

Parks and Recreation Board

August 1, 2012
Park County, Montana

Attendance: Board members Cassie Burns, Martha Miller, Robin Ogata and Carol Woodley; Mike Inman, planning; John Mueller, minutes clerk.

Call to Order: @3:06:49 p.m., Chair Martha Miller called a meeting to order in the East Room of the City/County Complex.

Review and Approval of Minutes: The board reviewed minutes from the June 27, 2012, meeting. *Carol Woodley moved to approve the minutes. Cassie Burns seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

Public Comment: None made

Discussion of Term Limits: Mike Inman, planning, said current board bylaws establish two-year board member terms running from July 1 to June 30. He asked the board if it would consider term limits running January 1 through December 31 to better facilitate filling empty seats and maintaining a full board and scheduled meetings year round.

Carol Woodley moved to adjust the board positions from January 1 to December 31 effectively immediately, thus official start dates of members who came on the board this past year would be Jan 1, 2013. Robin Ogata seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Continued Discussion on Joining US Tennis Association: There was discussion about whether park board funds derived from subdivision review can be used to join associations and whether funding one association would obligate the board to fund everyone who comes in asking for money. The board said perhaps a letter of support for such entities requesting funding would be more appropriate. Martha Miller said she will get clarification from the Association on why it asked for board support. The board said it will not fund organizations or projects until it develops a better policy on how to address funding requests.

Park County Survey Implementation Discussion: Inman said Gary Weiner of the National Park Service provided comments on the proposed recreation survey, which Inman incorporated, but the survey with those comments would require it be done electronically only. Inman said he did not hear back from board members with any survey comments and asked members to take the survey to see how they like it and provide recommended changes.

County-Owned Parks Maintenance Update: Inman said Arch Park's lawnmower has broken down, and the question remains as to whether the parks board should provide funds to replace it and other maintenance items/services.

Chico/Chicory Trail Access Issues: Inman said access questions and issues continue among landowners and individuals interested in using the Chico/Chicory Trail. He said resurfacing of such issues has again resulted in researching the status of the trail.

9th Street Island Park/Trail Development: Inman said he is researching whether a FEMA buyout program can be applied to a piece of 9th Street Island property for sale for \$470,000+ formerly owned by Russell Chatham. He said such a buyout would put the property into county ownership for possible park and/or trail development.

County Island Discussion: Inman said he conducted onsite research of an island in the Yellowstone River recently donated to Park County as a possible boater's picnic/day use area. He said the site has recreation potential and will be pursued, but topographic issues make boat put-in and take-out difficult, and a diversion dam confounds traversing the river on the west side of the island.

Discuss September Agenda: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 5. Inman said he will research 9th Street Island FEMA buyout potentials and will ask Montana FWP if it wants to tour the Yellowstone River Island now with low water flow. He said he may have a report on the Chico/Chicory Trail access issue if discussions progress before the next meeting.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: @4:10:14 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Martha Miller
Chair