

DOUGLAS COUNTY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting on October 18, 2007

10:00 a.m.

Douglas County Park Department Office

PRESENT: Dennis Acton, Dale Christiansen, Lonnie Ferber, Jon Hill, Don Larson, Dick Swartzlender, Bill Swift, and Jim Dowd

GUESTS: Lois Eagleton

Ferber called the meeting to order.

MINUTES: Larson moved for approval of the September 20, 2007 minutes and Acton seconded. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Park Update:

Miwaleta Campground – Dowd reported that Phase I of the project was completed on October 15, 2007. Park crews have nearly completed one of the cabins. The grant for Phase II with OPRD for \$90,000 has been signed by the Board of Commissioners and will be sent back to OPRD for final signatures. The total estimated cost for Phase II is approximately \$330,000. Staff has submitted another grant to fund the water, power, and sewer projects.

Windy A Re-Roof – The lowest responsible bid came in at approximately \$78,000 for the restroom re-roof project at Windy Cove ‘A’ Campground. The project will begin as soon as we receive a notice to proceed from OPRD for the \$35,000 grant.

Mildred Kanipe Park – The museum has agreed to allow Bill Talburt to voluntarily refurbish the woodworking portion of the buggy which is currently being stored at the museum. Dowd will look into keeping the buggy on loan rather than transferring it to the Park Department.

Staff has flagged a cutting permit area at the park in preparation for firewood to be hauled and cut through the contract procedure. The project is expected to begin by November 1, 2007. Dowd will research when the resource limit was established and report back to the Board.

Equine Park - The Planning Department has approved the Technical Review Permit and funding is still being addressed.

Baker Wayside – The Forest Service Project to improve the wayside has been put on hold for the winter due to weather concerns. The wayside will be closed during this time, and will hopefully re-open next fall after the project is completed.

2. Park Tour

After some discussion, it was decided that the Park Board will take a tour of the coastal parks on October 25, 2007.

3. Douglas County Park Foundation Bylaws

Minor changes in the Douglas County Park Foundation bylaws were discussed and noted. Dowd will bring the revision to the next Park Board meeting.

4. Pitchford Master Plan

The status of the Pitchford Master Plan approval was questioned. Dowd reported that the plan has been postponed until the Board of Commissioners decides what the use of the Helleck Hall facility will be. The board requested Dowd look into the possibility of approving the plan with the caveat that we would work around the Helleck Hall facility until a determination could be made as to the ultimate use of that facility.

NEW BUSINESS:

Amacher Park: Dowd reported that Amacher Park has been experiencing some problematic issues by some users such as higher crime rates, unacceptable moral behavior, and a greater percentage of NSF checks. There has been an increase in assaults, public drunkenness, litter and failure to pay camping fees. Staff is working with the sheriff's department to enforce the current rules and recommendations have been made to accept only cash or credit/debit cards for camp fees, requiring a tow vehicle to be kept at the campsite, and to ban alcohol from the park.

NEXT MEETING: The next Park Board meeting will be November 15, 2007, 10:00 a.m. at Park Headquarters.

A motion to adjourn was made by Christiansen and seconded by Hill. The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Wilson, Office Manager
Douglas County Park Department