

CITY-COUNTY PARKS BOARD

MINUTES

June 5, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

11:32 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Peterson, John Carter, M. C. Beeby, Adam Kaupisch. Jane Kollmeyer, Melissa Lewis, and Art Butler were excused.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Dick Thweatt, City Commission
Andy Hunthausen, County Commission

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Craig Marr, Carrie Severson, Amy Teegarden, Brad Langsather, Carol Kirkland

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

A quorum was present.

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

The May 1, 2013, minutes were approved as presented.

**COMMENTS FROM PERSONS PRESENT -
PRESENTATIONS**

Sherry Meador gave a presentation on the proposed boulder project at Centennial Park. The boulder group is part of the Helena Recreation Foundation and is currently fund raising for the boulder. It is anticipated to be completed by the time of the park rededication on August 21. The cost for the boulder will be approximately \$28,000. There was discussion of handicap accessibility at the boulder in response to a question by the Montana Independent Living Project.

Kelly Lynch of the playable playground group gave a presentation on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its standards for playgrounds and showed pictures of inclusive playgrounds. Stacy Sommer gave a presentation on accessibility for parents or caregivers and then reviewed the process for developing a playable playground. She also showed pictures of the proposed playground structure and presented a proposed estimated budget. Because of the special needs of a surface for the playground, Centennial may not be the ideal location. She discussed the various benefits of having a regional park playground that brings in people to the community and also reported on various grants the group is working on. The group will attend meetings monthly to give updates. Updates will be added under 'Reports.' Amy reported on a potential playground at a new park east of Interstate 15 in the Mountain View Meadows development. There

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was discussion of the maintenance of the playable playground once it is installed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - STANDING ITEM: Park Maintenance District update - Amy reported the consultant will give a presentation at a special meeting on June 26.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve, table, deny a motion to move forward with the surplus park property disposal process: Craig gave a presentation on park properties that do not fit the typical definition of parks and open lands. Brad reported 180 parcels were reviewed for several criteria and the list narrowed to 17 potential parcels for disposal. Eleven of the 17 had deed restrictions limiting what the city could do with them. They gave a visual presentation of the six remaining properties. From the Parks Board it will go before the city commission. **Denny moved and John seconded a motion to move forward with the surplus park property disposal process.**

REPORTS

CITY - Amy reported the recreation programs had started. Metal sculptures going up at Centennial as identifiers. The dog park is under construction with hope to open at the end of June. The city attorney is working on the dog ordinance revision for the dog park. Amy and Adam are meeting with the playground group on a monthly basis. The bike park group came up with a design, and the city engineer will engineer it.

COUNTY - Carrie reported the consultant continues work on the park maintenance district.

HOLMAC - Brad reported HOLMAC will be visiting Davis Gulch to look at a proposal for a mountain bike course.

LINCOLN - Dennis reported things at Hooper Park are painted. Underground irrigation is installed. Northwest Energy removed some bad trees with assistance from the phone company. The park was packed Memorial Day. Andy reported the commission discussed some potential improvements to Hooper Park.

RECREATION - see above

MAINTENANCE - Craig reported the arborists are working with the Department of Transportation on tree removal ahead of some street projects. Staff is working on walking mall cleanup for the Governor's Cup. There will be a demonstration tree planting project at Kessler Park in partnership with the Growing Friends of Helena. The pool is being filled; there is painting at the lazy river; work continues at Centennial; bleachers are going in at Legion; and the irrigation is going.

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FAIR BOARD - Andy reported the visioning group met on the new property, and Pam Attardo, preservation officer, will lead the group and gather info.

OTHER -

COMMUNICATIONS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD MEMBERS) - Amy reported on the edible forest project at 6th Ward community garden and permaculture practices being proposed. The county received a grant to do a brownfield study of the property. John reported the school district is moving forward with all of its issues. Craig reported on the BikeHelena website.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: July 10, 2013 (rescheduled from July 3)

FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS: Pat Doyle, Helena Tourism Alliance;

ADJOURN - 1:10 P.M.

Carol Kirkland
Recorder