

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE HAILEY PARKS & LANDS BOARD
Held Tuesday, February 3, 2009**

Present: Board members Janet Fugate, Tom Downey, Dean Hernandez, Darin Sales, Jill Swanger, Cheryl Kramer & Kathy Noble; Becki Keefer, staff. **Not present:** Tom Hellen, staff.

New Business:

Review Park Reservation Policy and Procedures:

The Board was asked to again review the city's park reservation and park use permit system; they had reviewed this previously in August 2007. The Board still remains adamantly opposed to the Council's policy of waiving fees for "non-profit" events even when the events are often fund-raising, or for-profit, events.

The Board discussed:

- whether "Organized Events" can be categorized into either a for-profit event, or a not-for-profit event. Organized Private Events, such as birthday parties, weddings, reunions, and organized picnics are different than Organized Public Events, such as concerts or fundraisers. A Private Event is usually by invitation only, while a Public Event is one that anyone can attend. Private Events may use just the pavilions, but rarely would a private event tie up the entire park; a wedding in Curtis Park would, but a birthday party in a larger park would still leave the rest of the park available to the general public.
- The clean-up fee should be increased to \$100 per hour; at \$25 an hour, it also may seem like an invitation to leave a mess behind, rather than a disincentive.
- Special Event: a Public Event, or a Private Event anticipating more than 200 people.
- A Private Event, such as a family reunion or a wedding, should be \$100/day for 100 or more people, and would include the pavilion.

For 25 – 99 persons, \$50/day, including the pavilion.

For 1 – 24 persons using the pavilion, \$25/day.

(There are only pavilions in Heagle, Hop Porter and Keefer Parks.)

- For Special Events, should the definition of "attracts crowds of more than 50 people at any one time" be deleted?
- The Board strongly recommends removing any language pertaining to waived fees from the park reservation of event permits; such language invites the permittee to ask for a waiver of the fees. Fees are intended to offset the impact of the events on the parks, and are a cost of a fundraising event.

Some events encourage community by their very existence or by the cause that the fundraising promotes. If you support the group or the cause, you can show your support and donate to the event. The city is not a charity, and shouldn't be waiving revenues. Furthermore, the waiver of fees is arbitrary and capricious, although, waivers are a means of showing public policy. The Board is not opposed to waivers to established and organized 501(c)3 entities, but just because the event organizers complains that they won't make any profit shouldn't qualify them for a waiver.

- Should the Council relinquish the responsibility of waiving fees to the Parks & Lands Board, instead?

- The Northern Rockies Folk Festival should not be charged any fees; it should be grandfathered.

The Board discussed several changes and edits to the Park Reservation Form and the Special Event Permit Form. Tom moved to incorporate these changes into the Park Permit Form, and all other events become Special Events. Darin seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. However, the Board requested to review the changes to the permit forms at their March meeting.

Goals and Priorities for 2009

The Board had more questions than comments on prioritizing the numerous projects that were on the list. Janet stated that her one and only goal was to find a home for Hailey Ice. In regards to the Friedman Preserve, the Board was waiting to hear from Fish & Game before making any more recommendation.

*(A Memo that reflects the results of the Board discussion is attached.)

Becki said that last fall, the Board had discussed three grant opportunities, one of them being swings for two to four parks. Based on the funding requirements of one of the grants, it had been determined that the Hailey Parks Foundation would be a better applicant than the city for a grant through the Wood River Women's Charitable Foundation (WRWCF). The grant application for the swings had made it through the first round, and representatives of the Hailey Parks Foundation were to meet on site with representatives of the WRWCF. That grant stated that the Parks Foundation would work with the P&L Board for final determination of what swings would be installed in which park. With discussion, the Board preferred:

Echo Hill Park: one set with two belt swings

Keefer Park: one set with four belt swings and one set with two toddler swings

Heagle Park: one set with four belt swings

Dean asked if there was a list of small retro-fit projects for each park, or a working list of little projects that could be completed without too much cost, such as missing or broken benches, barbecues, picnic tables, etc. Others agreed that such a list would be really helpful, and perhaps each Board member could take a park or two and come up with a list for each park.

Someone suggested that the road at Hop Porter Park needs grading and surface gravel, as it is full of potholes. Dean reminded us that the city is now fully responsible for the maintenance of Jimmy's Garden, and Janet reminded us that the city is responsible for the maintenance of the Hop Porter playstructure.

The Board requested a list of parks to divide up among themselves to come up with a list of needs for each park.

Minutes:

Cheryl moved to approve the Minutes for January 6, 2009, and Dean seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Adjourned.