



Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2019 / 5:30 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

Red Lodge Parks, Trees and Recreation Board

Call to order

Rue Freeman, Vice-Chair, called a meeting of Red Lodge Parks, Trees and Recreation Board to order on October 24, 2019.

Roll Call

Name	Role	Present	Absent
Anna Drew	Chairperson		
Rue Freeman	Vice-Chairperson		
Theresa Whistler	Secretary		
Bryan Romeijn	City Representative		
Kevin Bonk	City Representative		
Rob Weamer	Council Representative		
Carol Bloomer	City Representative		
James Caniglia (non-voting)	City Staff, Community Development Director		
Neil Matthews-Pennanen (non-voting)	City Staff, Assistant Planner		

Citizen Comment on Matters within Board Jurisdiction

Judith Gregory asking if there was any additional information about the indoor pool – board relayed they had no additional info other than the Mayor is waiting on hearing from the School (in a letter) that they may or may not be interested in building a pool at the school and some type of partnership.

Action Items:

Consent Agenda

- Minutes from Sept 25 2019 meeting

Approval of consent agenda

Carol motioned to approve consent agenda

Kevin seconded the motion

Board approved consent agenda (6 to 0) – 9/25 minutes approved

Discussion Items

- Any items removed from Consent Agenda – none**
- User Group MOU Annual Check-in**
 - RL Ice – Rue spoke with Andy earlier and shared his input. Andy was not able to attend
 - Lions Club - John Gilligan spoke on the clubs’ behalf – no issues known of for Lions
 - Create an email that goes out on google drive and match with Facebook invite
 - BRTA - Jennifer Drinkwalter
 - No other changes to MOU than addition about coming to Parks Board in Oct.
 - Impressed upon Board our responsibility to push City to fund/keep Parks better and cited items that need to be addressed and other concerns:
 - Airport trail, south loop, Van Dyke park – proposal to keep weeds at bay from encroachment onto trail...must be sprayed by City

- McGillan trail switchback trails need improvement (drainage, erosion, cover, etc.)
- Willow trail erosion of blacktop chunks
- HWY 212 path, sweeper not used by City and was a lot of manual work done by group
- Rotary park needs weeding, debris from spring parks clean up never removed
- HS rock creek trail used to get mowed and is never mowed anymore
- Behind sanctuary did the weeding but don't have equipment to reach difficult areas
- Coal miners mowing was done once in Aug. for the whole season and is insufficient
- Capital projects wanted but are continuously never budgeted
- MOUS are helping City to meet the need of the community, but City is not adding their support
- Want to hire MCC to come work on our trails (\$65k has been spent already) and is not matched by the City by any means

Board asked Jennifer to ask BRTA to submit Capital Improvements Projects for Trails they want listed for the current CIP updates.

3. Bee City USA – discussion

Summary of discussion: Bee City USA is a good Goal for the City and a fit with Parks Board tree committee and programs/events/activities. It's for very similar to what we do for trees and achieving tree city USA each year. Bee city compliance appears to be a very grass roots up effort to improve landscapes and avoid use of herbicides/pesticides that harm bees...doesn't require complete abandonment of current measures (of weed spraying) only considerations of mitigation through time to improve the landscape and environment (in favor of bees). Seems very reasonable and an inexpensive or non-expense effort may be met to achieve title for the City.

Rue motioned for the adoption of Bee City into Parks Board and a fit within tree committee to start.

Theresa Seconded the motion

Board approved taking Bee City into Parks (6 to 0)

Next steps would be revision of the application proposing Red Lodge as a Bee City USA and outlining a number of activities ensuring compliance moving forward

4. BRTA America Walks Grant – discussion (Jennifer Drinkwalter present)

- BRTA is applying for a \$1500 grant so they can improve the Coal miners trail
- Asking Board for a Letter of support to the City and to BRTA in support of the grant and effort they're taking to improve Coal Miners trail
- Trails/Park needs signage and to address (City) deferred maintenance – that's the purpose of the grant
- Raising awareness of coal miners memorial by adding nice walking path – walk along it will raise it's importance and show respect
- **Theresa motioned approval** for Grant application, effort to improve the trail and a show of support to the City
- **Bryan seconded the motion**
- **Board is in favor (6 to 0)**
- Rue will draft a letter to the City to state Parks Board is in agreement with BRTA applying for the grant

5. Skate Park Upgrades – updates/discussion

- Kevin has a Teleconf next with Aaron Kyro about skate park
- Estimate from Evergreen came in at \$200,000 with a conceptual design
- Question to take back to Evergreen is what would the park look like for \$50,000? They mentioned that something could be done minimally for 50K (of course, not with concrete). Kevin said he could ask.
- Kyro group asking for a 2nd bid (thought it was high priced)
- Need to add Skate park into CIP listing for Parks projects and provide estimated costs

6. Capital Improvements (for Parks) – proposed revisions for CIP

- Group effort to revise section 2.5.1 of the CIP (Parks and Recreation Projects)
- Agreement to have everyone work on it together and forward a draft compilation to Neil by Halloween
- Some of the ideas discussed for the CIP during meeting:
 - Adding skate park \$200000 estimate (not listed in past)
 - Bike pump park (new proposal)
 - Brewer hill (Trail completion)
 - Tree nursery (new proposal and fit w/ sustainability)
- Priority order needs to be discussed once compilation completed

7. Financial Summary

Neil stated there's about \$2500 in Parks current budget (apart from what is specifically listing under public works now). Many items that used to be listed under Parks moved into Public works since there is no longer any resort tax funding traditional Parks budget. There's ~\$1200 remaining for watering (from a RLACF grant) and \$1300 remaining from a DNRC development grant awarded a couple years ago. There is no budget for parks this year except for what's listed under Public works and that's likely to be adjusted (down) further.

8. Master task list – reviewed and updates noted w/in attached spreadsheet



Master Task List
10-24-19.xlsx

9. Annual Report

Draft forwarded from Neil did not make it around to everyone and there was nothing captured apart from the Urban Forestry section. Theresa offered to take a pass at the whole of it and share draft again following.

10. Swimming Pool status- discussion

- Waiting to hear when Mayor receives letter from School and what next steps are
- 2 people from community specifically came to see what progress there is
- Board relayed there is still no other information on the direction from the City until the Mayor has an understanding on the Schools direction.

Citizen Comment on Matters within Board Jurisdiction

Another resident came in to ask about the Pool. She's not a City resident but a County resident and she stopped in to say she's in support of the pool and would be happy to help pay for it even though she's outside the City.

Announcements

Meeting Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
- Next scheduled monthly meeting is on Wednesday, **Nov. 20, 2019**

_____ Rue Freeman, Vice-Chair _____ Date

_____ Theresa Whistler, Secretary _____ Date

For supporting information see the following link: <http://cityofredlodge.net/departments/parks-board/>