



Baker City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting

February 17, 2015

5:30 p.m.

Board Members Present at the Meeting: Rick Taylor, Jeff Nelson , Kim Mosier, Mike Clark, Lisa Jacoby

Board Members Absent: Linda Collins, Gail Duman

Guests Present: None

Staff Present: Joyce Bornstedt

Additions or Modifications to Agenda

None

Approval of November 18, 2014 Minutes

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

New Business

Cultural Coalition Grant for Signage at Geiser Pollman Park

Jacoby reported that when she was working on fund raising, she applied for a grant through the Baker County Cultural Coalition to provide some signage complimenting the new playground that would also highlight cultural aspects of our area. She suggested that it may be possible to have a local sign company create some type of decals that could be placed on the wagon. The problem with this is that the only area of the wagon large enough to affix this type of signage would be on the interior walls. After much discussion, the Board concurred that they would like to place an interpretive panel, possibly near the southwest corner of the new playground, similar to the ones the Lions Club has installed at their memorial park. Nelson indicated that the cost of this type of panel would be approximately \$750.00. He offered to talk to Natural Structures about constructing the base and said he could provide the information for the company that does the panels. Jacoby suggested that the Public Arts Commission may want to offer some artistic element to the project and said she will contact them. She also indicated that she will apply for another grant from the same grantor to further assist with the costs of the project.

Old Business

Bornstedt presented a revised scope of work for completion of the Parks Master Plan. She indicated that she is in the process of entering into an agreement for consultant services with a planning consultant recommended by the Community Planning Workshop at University of Oregon. The cost of services to finalize the plan will be approximately \$1,500 - \$1,650. In response to a question from Clark, Bornstedt said that she would not be applying for a planning grant as the cost to apply would be greater than the project estimate. The cost will be funded by the Parks Department budget. She also said it would be a good idea to form a subcommittee to review the material as it is submitted by the consultant. The timeline for completion of the plan is aggressive with the proposed completion being April 30, 2015. She commented that it would be good to have one or two people that could look at the material, but that the turnaround for comments, etc. would be relatively short. Jacoby agreed to work with Bornstedt to review the materials as they are submitted. Nelson offered to contact Collins to see if she would be willing perform reviews as well.

Other Business

Tree Board Project

Clark indicated that the Tree Board has voted to support the Parks and Rec Board's request to plant trees in parks. The project for this year will consist of planting three trees in South Baker Park. He further indicated that he thought that Collins may have the tree selections from the City Tree Guide. He asked if the Parks and Rec Board would be planting the trees. The Board concurred that they would be willing to plant the trees with some technical assistance from the Tree Board. Clark indicated that he would keep the Parks and Rec Board informed of the proposed planting time so that efforts could be coordinated.

A general discussion of playground projects included an update on the completion of the playground improvement at South Baker Park. She said that two additional swing sets are in storage and will be installed at Cedar Acres and River Park as weather allows. She said that she has enough engineered wood fiber on hand to complete surfacing for the Cedar Acres install. She said that the playground at Riverpark is in serious need of renovation. She said that the swings that were purchased for this park were purple with the idea that the park may be able to take on a "Bulldog" theme as it is redeveloped. Jacoby said that she has had contact with folks that may be willing to donate to such a project. Mosier indicated that she has received several concerns/complaints regarding this park and the condition of the playground. Bornstedt indicated that she hopes to improve the entrance to the park from the Riverpark side to make it more open and inviting. The Board discussed ideas to improve the College Street entrance as well. Taylor indicated that the Lions would be willing to build a horseshoe pit in this and other neighborhood parks. Mosier suggested that perhaps the Playground Improvement Project group could begin some fund raising efforts again for the Riverpark playground improvement.

Bornstedt reported that she had attended a meeting of the Eastern Oregon Recreation and Parks Association. It is an informal group comprised primarily of municipal and county parks and recreation personnel from the eastern Oregon area. At the last meeting she learned that there is a source for the engineered wood fiber that costs about half of what the City is paying from the current supplier. She will check into this further as the need for more product is closer.

Bornstedt asked that the Board consider setting a regular meeting date in order to have a better chance of obtaining a meeting room at City Hall. The Board concurred that they will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. before the City Council meetings. A discussion ensued regarding whether it was necessary for the Board to meet on a monthly basis if there is not business to discuss.

Adjournment

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next meeting will be April 14, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at Baker City Hall.

To Do List

- Signage at Geiser Pollman Park -Approach Public Arts Commission, pursue additional grant funding, work on design - Jacoby
- Signage at Geiser Pollman Park - Talk to Natural Structures, provide sources and pricing - Nelson
- Identify tree species for planting at South Baker Park - Collins, Clark
- Plant trees at South Baker Park - All Board Members
- Review master plan chapters as they are submitted - Jacoby, Bornstedt, Collins?
- Explore fund raising options for PIP at Riverpark - Mosier & Jacoby