



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2021
MAECK EDUCATION CENTER
12:00 Noon

Members in Attendance: B. Combo, R. Nitschke, M. Hill, R. Foote, P. Lloyd, C. White, J. Francis, J. Freeman, L. Burtenshaw, J. Walker, P. Holm, D. Pennock, C. Horsley, J. Stephens, W. Johnson, B. Lee, Guests: Jeff Forbes and Stephanie Rose

Members Not in Attendance: T. Hersh

Call to Order – B. Combo

B. Combo called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

Approval of Minutes

C. White moved to approve the October minutes. M. Hill seconded. All in favor.

“Imagine Idaho Falls” Presentation – B. Cramer

B. Cramer from the City of Idaho Falls Community Development Department gave a presentation on “Imagine Idaho Falls”, a plan to move Idaho Falls forward together.

Director’s Report – P. Holm

P. Holm reported on the following:

- A copy of the 2022 budget was passed out for board members to review.
- LWCF Update – The board was reminded that we’ve been out of LWCF compliance for twenty-five years and he discussed specific properties that have caused us to be out of compliance. He explained the challenges they are having trying to purchase a property that will act as a replacement for non-compliant properties. An internal committee made up of other Idaho Falls City Department employees is working together on this challenge.
- Noise Park Update – The Parks Department met with the motorcross community to explain to them that we are not going to run that track any longer. They are trying to figure out a way to run the track as a club and rent the facility from us. The department has also been approached by several people involved with Snake River BMX who are

interested in moving their program to Noise Park. Several more meetings with this group will be scheduled to see if this will be a feasible alternative that will benefit both the City of Idaho Falls and the Snake River BMX program.

- Heritage Park Update – The Idaho Falls Rotary Club presented the Parks and Recreation Department with a donation check of \$700,000 on October 6th. We will be receiving a second check for \$100,000 at the conclusion of this project phase. A tour of Heritage Park with the Rotary Club was conducted on October 20th.
- The bid for the bentonite creek liners for Ryder Park will go out the second week of November.
- We have installed additional lighting and security cameras in several parks near bathrooms to deter vandalism.
- Skyline Tennis Courts – The formal bid is going out and the average cost estimate to replace tennis courts is \$350,000.
- Upcoming Projects: Director Holm discussed upcoming projects including updating lighting to LED's, roadway repair, bleacher replacement, and metal siding on shelters. These upgrades will be at Tautphaus Park. There will be an upper deck replacement at Sportsman's Park and a replacement deck at Jensen's Overlook. Playground equipment will be installed at Liberty Park, a niche wall will be built at Rose Hill Cemetery, and there will be playground and irrigation improvements at Sunnyside Mel Erickson Park.
- War Bonnet update – Director Holm reported that the War Bonnet Round Up was inducted into the Hall of Fame and that the rodeo has been nominated as one of the top five medium rodeos in the Wilderness Circuit. He also reported on the revenue and expenses to date for the 2021 event.
- Pinecrest Irrigation Project – The irrigation project is going well, and Heritage Links is continuing to work on the back nine holes of the golf course.
- Soccer Complex – Director Holm will be meeting with Rick Cloutier the director of the Idaho Falls Airport on the property housing the Old Butte Soccer Complex and the forty acres just west of the complex. This soccer complex property is owned by the airport and we could lose use of it in the future.

Division Updates

Parks – R. Campbell (absent) – reported by J. Stephens

J. Stephens reported on the following:

- The irrigation system blow outs were completed Monday, November 1st.
- The Department is working on holiday lights, holiday decorations and turf applications.

Zoo – D. Pennock

D. Pennock reported on the following:

- They had a successful Boo at the Zoo event.
- The zoo is open this November on the weekends.

Recreation – C. Horsley

C. Horsley reported on the following:

- Portable goals were purchased for the Old Butte Soccer Complex. Next spring, we will use these goals for better turf management.

Commissioner Reports

J. Walker – County Commissioner

J. Walker reported on the following:

- The snow groomers are ready for the back country trails.
- They are preparing the snowmobile huts for winter use.
- Palisades is at a 7% water level, up from 5% last month.

School Dist. 91 – Pat Lloyd (no report)

Shade Tree Committee – M. Hill

M. Hill reported on the following:

- The Arbor Day Celebration was a success this year. They planted thirty-three new trees at Reinhart Park. The grade school kids from Snake River Montessori came to help along with Mayor Casper and most of the City Council members.

Public Comments

Guests, Jeff Forbes, and Stephanie Rose made comments regarding their opposition to the proposed site for the new water tower.

Adjournment at 1:30 pm.

Next meeting will be held December 6th, 2021

*Recorded by:
Tracy Sessions, Clerk, Parks & Recreation*