

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

November 17, 2010

09:15–10:00 am

140 West Pine Street

Members Present: Pam Walzer, Bob Jaffe, Renee Mitchell, Ed Childers, Jon Wilkins, Stacy Rye, Dave Strohmaier, Lyn Hellegaard

Members Absent: Marilyn Marler (chair), Roy Houseman, Dick Haines

Others Present: Ben Carson, Donna Gaukler

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Approve minutes. Minutes of November 10, 2010 were approved as submitted.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER –

Jon asked for a copy of the [agreement with Little League Baseball](#) and [copies of Park Board minutes](#) related to this issue. Ed Childers requested [recent emails from Park Board](#) on this issue.

Donna explained that the current agreement for priority use of Playfair Park with Little League has expired and due to the number of user groups paying for and wanting access to the same fields it was decided to work with a facilitator to do interest based problem solving with the Parks Staff, Park Board and user groups. The process will start with five hour training and a full day workshop. Any agreement from the meeting will come to Council for approval.

II. FINAL CONSIDERATION AGENDA ITEMS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS –

1. Approve the annual agreement for maintenance and management of Fort Missoula Park. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Donna Gaukler) (Referred to committee: 11/15/2010) **(REMOVE FROM AGENDA)**

MOTION: The Committee recommends Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the annual agreement with the County for maintenance and management of Fort Missoula Park in the amount of \$75,794.

The maintenance and management of Fort Missoula Park has been provided by the City for several years. The benefit to the City and the County is mutual as the County does not have labor or equipment to perform the necessary tasks for maintenance and management of turf and athletic parks and the City offers or facilitates extensive recreation programming in the Park. The County uses the Park Mill Levy to pay the costs of maintenance and management. The City also collects fees through use of Fort Missoula Park. These fees are generated through Parks and Recreation managed programs as well as by permit to various sports organizations. The agreement is adjusted for inflationary costs. Non-routine costs, (such as well repair, herbicide application, capital improvements or renovations) and items not within the agreement are paid for by the County. The contract is up for Council review and renewal this year with a 4.5% increase over FY10.

Renee – what types of costs are included in this increase to the agreement"

Donna - General costs related to maintenance of fields, fence, trails, but due to wage freeze no additional for labor.

There was a brief discussion on the possibility of annexation of the park and the ramifications.

It was moved to recommend approval and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with the County. All members voted in favor of the motion.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS –

1. Update from the Greenhouse Gas Conservation Energy Team. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 09/13/10)**(HELD IN COMMITTEE)**

Ben Schmidt – provided the committee with an update on projects, recommendations and timeline from the Greenhouse Gas Conservation Energy Team (GGECT). He will be returning in December to provide additional information as it relates to recommendation for the City to support at the 2011 legislative session.

The GGECT would also like to use funds generated from Green Power Missoula on marketing to increase the revenue for this program. There are about twenty citizens signed up for the program which has received about \$200 from the credits. The committee will provide ideas for marketing at a later time.

The GGECT continues to work on energy building incentive program since State law does allow cities the ability to offer incentive programs.

Another project of the GGECT is to find an LED outdoor lightening demonstration project. The committee has found this to be a complex issue in determining funding, cost savings and maintenance.

The following are the six recommendations from the GGECT to the City to support at the 2011 legislative session. ([memo](#))

- ⊕ Continue support for the Renewable Power production and Rural Economic Development Act (also known as RPS) which required regulated utilities, primarily Northwestern Energy, to procure renewable energy at increasing increments with a goal of 15% by 2015.
- ⊕ Support revision of net metering laws
- ⊕ Support rules that allow the formation of Building Improvement Districts to procure funding for energy retrofit projects
- ⊕ Prioritize \$ for transportation project that help reduce or minimize Greenhouse Gas emissions
- ⊕ Comprehensive waste disposal program (recycling, composting, etc)
- ⊕ Require full lifecycle cost analysis for any future coal development and analyze state wide impact of coal burning

The GGECT will provide an update on the proposed recommendations in December.

V. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

VI. HELD AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS - PER COMMITTEE CHAIR – Marilyn Marler

1. Information on Trail Projects ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 08/23/2010)
2. Consider amending an ordinance to allow bow hunting on certain lands. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jackie Corday) (Referred to committee: 10/25/10)
3. Discussion on the Knife River Gravel pit property. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 11/08/10)
4. Budget update on aquatics. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 11/08/10)
5. Reorganization of conservation lands advisory committees. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 11/08/10)
6. Consider a new ordinance that will create a process and criteria for the naming of public parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jackie Corday) (Referred to committee: 10/25/10)
7. Approve an agreement between the City and Garden City Harvest (GCH) to allow for community gardens on City owned properties that will be identified in the future. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jackie Corday) (Referred to committee: 10/25/10)

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.