It is noted that the date on the minutes is incorrect, showing 2007 instead of 2008.
- 4) Personal Appearances: None.
- 5) Planning:
 - a. New Artifact/Gift Shop Building In Irvine Park. Bill reports that Committee 1 is meeting on February 13 to discuss bonding for 2008-2009. No discussion.
 - b. Irvine Park Celebration. The subcommittee met prior to the regular meeting. Bill has been unable to get in touch with the arts and crafts vendor. Discussed Dick getting in touch with Main Street to see if it is feasible or desired to incorporate activities / fireworks into the Pure Water Days celebration instead.
 - c. Moving Administrative offices. Bill would like to wait to hear what the new administrator has in mind. No discussion.
 - d. Outdoor Recreation Plan 2008-2012. A survey will be sent out to the Park Board regarding the Plan. This Plan is what is used to secure grants.
- 6) Decisions:
 - a. Approve/Discuss next Phase on Cougar Exhibit. Bohl & Proulx has given a quote of not more than \$14,000 to complete inside plumbing for both the cougar and bobcat areas. The electrical work is finishing up with lights and fixtures. Themescapes should be finished with the cougar's outside exhibit by late spring. The bricks that have been purchased will not be laid until the construction is finished to avoid them being run over by the trucks. Themescapes will be providing an estimate for the bobcat's outside exhibit.
 - b. Approve/Discuss Marshall Park Skateboard Purchases. This will also be discussed in the bonding meeting. Bill's timeframe is: advertising for bids on February 19 & 27, the bids will be opened on March 7, and approved at our March meeting. If there are no funds, the bids will be declined. If funds are put in the bond, Bill believes we will be looking at a mid to late summer installation. Dick indicates funds have been raised by Michael Willi's friends and donated for this project. He would recommend having a bench in memory of Michael at the skateboard park.
 - c. Approve/Discuss Purchase of Utility Vehicles for Irvine Park & Casper Park. Terry Johnson presented information he has obtained from Xtreme Motor Sports regarding a 2008 Polaris Ranger 4 wheel and 2006 Polaris Ranger 2 wheel models. The 4-wheel would be used at Irvine Park; the 2-wheel would be used at Casper. The 4-wheel also has

the capability of having tracks installed for use in the winter, such as grooming the cross-country trails. The price of the 4-wheel model is \$8,150, and the price of the 2-wheel model is \$5,000. Motion by Dale Berg, seconded by Curt Stepanek, all present voting aye, to purchase a 2008 Polaris Ranger 4-wheel model for \$8,150.00 and a 2006 Polaris Ranger 2 wheel model for \$5,000 from Xtreme Motor Sports. These funds will be taken out of Account #10.55210.5850.

7) Information:

a. Committee Reports:

1. Friends of Irvine Park Zoo. No report.

b. Staff Reports

1. Recreation Programming Report. Dick reports that things have been set up in Activenet for individual fees. He is hopeful that many will take advantage of paying these online. Dick also reports that there will be two new programs this summer: a co-ed kickball league on Wednesday nights, and a men's wooden bat softball league on Tuesdays. Youth registrations for soccer are going on at this time. Bill also indicated as a heads up that the school is looking to implement a 7/8 grade soccer team, which will affect our U14 teams, so numbers for that age group will likely go down.
2. Irvine Park Zoo Updates. Five baby button quails were born. Otherwise, staff is keeping animals warm and watered.
3. Park Projects. Various projects are being worked on in addition to maintaining equipment, sanding & plowing.
4. Personnel Updates. The Park Maintenance Working Foreperson position will be posted Feb. 13 – 21. This is open to individuals in the department. Interviews will take place after applications are received. Bill indicates that Ade King has had some health issues and has been taking some time off because of it. The Board wishes him a speedy recovery.
5. Irvine Park Annual Calendar. There are still calendars available for sale at the Parks & Rec office. They are being sold for \$5.00. The calendar sales so far total \$4,705. With printing costs of \$3,507, this gives us a profit of \$1,198. They have also been given to the Chamber & Main Street to hand out to tourists. The calendar for next year will be Scenes in Season, and they will start working on that soon.

Bob Hoekstra leaves at this time.

6. Outdoor Skating Rink. Bill reports that the Youth Hockey Association would like to get the outside rink going for open skating and hockey. This opens up the possibility of a joint effort between the City and the Association to provide an outdoor rink to the public. There were positive comments from Brian Flynn and Audrey Stowell with regard to this concept. More discussion will be taking place. A priority in discussions should be how much time would be available for public open skating.
- c. Donations. Bill distributed the donation funds report. He will be expanding this report to include 2005.
- d. Board Member comments or concerns. Curt Stepanek distributes sheet showing Smith Rapids covered bridge to give us an idea of what he envisions for the Bear Den bridge –

not necessarily exactly like this bridge, but similar. He believes this would enhance Irvine Park and add to its charm. This is a project Curt would like to see the Board pursue in the future. Brian Flynn indicates this may be his last meeting. He thanks the Board. The Board thanks him for his services and wishes him well.

- 8) Approve Claims. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Brian Flynn, all present voting aye, to approve claims of \$5,484.40 for 2007 and \$27,936.66 for 2008.
- 9) Adjournment. Motion by Curt Stepanek, seconded by Dale Berg, all present voting aye, to adjourn.

Submitted by:

Audrey Stowell, Secretary