

Parks and Recreation Board

October 3, 2012
Park County, Montana

Attendance: Board members Cassie Burns, Cara McNeely, Martha Miller, Robin Ogata and Carol Woodley; Mike Inman, planning; Parks Frady, CTA Engineering; Jeannie Tatum, citizen; John Mueller, minutes clerk.

Call to Order: @3:05:13 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 September 5, 2012, meeting. *Carol Woodley moved to accept the minutes as presented. Cara McNeely seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

Public Comment: Citizen Jeannie Tatum of Chicory Fishing Access Road asked about the status of the Chico/Chicory hiking trail. Mike Inman, planning, said Civil Deputy County Attorney Shannan Piccolo has consulted with former county attorney Tara DePuy about the status of that trail, specifically the abandonments issued by the county commission during the time Yellowstone River Ranch Estates (YRRE) was trying to petition abandonment of segments of county road rights-of-way. Inman said the abandonment processes were done correctly, but the question remains whether the portion of abandoned county road also affects the road that would underlie Old Yellowstone Trail. Inman said he has requested the Commission have Historian Jerry Brekke research the issue, but it may not choose to do so.

Tatum asked if Paradise Valley Estates residents can pay for Brekke's fee to get the work completed. She said people are trespassing on private property to access the trail, which is a problem, and some residents would like to help speed up the process of establishing access. Woodley said perhaps Tatum could provide some trail use numbers to show the Commission the level of interest in the trail. Inman said he recommends the Commission pursue the answer so it does not continue to come up and he can ask the Commission again on behalf of the board and continued public comment.

Gardiner Gateway Project Update: Parks Frady, CTA Engineering, provided the board with an update and diagram of the proposed Gardiner Gateway Project on behalf of Park County and the local Gardiner Chamber of Commerce.

Park County Survey Review and Discussion: Inman provided a draft survey with member comments incorporated. The board reviewed the draft and provided additional edit comments. Inman said he will try to incorporate all recreation uses within the four current recreational categories, or add a fifth category.

FEMA Buy-Out Update: Inman said he cannot provide an update on the FEMA floodway buy-out program, as he cannot get a response from FEMA individuals. Inman said one commissioner said a property on 9th Street Island was bought out with the

FEMA buyout effort, but documentation within the Clerk and Recorder's Office does not reflect a change in property ownership. Cara McNeely said she would talk with the landowner's local representative in attempt to learn more.

In other discussion, Woodley asked about Arch Park and Green Acres Park maintenance issues. Inman said some mistakes were made with using Parks funds to pay for some recent maintenance items at the parks, and the commissioners had agreed that the long-term maintenance of the county parks should not come from Parks funds. He said Parks funds should go toward improving and adding facilities. He said the county may need to draft a formal contract to address maintenance issues, such as liability concerns with non county entities maintaining a county park.

Inman said the Parks fund consists of approximately \$70,000 from cash-in-lieu-of-parks funds, which are part of subdivision review. Woodley said a countywide cemetery interpretive program was developed with \$35,000 of the \$70,000 in mind, but it has gone nowhere and no funds have been expended.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: @5:10:20 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Martha Miller
Chair