

Parks and Recreation Board

November 7, 2012
Park County, Montana

Attendance: Board members Cassie Burns, Cara McNeely, Martha Miller, Robin Ogada and Carol Woodley; Mike Inman, planning

Call to Order: @3:00 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 October 3, 2012, meeting. *Robin Ogada moved to accept the minutes as presented. Carol Woodley seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

Public Comment: None

Gardiner Gateway Project Update: Mike Inman, planning, said he attended two scoping meetings held by CTA Engineering in Gardiner to gather public information on the Gardiner Gateway Project regarding what citizens would like to see from the Gardiner perspective, which includes Arch Park. The meeting included possible project drawing renditions. He said the meetings were well attended, and discussion of establishing a resort tax in Gardiner will be discussed at future meetings. Inman said he would like to see Parks Board members become involved in the gateway project discussions, and he will keep members abreast of future meetings.

Park County Survey Discussion/Implementation: Inman said the survey has been finalized with board member comments and revisions incorporated. He said the board's final step is to determine how it wants to implement the survey, and consulting MSU may be wise given the amount of work and difficulty in effectively putting a survey out and obtaining statistically valid results. He said the board has \$1,500 remaining in already-allocated funds toward an effort with MSU. Inman said he will discuss other options with MSU Extension personnel.

There was discussion about attempting a three-month trial effort at the start of 2013.

FEMA Buy-Out Update: Inman said he obtained information on the FEMA floodway buy-out program. He said the program works on a voluntary basis from the landowner perspective, and the county has to assist the citizen in preparing a FEMA application, as well as pay 25 percent of the appraised value of the property before the buy-out can take place.

Inman said the Russell Chatham property failed to sale at auction for the \$477,000 asking price. He said the Sky Federal Credit Union does not want the property, because no house can be built there as it is in the designated floodway. He said a new appraisal of the property with limitations came in significantly lower, and the credit union said it will not sell it to a realtor. Inman said the property does not qualify for FEMA buy-out funds

because it has no structure on it, but he spoke with the credit union CEO about his options to sell the property to an entity supporting recreational use if the lower appraisal value remains constant.

Yellowstone Trail Interpretive Signs: Inman said the Yellowstone Trail trailhead (to Black Canyon in Yellowstone National Park) was relocated to Jardine Road after a local landowner closed off access through his property at the original trailhead in the town of Gardiner. He said there now is interest in erecting interpretive signage along the trail.

December Meeting Agenda: The board will discuss a survey implementation timeline and Inman will provide an update on the island property acquisition effort.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: @4:18:07 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Martha Miller
Chair