

# Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Special Minutes

## Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:30 PM

---

### Call to Order

Steve Berseth called meeting to order at 5:29 PM. Present: Steve Berseth, Andrea Hogue (Zoom), John Maynes, Doug Smith (Zoom), Erika Saunders (Zoom), Jay Larsen, Carson Cody (Zoom), Isaac Schulte (Zoom); & City Staff Dusty Rodiek, Greg Redenius, Stacy Claussen, Darren Hoff, & Ronda May. Also present via Zoom: Leon & Will Younger and Lyle Pudwill. Guest: Harry Mansheim. Not present: Board Member Ashley Ragsdale, Parks & Forestry Supt Al Kruse, & City Mgr Paul Briseno.

---

### Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by John Maynes, seconded by Jay Larsen; motion carried.

---

### New Business: Reported by Dusty Rodiek unless otherwise noted

- A. Parks Master Plan – Aug 2021 Update: Leon – next step is to wrap up in Sept. Focus on how do we get there. Revisited the themes of the Master Plan. Level of Service: largest need is Indoor Rec & Aquatic Center but we're meeting the community's needs. Recommendations: community mandates/priorities, financial/revenue, levels of service, partnerships, standards, & governance/organizations. Vision Statement & Mission Statement created. Then created a 30-page document which they'll send to us.

Initiative #1 – Well Maintained & Safe Parks & gave park recommendations.

Int #2 – High Performing & Facility Management & gave recommendations. Ten percent of work hours should be performed by volunteers.

Int #3 – Enhance Programs, Services, & Expectations & gave recommendations. Do true feasibility study is highly recommended by Leon. Cost-of service study helps us take care of what we're creating & not take away from other programs.

Int #4 – Enhance Financial Mgm't & gave recommendations. Requires long-term funding strategy to take care of our amenities. Consider creating Park Foundation as have very giving community. Most cities they work with have land dedication ordinance–something they suggest we do as well as impact fee on new development.

Lyle–CIP: put improvements into 3 tiers: critical/sustainable (deferred maintenance, lifecycle replacements), expanded services alternative – existing needs but add amenities (trail expansion, new park features), & visionary alternative – fiscally unconstrained desire by community (complete renovations, development of new parks/facilities). These are usually done in conjunction w/private partner. In 5 & 10 year CIP, added 45 new improvements totally \$2.6 million in critical, \$1.5 mill in expanded, and \$33.8 mill in visionary.

Feedback from us: Jay–analysis of what Fishback Indoor Training Fac, Larson Ice Center new area, & possibly 5<sup>th</sup> St. Leon–typically community center has 2 gyms w/4–5 courts, walking track, level of aquatic facility w/at least 3 different water areas (warm for rehab, fitness water, play water, and competition water), & usually wellness/fitness component, a community space that serves all different types of programs for all ages. Harry–what is a Miracle Ballfield? Leon–people in wheel chairs/disabled are able to use rubberized surface field & play the game without injury for kids & adults to use & being mobile. Harry–be put inside for year found? Leon, yes & are normally supported privately. Lyle–Miracle Ballfield organization that combines inclusive playground so destination. Doug–if we have bunch of facilities, any reason why we couldn't have Special Olympic competitions in Brookings? Leon–yes, could do now w/out Miracle Field as have facilities. Dusty–typically Miracle Fields are outdoors. Multi-ages, multi-functional concept. John–do any financial comparisons w/peer communities? Leon–yes, in report. Jay–advancement in Brookings population going S which was agricultural; how do we appeal to these developments to have ordinance/impact fee or don't ask for acceptance as more developments mean more parks, more staff. Leon–parks system should grow w/developments & we have some existing land that could help us. Have ability to use imp fees to make some new amenities. Leon–does this make sense what we've done?

Steve—we seem to have real high ratio of park land in comparison to other communities our size. How does this element fit into the plan? Leon- having more park land is ok but biggest thing is having land no one uses that we maintain. Need to setup spaces for positive experiences to celebrate outdoors & general organized play. Jay—any potential benefit w/20<sup>th</sup> St and I29 interchange? Leon—gives us another opportunity to connect town & open up more development so need to decide how we service. Important to include parks in infrastructure ... when roads go in, parks follow & important component for the future.

Doug—if we develop indoor rec/aquatic center, where do we place it? Leon—look at residents first to make sure well served then look at demographics of users. Feasibility study looks at 3 things & want to maximize as most we can. Harry—saw that largest need is indoor rec/aquatic center. What's your suggestion to have complete rec center for many amenities built & paid for? Leon—usually bond issue, 50-60 year buildings so touch generations of use. Multi-functional & multi-age so everyone can see themselves using it while not make it sports focused to get more support. Look at partnerships—we did Sioux Falls plan & had a lot of partnerships. Feasibility study will find those partners (hospitals for rehab purposes & wellness components, YMCA, private groups who want to invest, school districts & universities, & organizations that want to pay for 1 major piece). Need wider age investment. John—any analysis of existing tax burden in Brookings? Leon—yes, & everyone's aware of it. Best system in US have best balance of year round usage. Steve—a lot of adult participation through membership in Wellness Center—more focus on youth for indoor center? Leon—good balance between all ages, singles/couples/families. Need to program how ages feel, doesn't duplicate senior center, generated around active seniors. Doug—Wellness Center cost prohibitive, when school in session, hard to get in, & intimidating for older folks to use when students there. Doug would like facility for all ages & not intimidating. Leon—always space for people to access.

Dusty – maybe next meeting will share more pieces of action plan, revise some dates possibly. It's a living/working document, & we can prioritize further down-the-line & modify as we go based on the conditions.

---

### **Adjournment:**

---

Dusty mentioned tour on Sept 7<sup>th</sup>. Action Plan will be working document & we'll look at on annual basis. Hope by Sept 11 to have CIP in little more easy-to-read format. Will go through & prioritize by different categories. How to keep amenities, replacement schedule, & added amenities (pickleball, etc). Hope to bring to next meeting for review. John—when is meeting w/Council? Dusty—final presentation, maybe 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting in Sept. Harry—who is everyone so those he didn't know introduced to him.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM.

Submitted,

*Ronda A May*

Ronda A May

Parks, Recreation & Forestry Office Manager