



Baker City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting

March 13, 2018

5:15 p.m.

City Hall

Board Members Present: Lisa Jacoby, Linda Collins, Jeff Nelson, Loran Joseph, Kim Mosier, Gail Duman

Board Members Absent: none

Guests Present: none

Staff Present: Joyce Bornstedt

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Additions or Modifications to Agenda

None

Approval of February 6, 2018 Minutes

A motion was made by Joseph with a second by Collins to approve the minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

Old Business

Dog Park

Bornstedt reported that the fence contractor should start work this Saturday, March 17th. His initial schedule was delayed due to weather. She prepared a budget for the dog park (see attached) which shows a funding gap to date of only about \$1,460. As of today, she has ordered the watering stations and met with Oregon Sign Co. regarding signs for the dog park. A rough cost estimate for making these signs should be under \$500. Bornstedt said she is in negotiations with the company that may be supplying benches and trash receptacles. Their initial bid did not include lids for the trash receptacles nor the cost for inground mounting. Bornstedt has requested a more complete bid. She also had a conversation with the City Finance Director and if there are additional costs, they may be supplemented from the Parks Department budget. Bornstedt is also negotiating a price with Tony's Tree Service to combine the irrigation piece of the project with the surface work needed at the small dog park. The preliminary number given of about \$6,000 would be a significant savings from the budgeted amount of \$7,800. Ms. Duman drafted a fundraising letter and asked if all board members would sign it. Everyone agreed to go to City Hall to sign the letter. A mailing list will be determined at a later date. Completion of the dog park is slated for May 5th, which happens to be National Dog Park Day.

Central Park Amphitheatre Improvements

Joseph read a letter from Ash Grove Charitable Foundation stating our grant request of \$4,500 was successful. Bornstedt presented a funding summary (attached) which shows a funding excess of about \$3,385 to date. This figure already reflects the funds received from Ash Grove. Fundraising efforts will continue. Joseph was asked if the concert in the park fundraiser idea was still in the works. He said the planning group has decided to have the event in the amphitheatre after the improvements are completed, probably in late spring or summer. Bornstedt said City crew can start work as soon as weather allows. Joseph has volunteers lined up to help stack the landscape blocks.

Central Park Splash Pad

D/My Documents/Parks/Advisory Committee/Minutes

Bornstedt spoke with Anderson Pool Works, who is the general contractor for the City of Ontario's splash pad park project. They discussed specific features, including zoning by age groups. She obtained some helpful information, such as that the controls/pumps can be housed in a vault vs. constructing a building. When asked for a ballpark figure, Bornstedt was verbally given an amount of \$150,000. This should be the high-end, but still significantly higher than the board previously estimated. Bornstedt hopes that savings could be realized by having the metal pipe features produced locally by Natural Structures. She provided the board with a construction estimate (attached) showing the breakdown of total project costs and also possible funding sources. Bornstedt shared that she had a conversation with the City Finance Director about budgeting match dollars for this project, noting it will be a requirement of Leo Adler Foundation grant approval. Discussion followed about funding sources and there was consensus that applying to OPRD for their LGGP grant would have to wait until next year, as the deadline to submit an application is April 1st. Bornstedt informed the board that a Resolution to City Council would be required and there is not enough time to make that happen this grant cycle. The City Finance Director recommended that this board make a presentation at a city council meeting before proceeding with requests for funding. Everyone agreed that the presentation should include representation of the Lions Club and highlight their partnership and support of the project. In addition to information about the overall splash pad concept and potential funding sources, suggestions of favorable points to address in the presentation included that this project complies with the Central Park Master Plan, and it will be beneficial to families in our community, enhancing the existing family-friendly features of the labyrinth, art displays, amphitheatre and summer movie nights. Mosier added that the fact that this all can be accomplished with minimal investment by the City of Baker City should also be highlighted in the presentation to City Council. Bornstedt volunteered to attend a Lions Club meeting to talk about the project/partnership. It was agreed that the next step should be to get on the Council's agenda schedule. Another suggestion was made that each of the board members talk to individual members of the budget board to promote a positive perception of the project. It was noted that Ms. Mosier and Mr. Joseph are on the budget board. A question was raised about insurance coverage. Bornstedt said the splash pad would be added to the City of Baker City's existing policy. She also has received positive feedback about other splash pads having experienced little to no injuries. Nelson said he contacted TLT regarding funding and was told they have no allocations for community projects at this time.

New Business

None

Other Business

It was noted that we are still recruiting to fill the vacant board position, and more member's terms will expire in July, 2018. There was a brief discussion about putting the piece of playground equipment referred to as "Cozy Cocoon" at a different location than Geiser-Pollman Park. Bornstedt has been told that it is no longer compliant in its original state, but we do have a retro-fit kit to make it free-standing. A playground technician would need to be hired. Bornstedt said another issue that will need to be addressed at some point are the big old swings at Geiser-Pollman Park. If it is deemed that they pose a safety concern and should be removed, it may require approval from City Council.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next regular meeting will be April 10, 2018, at 5:15 p.m., City Hall.