

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Hailey Parks & Lands Board
Meeting held at City Hall in Hailey, Idaho
July 24th, 2019

Attending Board Members: Bob Wiederrick, Henno Heitur, Darin Sales, Lamar Waters, Nancy Linscott

Attending City Staff: Stephanie Cook

Council Liaison: n/a

Absent: Mark Spencer, Sara Gress

Attending Public: Jeanne Bauwens, Carol Thomas, June Lane

Call to Order:

Call to order by Waters at 6:05pm.

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Wiederrick moves to approve meeting minutes from June 26th, 2019. Sales seconds, passes unanimously.

New Business:

Discussion to possibly convert a tennis court at Heagle Park to a pickleball court. Bauwens thanks the group, letting everyone know there's a history with that court and they want to focus on the future. Bauwens explains that pickleball is a new sport and Heagle Parks a venue for older people to be active and they want to support that. The Elkhorn tournament had over 100 people. Bauwens explains that the Blain County Rec District (BCRD) is closed for pickleball in the summer and that taping a pickleball court at Heagle Park tennis courts was a good opportunity. Bauwens explains that the user group wants to stay in the area and there are no pickleball courts in Hailey; there is shade, parking, restrooms, water, beautiful scenery, the river, birds, and the neighbors support pickleball. Bauwens requests the City allow pickleball lines to be taped on a tennis court for this season, and paint lines next season- also requesting benches inside the court. Wiederrick asks if there is room for benches inside the court. Bauwens replies yes, also stating that the color of the lines needs to contrast for visibility. Heitur comments regarding the net height being 34". Wiederrick asks if pickleball and tennis can be played together. Bauwens replies no. Thomas encourages round robin use, instead of using blocks of time. Linscott says she knows a lot of people getting into the sport, noting that pickleball is a niche and very important, inclusive and inviting. Linscott asks if there are conflicts with the Hailey Greenway Master Plan. Wiederrick says it could be easy to phase a conversion, to convert one tennis court to 2 pickleball courts and then maybe convert the other tennis court; it seems to be a good compromise. Lane says the tennis group is becoming the pickleball group and a lot of people do both, noting that there is tennis at the school. Linscott says to go for it all at once, that the sport is growing. Lane says there are 8 tennis courts in Hailey, not including Heagle Park. Bauwens talked to Theresa and Howie at Blaine County School District, and, though there is no shade, use is allowed at the middle school as long as the nets are not moved. Heitur reminds everyone that

the removal of tennis courts is a public process and must be notified. Linscott agrees that there should be notice and the public allowed to comment. Heitur suggests adding the topic to the newsletter and to ask the pickleball players to keep going how they have been – to tape their lines- until a process, budget and comments are collected and figured out. The Parks and Lands Board agrees. Linscott notes that having pickleball at Heagle Park could add to the identity of the park, also suggesting a September deadline for revisiting and looking at the Hailey Greenway Master Plan in the meanwhile. Sales moves to continue as is, having 2 pickleball courts on the west tennis court, until a public commenting period has concluded and reconvene in September for a decision. Heitur seconds, motion passes unanimously.

Discussion of proposed play structure for Keefer Park, a donation from Kiwanis Club.

Wiederrick begins presentation by stating as a full disclaimer that he is in no way benefitting from the donation of this structure and will not recuse himself. Linscott asks if it is a replacement or addition. Wiederrick explains that this will be an addition and may include a maypole. Wiederrick says the Kiwanis Club is not hung up on colors, but prefers lighter colors. Linscott supports bright colors. Waters asks if the City will install the structure. Cook replies the City will hire a contractor. Wiederrick moves to approve the accepting of a donation from the Kiwanis Club, a play structure, in the color “electric”. Linscott seconds, passes unanimously. Wiederrick adds that the Kiwanis Club is looking at different projects, looking for opinions and ideas.

Old Business:

Continuation of previous agenda item. Discussion of park specific planning effort and objectives, to determine a list of amenities, needs, the purpose and future use of each individual park.

Waters gives a reminder that the signage could look like what is at the arena, which is a historic look that is laminated with pictures and text.

Board/Staff Reports:

Hop Porter Park play structure update. The City is continuing with the improvements work. Wiederrick suggests Kiwanis and Key Clubs as possible volunteers.

Discussion of Topics for Next Agenda:

None

Adjourn:

Waters moves to adjourn, Wiederrick seconds; passes unanimously at 7:22 pm.