

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 21, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lou Ann Watson, Beth Dickinson, Fred Busing
MEMBERS ABSENT: Ben Cumber, Renae Roberts
REPRESENTATIVES: Councilman Bundy; Recreation Superintendent Tiffany Belt
TRANSCRIBER: Amy Pearson

MINUTES:

Fred Busing made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2018 meeting. Beth Dickinson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

RECOGNIZE PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE:

Brad Stokes, Extension Educator University of Idaho Extension Office, was present to discuss the Bee City USA program and observe as a potential committee member. Caylin LePire was also present to observe as a potential committee member.

OLD BUSINESS

CHIF Grant Update

The \$6,100 that was awarded for the Taste the Powder ski bus program will be reallocated to the Fitness Rx and Heighten Your Health programs due to a lack of snow this season. Item closed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bee City USA Application and Resolution

Brad Stokes with the extension office approached Parks and Recreation and would like Mountain Home to consider becoming a Bee City USA and partner with the city. We would like to designate a couple of areas as pollination friendly areas and leave them in their natural habitat for pollinators (bees and butterflies) to pollinate and then move on. Miguel had previously proposed is the hillside at Legacy along Haskett Street, the retention pond area at Legacy and Greystone Park.

It had been previously explained that another aspect is to either minimize or be completely pesticide free so that the pollinators are not actively being killed off while we are trying to continue to build pollinator numbers. The designated areas would be left undisturbed. For example, at Greystone which is along the bike path, we would let some of the sagebrush grow and let the natural environment remain untouched for the time being so that the pollinators could nest and pollinate the area. The idea is to keep the habitat as natural as possible so that you're not disturbing the potential pollinators as they continue to thrive. It would also help to beautify some areas such as planting butterfly bushes around the retention pond in Legacy Park.

Brad has been tasked with starting up a Master Gardners program in January of 2019. He will be looking for a plot to potentially have a community garden and/or perennial plant garden that would be another sustainable opportunity for pollinators. This area would be actively run by 4H programs and Master Gardeners which would be a lot easier to manage because it won't be specific to city property. Tiffany explained that while speaking with Brad they had suggested the water wheel as a potential location for the Master Gardener program to head up.

One concern about leaving Greystone as natural habitat along the bike path is that we may likely receive citizen complaints on the weeds. In order to educate the community they would install signage explaining that this is a Bee City USA pollinator friendly zone and that the habitat has intentionally been left untouched. Brad is willing to work with us on whatever else we need and to help with community education.

Brad explained that his office would purchase all of the plants needed for this program and that they would also split the \$200 application fee with the city.

Fred Busing made a motion to recommend to City Council that the City of Mountain Home partner with the University of Idaho Extension Office and submit an application to be designated as a Bee City USA. Lou Ann Watson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Spring Soccer Programs

Recreation is still accepting registrations for spring soccer and have extended the deadline to Friday, February 23rd. Trish, Darcy, Tiffany and seven of the high school referees took the federal federation of youth soccer course and have all become class 8 certified to ref. The first game is scheduled for April 7, 2018. Carry forward.

Elect 2018 Committee Chairman

Beth Dickinson nominated Fred Busing as the 2018 Chairman. Lou Ann Watson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Item closed.

Meet Potential Committee Candidates

Brad and Caylin both openly spoke with the committee to discuss their backgrounds and interest in the City of Mountain Home as well as the Parks and Recreation programs. Both expressed a desire to become committee members. Fred Busing made a motion to recommend Brad Stokes and Caylin LePire as committee members to Mayor Sykes. Beth Dickinson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Item closed.

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION

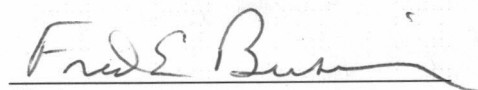
Tiffany gave an update on the projects/work currently taking place at Carl Miller Park.

Beth asked for an update on the East Elementary track. Tiffany will contact the school and follow up at the next meeting.

Tiffany researched different parks and recreation software and they started using it on Monday, February 19th and it is going very well.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the committee, Beth Dickinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fred Busing seconded the motion. All in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 P.M.



Chair

AGENDA ITEMS FOR MARCH 21, 2018 MEETING

OLD BUSINESS

**Bee City USA Application and Resolution
Spring Soccer Programs**

**NEW BUSINESS
Summer Programs**