

**CITY-COUNTY PARKS BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**January 8, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

11:32 A.M.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dennis Peterson, John Carter, Pat Doyle, Jane Kollmeyer, M.C. Beeby, Melissa Lewis, and Dave Payne were excused.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Andy Hunthausen, County Commissioner

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Craig Marr, Amy Teegarden, Tim Magee, Lindsay Morgan, George Thebarger, Carol Kirkland

**ESTABLISH QUORUM AND REVIEW OF AGENDA**

A quorum was present.

**CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

The December 4, 2013, minutes were approved as presented.

**COMMENTS FROM PERSONS PRESENT PRESENTATIONS - none**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS - none**

**PRESENTATIONS:** George reviewed the information given to the board and gave an overview of the parks district process to date and noted three jurisdictions are participating: Lewis and Clark County, city of Helena, and city of East Helena. Phase 2 goals will be refining the park district vision and goals, conducting citizen surveys and public meetings, exploring framework of governance, and marketing the park district. Questions to be answered in Phase 2 are: what are the benefits for taxpayers; how much will it cost; how will it be controlled? He then reviewed potential funding levels.

Dave DeGrandpre reviewed the task list handout and indicated county and city staff would need to assist the consultant with much of the work as there is only \$31,000 available for Phase 2. There was discussion about a goal date for a referendum being on the ballot in the fall of 2015 with submission of the creating documents to the Department of Revenue by January of 2016. Amy said city and county staff would like to have a recommendation from the Parks Board to move forward with the consultant for Phase 2. There was consensus from the board to proceed.

Amy reviewed the reason for the proposed fee and allocation guidelines for fields and courts to provide consistency in use of fields among all users. It is an administrative document for staff and complements the park reservation policies. It will be in use this year and then be reevaluated in the fall.

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**DISCUSSION ITEMS - none**

**ACTION ITEMS - Approve, table, deny motion to accept request for Fox Trot II final cash in lieu of parkland dedication.** Lindsay Morgan, planner, noted the board has two options: to recommend approval of the final cash in lieu amount of \$7178.25 or to deny it. There was no staff recommendation attached, but Lindsay suggested the board accept the request. **Dennis moved and John seconded a motion to accept the request for \$7178.25 cash in lieu of parkland donation. Jane wondered where the subdivision was located and commented about being aware of making trails available. It was noted the county cannot impose a public access condition on a developer, but if the developer offers it, it can be accepted. Motion carried unanimously.**

**REPORTS**

CITY - Amy reported the city is advertising for Debbie's vacant position and asked for a Parks Board member to sit on the selection committee. Jane volunteered to do that. Pat had also volunteered in case no one else volunteered. She has been working on a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to help fund replacement of two playgrounds for \$43,500 on a 50-50 match. Helena Community Gardens will be taking over management of Waukesha community garden. FY15 budget preparation has begun. Although budget instructions say 'status quo', the addition of maintenance for Mountain View and Centennial has to be considered.

COUNTY - George reported Carrie will be leaving, but he will be the Parks Board liaison in her absence. He announced the previous park plan done by a county planner is no longer viable because of the new study. There was a discussion of the county reviewing the city's transportation plan as something the county might consider for itself.

HOLMAC - Jane had nothing to report.

LINCOLN - Dennis reported the Lincoln Parks Board meeting with the county commission and is reviewing the Lincoln board bylaws. There will be a fat tire bike race in February sponsored by the Ponderosa Snow Warriors.

MAINTENANCE - Craig reported staff is still making ice and working on improvements inside the pool house. He is also working on revising the tree ordinance and specifications and standards for arboriculture. The crew is working on equipment maintenance and installing new speakers for the pool. People are

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using lots of mutt mitts at the dog park and elsewhere. The city is also advertising for a new arborist.

FAIR BOARD - Jane reported the fairgrounds footprint group will be passing their plan to the county commission for a possible spring vote.

PLAYABLE PLAYGROUND - Stacy reported there will be a zombie prom in February and a princess tea party in March as fund raisers for the playground.

BIKE HELENA - Pat Doyle reported he is working on the Bike Helena website, but it is otherwise quiet. Amy noted she and Pat and the city engineering department will be meeting on wayfinding signs around the community to help people find some of the outdoor amenities.

OTHER -

**COMMUNICATIONS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD MEMBERS)**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:** February 5, 2014

**FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS:** tree ordinance update; arboriculture specifications and standards

**ADJOURN** - 12:56 P.M.

Carol Kirkland  
Recorder