



The MISSION of the City of Yankton is to provide exemplary experiences, services & spaces that create opportunities for everyone to learn, engage, and thrive.

**MINUTES**  
**YANKTON PARK ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 5:30PM, in the Community Room**  
**CMTEA Building, 1200 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street**

**I. ROUTINE BUSINESS**

Roll Call:

Present: Jason Tellus, Brian Bertsch, Nick Severson, Elizabeth Healy, Tom Bixler, and City Commissioner Brian Hunhoff.

Absent: Jeannine Economy-List.

Also present City Manager Amy Leon, Director of Parks and Recreation Todd Larson, and Parks Secretary Chasity McHenry.

Public Appearances: Sam Hummel. Talked to the board about BMX tracks in Yankton. Sioux Falls is in the process of doing one at Great Bear. Sioux Falls used \$10,000 for building the first small one. Norfolk has one. Sioux City is building one at Cone Park and coke-a-cola is involved in funding. Would like to start a public task force to research funding options to build and would like the City to donate some unused land for placement. Maybe form a 501c3. Locations to research include Paddle Wheel Point, XYZ land across from Morgen Park, or transfer station land. 1 or 2 acres needed for a pump track. 6 acres would be ideal. Needs to be ADA accessible. Need parking. Lights? Restrooms or porta-pots. Bentonville, Arkansas, is the BMX bike and trails capital of the world. There is a Missouri River Cycling Club in town. AT&T may have grants. People to reach out to include Dean Larson, Vince Jeness, Ken Kopetsky, Ben Brunick.

Minutes: November 21, 2023 minutes approved. Bertsch motioned. Tellus second. Motion passed 5-0.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

A. None.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Parks Advisory Board to function as City Tree Board. City Manager Amy Leon presented a cotton wood tree evaluation and plan for 2024-2028. Staff is recommending a plan of one removal per year from 2024 to 2028 and the department would plant two trees in a public green space for each removal. L. Healy made a motion, "The PAB recommends to the City Commission to have the City staff follow the cottonwood tree evaluation and removal plan for the 2024 – 2028 time frame. The plan consists of removing one cottonwood tree and planting two trees in public greenspace each year during this time period." B. Bertsch second. Motion passes 5-0



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- B. The Westside Park Pond Project – in 2024 a synthetic liner will be installed in the pond. No timeline to present at the time. This would be a 90 day project.
- C. The Westside Park Pickle Ball court conversion – waiting to have the LWCF grant paperwork signed by the National Park Service.
- D. 2023 HFAC budget through December 31. Total Revenues= \$1,859,923. Total Expenses= \$1,681,786. Remember, interest in 2023 of \$197,500. Net revenue of \$178,137. The budget numbers are not finalized until after the official audit.
- E. 2023 SAC budget through December 31. These are preliminary reports. They include the first schedule of bills in January accounts payable and p-card expenses. The payroll that was paid on January 5 will have a journal entry to put the expenses incurred in 2023 back into the 2023 budget. Total Revenues= \$1,147,019. That includes a transfer from the general fund of \$685,058. Total operating revenues are therefore \$461,961. Total Expenses= \$753,902. Currently the operating loss is \$291,941.
- F. Meridian Bridge's Centennial Celebrations. Upcoming events to take note of: Friday night, January 26, Kick-Off Celebration at Ben's Brew Station from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. Friday, February 2, noon, The Mead Museum's Feed Your Mind presentation over the Noon hour. A nature and history walk on Saturday morning April 27 starting in Riverside Park (more details to come as this is not yet planned out). The annual cemetery walk on the evening of June 5 (rain date June 12). The cemetery walk is a collaboration between the Yankton Library and the Mead Museum (more details to come). The two big events coming up will be entertainment and fireworks on the night of July 4 and entertainment and a drone show on the night of July 5 (more details to come).

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. General discussion items.
  - Commission information Memorandums (4 CIMs). The items were sent out after the meeting as they were not attached to the agenda packet.
    - Other completed work projects for the department are noted in the CIMs.
  - Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2024.

#### **V. ADJOURN**

Bertsch motioned, Severson second. Motion carried 5-0.