

**PARKS BOARD MEETING**  
**April 10, 2012**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**12:00 – 2:00 pm**  
**Currents @ 600 Cregg Lane**

**Park Board members:** John O'Connor, Janet Sproull, Johann Eisenmann, Susan Ridgeway, Ross Mollenhauer, Norma Nickerson and Dale Harris, Chair

**Staff:** Donna Gaukler, Jackie Corday, Shirley Kinsey

**Others:** Jim Habeck

**Approval of minutes of meeting from [February 14](#), and [March 13 2012](#)**

Minutes were approved for both meetings with the correction to add Norma Nickerson as present at the February 2012 meeting.

**Announcements - none**

**Public/Guest comments**

Jim recommends putting up a fence around the trees to prevent kids from falling into the pond.

**Updates:**

- Open Space Advisory Committee Update - Beth Hahn is the Parks Board representative to the Open Space Advisory Committed. She reported that the two newly appointed members on OSAC have already been an asset to the committee.

Current projects:

There are several potential projects in the works, two within the Grass Valley Cornerstone priority area:

- Lemm property off Deschamps Road – in February Five Valleys Land trust made an offer but it was rejected, negotiations continue.
- Stout Property – next to Council Grove, although the FWP is trying not to acquire any more lands, even if it is gifted, unless it meets certain criteria and needs, due to their diminished maintenance budget, there may be another potential partnership
- Deer Creek Road property, north of shooting range, waiting for appraisal

There are no new projects with partners at this time.

There is approximately 2.4 million left of the City's half of the City/County open space bond. The remaining funds from the 1995 open space bond of approximately \$385K are reserved to purchase urban parkland.

**Action Items:**

Park Enterprise Request – Shirley Kinsey ([Referral, Soccer](#))

This is a request to purchase three sets of 8' x 24' soccer goals using Soccer Enterprise Funds. The goals will be placed in four different parks around Missoula (White Pine, and McCormick full sets, and one each at Pleasantview, and Wapikia Parks). There is a balance of \$22,000 in the soccer enterprise account.

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the purchase of three sets of soccer goals using the Park Enterprise, Soccer account in an amount not to exceed \$6,500. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.**

Park Enterprise Request – Shirley Kinsey ([Referral, Softball MSA Letter](#))

This is a request to approve the expenditure of up to \$8,275 from the Softball Enterprise Fund. \$5,775 to repair and reroof dugouts on at Fort Missoula, and \$2,500 to provide weed control spray at McCormick, Fort Missoula, and Northside Parks Softball fields and the immediate surrounding areas. MSA has annually requested that McCormick Park be sprayed to provide weed control. The broadleaf creates a safety concern for players and a liability concern for the City. During the annual Spring Walk Through at Fort Missoula we

discovered that the composite rolled roofing had blown off 6 of the 8 dug outs on fields 1-4, and the third base dugout on field #3 had sustained water damage that needs to be repaired. MSA requested at that time that Enterprise funds be used for repairs. There is a balance of \$55,585 currently in the Softball Enterprise account. Shirley told the board that the County may also pay for half of the repair and reroof project.

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the expenditure of up to \$8,275 from the Softball Enterprise account for repair and reroof the dugouts at Fort Missoula and provide weed control at McCormick, Fort Missoula and Northside softball fields. The motion passed with all members voted in favor of the motion.**

Approve "Mobility Assisting Devices on City Trails Policy" that addresses the new Dept of Justice rules regarding ADA trail access for "Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices"

Jackie Corday – provided the board with an update on ADA policy, which was reviewed by the City Attorney, and Police chief. The feedback from the Police thought the policy has less power than ordinance.

Jackie reviewed all the research and this type of policy was adopted as policy, not an ordinance to allow greater flexibility for revisions. The policy would have to be signed by Donna and adopted by Park Board. Jackie will make any revisions and bring back to the Park Board in May for final adoption.

#### **Discussion items:**

Budget/CIP update – Dale Harris

[Budget priorities](#) – Donna reviewed the Department's budget requests for Fiscal Year 2013 and what was recommended for funding by the Mayor. This is the first year since 2010 that departments have been allowed to request additional funds. The Parks Department is recommended to receive funding for the following request for a total of \$146,000 to be added to the FY 13 budget.

- Sustainable Parks for \$75,000
- Partnerships for Youth/ Let's move Missoula - \$19,160
- Aquatics program Support - \$33,000
- Medians/Greenways - \$32,184
- Duncan Field Partnership - \$4,400

There was discussion as to the whether or not the Duncan field could be rented out for field use. It was moved by Susan Ridgeway that if this field is rented, then the funds should all go into the soccer enterprise fund to compensate for the loss of rentals at Playfair Park. After some additional discussion, Susan withdrew her motion. Shirley will bring back policy to reflect the intent of her motion if the field is slated to be rented.

Capital Improvement Projects recommended for funding:

- Equipment
- Renovation, Replacement and Improvements

The board had questions regarding limits to the items funded and what the next steps are in the budget process. Once the budget is referred to City Council there may be opportunity for staff to present additional information to promote funding by Council. The Mayor would like to have the FY13 budget adopted by June, 2012.

#### **Park Board Liaison, Sub-committees, Updates and Staff Reports**

[Director](#) – Donna provided a brief update on some of the priority projects to be completed include the Milwaukee trail, meter conversions and park development standards.

#### **Recreation, [Projects](#), [Open Space](#), Operations, Urban Forestry, Greenways & Horticulture, [Parks & Trail Design & Development](#), Conservation Lands Management, Administration**

- Fort Missoula Regional Park (John O'Connor) -
- Tree Board & TFM (Janet Sproull, Susan Ridgeway, Ross Mollenhauer)
- Extraordinary Events – (Bruce Micklus – Liaison) – No Report
- Conservation Lands Advisory Committee (Janet Sproull)
- Friends of Missoula Parks, Inc – (John O'Connor)
- Staff Report - Ryan Yearous, Adult Sports and Wellness Recreation Specialist

Ryan Yearous was selected as the full time Adult sports and Wellness Recreation specialist. Ryan had been working with the previous Res Specialist, Scott Stires in youth and adult programming. Ryan was instrumental in changes to Kids in Action, youth flag football and generation of a new basketball program. Ryan has a BA in Public Administration and enjoys working with both team and individual sports, emphasizing the need to stay healthy and be active. He is also a member of the Missoula Figure Skating Club and plays hockey. He hopes to make Improvements to team sports and to recruit additional participation in adult sports. He plans to continue to promote good sportsmanship in all leagues and want to reorganize the adult winter sports offerings. He also is working to increase partnerships with other sports organizations. One of his goals it to work toward the construction of a community center and to continue the quality programs already established by the Department.

#### **Future items**

- Re-District update - May

#### **Adjournment - 1:35 pm**

After the meeting adjourned the Parks Department staff and the Park Board celebrated with parting Board member, Janet Sproull as this was her last meeting. Janet has volunteered her service to the City of Missoula as a Park Board member since 1996 and also was a founding member of the Mount Jumbo Advisory Committee. Staff and fellow board members thanked Janet for her service to the Missoula Community.

