

Red Lodge Parks, Trees and Recreation Board
Recreational Facilities and Regulations report-September 2016

Committee members: Rue Freeman, Bill Foisy, and Kelly Heaton

The committee did not meet, but City Staff, committee members, and other Parks board members coordinated so as to complete several tasks, including the following:

1. Soccer Field- There has been three subcommittee meetings since our last Parks Board meeting regarding the potential location of a soccer field. Mayor Schoenike participated in all of the meetings, Beth Graham was at the last two meetings and Marci Dye (representing the high school was at the final meeting). The pros and cons of locations, infrastructure improvements and maintenance responsibilities were discussed. There was consensus that Coal Miners Park should primarily be a sports complex and that building a soccer field at that location is preferred. There was discussion of turning one of the softball fields into a soccer field that could also be used for softball, but it became apparent that there is a need for three fields. The "top" of Coal Miners was ultimately viewed as the most ideal location. The high school has agreed to fix and blow out the sprinklers, mow, fertilize and aerate the field if they can use it for track and field, occasional football practice and P.E. classes. Soccer would have first rights to the field. By keeping the field as part of Coal Miners Park, we will be assured that the public can continue to access the field when not in use. Great West Engineering has an engineer who has designed a soccer field that is on a "dump" in Helena and is able to do a report on the soil conditions. The report will be owned by the City. The Parks Board will be asked to contribute ~\$2,500 for the report. A motion at the September 21, 2016 meeting to fund the geo tech report is on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Heaton 9/16/16