



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
Monday, May 20, 2024, 5:30PM, in the Community Room
CMTEA Building, 1200 W. 21st Street

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

Roll Call:

Present: Jason Tellus, Brian Bertsch, Nick Severson, and City Commissioner Brian Hunhoff.

Absent: Jeannine Economy-List, Elizabeth Healy, and Tom Bixler.

Also present Director of Parks and Recreation Todd Larson, and Parks Secretary Chasity McHenry.

Public Appearances: Ron Kachena, master gardener. Commented on how Lisa Kortan, urban forester is doing a good job with the Arboretum. They are wondering if there is anything their group could help with and if anything is planned for the Arboretum. There are plans to discuss the Arboretum in the comprehensive planning meetings scheduled in 2024. A fall planning meeting can be organized to meet with the master gardeners group to discuss the arboretum and future improvements (signs for trees, benches, etc.). It was also mentioned that there is little to no information on the City website or Google in regards to the Arboretum. It was suggested that there be photos and tree descriptions added to the website. Try and claim the arboretum as a business on Google so it is listed in searches.

Minutes: March 18, 2024 minutes approved. Tellus motioned. Bertsch second. Motion passed 3-0.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. The Westside Park Pond Project: A synthetic liner is being installed in the pond and should be done the week of May 20. Work to place clay over the liner on the edges, dirt in the aquatics planting areas and to do the plantings, place back the rock around the island, place back rock around the patio wall, place rock around the entire perimeter of the pond, and redo the landscaping areas around the southeast corner will take quite a bit of time.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Westside Park Pickle Ball court conversion- LWCF grant paperwork has been signed by all parties. We had a public meeting on May 7 to get consensus on project items. First items to get scheduled is installation of interior fencing. Then installation of net posts. Painting of the courts will be third. Utilizing the priority list of items discussed at the public meeting remaining project funds will be used to complete other items. No timelines have been established yet. We have until June 30, 2026, to have the work completed that was a part of the grant application (fencing, net posts, nets, painting). Hoping by fall of 2024 it will be done.



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- B. BMX bike dirt track and pump track public meeting was held May 14. There were 12 adults, 2 City Commissioners, 4 City staff, 1 PAB member, and 1 baby in attendance at the meeting. Sam Hummel did a short presentation and we gathered email addresses of those in attendance. Sam will choose a date and time for the first task force meeting and those in attendance will be notified. The first step for the task force will be identifying land that could be used.
- C. Meridian Bridge's Centennial Celebrations. Upcoming events to take note of: July 4 Music at the Meridian with fireworks and then July 5 concerts with drone show. Both of these will be held in Riverside Park.
- D. Luke Youmans, Sonya Wattier, and Jordan Groves are the department's aquatics team and they are now working on getting The Huether Family Aquatics Center prepared for the 2024 season. The facility is scheduled to open Saturday, May 25. We feel grateful as there has been a sufficient number of applicants for lifeguarding and all the positions we need to fill during the summer months.
- E. The City of Yankton Comprehensive Plan effort begins this summer. Some items that will need to be monitored during this process are: 1) any input on The Lawn and its master planning; 2) the amphitheater in Riverside Park; 3) field renovations at the SAC to make a regulation baseball field and a regulation softball field; 4) a children's play area for the Westbrook Estates development. The City has property that can be used in the NE corner of the Westbrook Estates development along West City Limits Road and Marne Creek.

For the Westbrook Estates park development, the City would plan to have a neighborhood meeting in the fall/early winter so we all have an understanding of what the comprehensive plan data is telling us and then to also have the more specific neighborhood input for this neighborhood park development.

The other aspect of this development would be understanding the flood plain in the park area so we know where we can build and where we would not be allowed to build because of the flood plain boundaries.

The City is setting up a meeting with the Yankton Baseball Association, Mount Marty University, and YSD to hear about ideas for renovating the two fields at the SAC property.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. General discussion items.
 - Jason Tellus mentioned that at Fort Thompson camping area they have concrete bean bag toss boards for people to use while camping.
 - Commission information Memorandums (4 CIMs).
 - Other completed work projects for the department are noted in the CIMs.
 - Next Meeting: Monday, July 15, 2024.

V. ADJOURN

Tellus motioned, Severson second. Motion carried 3-0.