

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Notes

Monday, August 4, 2025 5:30 PM

1. Call to Order the Joint Meeting of the Sustainability Council and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Chair Erika Saunders called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Park Board Members present: Erika Saunders, Steve Berseth, Jay Larson, Isabella Park, Brenda Andersen and Nathaniel Condelli. Park Board Members Absent: Paul Meyer and Stacey Zerfas. City Employees present: Kristin Zimmerman, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Ashley Marler, Office Manager of Parks, Recreation and Forestry.

2. Approval of Agenda

Jay Larsen motions to approve agenda, Brenda Andersen 2nds motion; Motion is carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Brenda Andersen motions to approve the minutes, Nathaniel Condelli 2nds motion; Motion is carried.

4. Call to the Public

A member of the public wanted to complement our golf course superintendent, Greg Redenius on the wonderful job that he and his crew have been doing at Edgebrook Golf Course. He also expressed concern about the pit at 5th street Gym. Kristin did explain that it is a priority that we are working on.

5. City Update

A. Civic Zoning Notification: All city lands are getting switched over into the civic zoning. From a Parks perspective it is an extra layer of protection. This will designate park land instead of residential or agricultural land. All city parks will be civic zoned, even our federally funded parks through the land and water conservation. This will be going to city council for a 2nd reading August 12th.

B. Other Board Updates: The following boards are now under Parks, Recreation and Forestry's umbrella.

Sustainability Council: they are working on donations for the food forest, we will be putting fence around the trees. We are working on maintenance agreements with them as well.

Public Arts Commission: Upcoming projects for this year are to help with the skatepark park. They are working with artist to design wraps to go around water fountains, trash cans and other items. They are also working to create benches out of repurposed skateboards. They are also going to be doing more utility box wraps.

Brookings Activity Center: They have been busy putting on programs and events. They are doing a lot of fundraising. The fundraising really goes toward the activities that they get to enjoy.

Bicycle Subcommittee: They are really focusing on the maintenance of the trails. Where to spend the money for those trail funds.

2026 Proposed Capital improvement Plan:

- a) Activity Center – 15,000.00 going towards replacing air handlers
- b) Public Art - \$93,911.00 its 15 of eligible capital improvement projects
- c) Edgebrook - \$227,750.00 this is primarily for cart paths, club house improvements and equipment.
- d) Trails - \$250,000.00 this will go to maintain and improve trials as well as adding new trails to stay connected.
- e) Vehicles - \$135,000.00
- f) Park Facilities - \$1,147,362.00 playground replacements, ½ Million towards the 5th street gym.
- g) Tree Planting – Urban Forestry initiative \$25,000.00
- h) Larson Ice Center – \$318,190.00

Kristin Zimmerman presented a hand out to all board members to discuss projects in the coming year based on the proposed Budgets.

6.Parks Project Updates

Playground updates this fall:

- a. Indian Hills Park playground is being replaced.
- b. Sarah Renee Park will also have its playground replaced.

- c. Hillcrest Park swing set is set to be replaced as well.

Edgebrook Golf Course:

We have received the 30% drawings from the engineers we should have the 50% drawings hopefully by the end of this week. We are moving forward and are hopeful to be out to bid very soon. Once we are at 90%, we can go out to bid and hopefully have construction still starting this fall. They will start most of the work on the golf course property once the golf course is closed to not interrupt the golf season. They hope to have the connection to BMU done and be ready to turn on the water spring of 2026. We do plan to make some club house improvements. We would like to do some minor upgrades this off season, including new carpet, new paint, new lighting and some new patio furniture. We want to see how the bid goes out for the water sourcing before we get too deep in renovations, water sourcing is our priority at this time.

Skate Park:

This was approved by City Council in July so we are in the works with that Vendor to get it started this fall. We expect that it will be completed by Spring of 2026.

7. 5th Street Gym – Winter Schedule

- a) We are going to continue to have active older adult programming
- b) there will still be a winter walking club. We will be doing that at both the 5th street Gym and The Larson Ice Center.
- c) Adult Leagues will still continue as they did last year, however we are adding in dodgeball league this fall.
- d) We are continuing to work with our user groups. Brookings Youth Volleyball and the Special Olympics are relatively new to our partnerships. We will have youth volleyball in September, October and part of November. Brookings Farmers Market will be held in the 5th Street Gym in the winter on the first and third Saturdays of the month starting November 15th. The Brookings School District will also continue to use the gym. We are working on some other possible events to fill in those weekends that we have open. Possible special events include: A Zombie Prom, Community Dances or makers markets. We do have a great intern staff that is staying on with us through winter and he is very good about coming up with ideas and events we can have.

8. Tree Ordinance Revision

The revised tree ordinance was presented to the board. With the number of diseases that do infect our trees it was thought that making the terms broader would help with the letters that get sent out. We will keep track of what type of disease the trees do have in the office.

9. Directors Report and Monthly Department Updates

Larson Ice Center- we did have some unexpected maintenance. We should be at normal operations after the maintenance work has been finished in a couple of days.

Arrowhead Parks Trail: The Public Works Department had planned to do a maintenance project around the ponds at the park. They do need to use our trail and will be replacing it, however the 20th street shared use path from main to branch creek is taking priority due to school starting soon.

Hillcrest Aquatic Center: new pool filters and pumps will be installed the week of August 19th.

Upcoming Programs and Events-

1. National Night Out, Pioneer Park Augusts 5th
2. Cole Swindell ticket Giveaway at Edgebrook Golf Course, August 6th
3. Pollinator Days at Farmers Market, August 9th
4. Last day of pool operations and Soggy Doggy Days, August 17th
5. Speaking at a Veteran's group that meets at Kool Beans, August 20th
6. SDSU International Students Ice Cream Social, August 20th
7. SDSU Move in Day is August 22nd
8. NRPA – September 16th – 18th Kristin Zimmerman and Joshua Bauman will both be gone for the NRPA Conference in Orlando, Florida.
9. SDPRA- will be October 6th – 9th Kristin Zimmerman will be in Spearfish South Dakota.

10. Adjournment

Brenda Andersen motions to adjourn, Nathaniel Condelli 2nds; Motion is carried.

