

**MEETING MINUTES**

**RECORDED BY:**

Melonie Erickson

**MEETING PURPOSE:**

Monthly PRC Board Meeting

**MEETING DATE:**

April 11, 2007

PRPL Office, Billings Community Center



**ATTENDEES:**

PRC Board Members:

Denis Pitman, Tom Iverson, Richard Deis, Jim Strecker,  
Rachel Cox, Mary Fitzpatrick, Margy Bonner, Wanda Walker

PRPL Staff Members:

Mike Whitaker, PRPL Director  
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner  
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Superintendent  
Joe Fedin, Recreation Superintendent  
Gene Blackwell, Parks Superintendent

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**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chair Denis Pitman called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.

**A. INTRODUCTIONS**

Guests in attendance included; Jackie Sullivan, Charles Yegen, Maurice Deverill

**B. APPROVAL OF MARCH 14, 2007 MEETING MINUTES**

The PRC Board reviewed the March 14<sup>th</sup> minutes. *Margy Bonner made a motion to approve the March 14th, 2007 meeting minutes. Wanda Walker seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

**C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

No additions were made to the agenda.

**II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker**

The New Ballpark Groundbreaking ceremony held last month was a great success.

Approximately 200 people came out for the groundbreaking and about 100 people came to the reception.

The BBWA is planning on meeting with the PRC Board to answer any questions regarding the liability issues pertaining to water ditches.

At the last PRC Board meeting a question was asked if the Billings Mustangs had paid their fee for this year. A document was found showing they had sent a check on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 for the rent of Cobb Field – 2006 Season.

A question was asked at the last PRC meeting if the “Booster Club Association” was a non-profit organization. Jim Iverson provided documentation showing they are a non-profit organization in the State of Montana. They are currently working with the IRS on their status with the government.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

A question was asked about the ticket area and entries: The ticket area will be located in the administration building. It will have three windows for people to purchase their tickets. There are two entries into the ballpark. One is located on the south end of the ballpark off 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and the other entry will be on the north side of the ballfield off 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.

A question was asked where the bronze statue will be located: The statue will be of a man and two children; it will be about 1 ½ times life size and will be located somewhere in the plaza area.

### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **A. BALLPARK PROJECT UPDATE**

##### **a. Project Report**

The Administration Building has been drawn. It is the final piece to the design of the stadium. (A copy of the design is included in the April 11<sup>th</sup> PRC Board Packet.) The following are comments on the design of the Administration Building.

- Ticket office will have approximately three windows facing out to North 27<sup>th</sup> for individuals to purchase tickets.
- The plaza has been extended to pick up the ticket office.
- The reception area will be the entry into the administration building. It is coming off the main entry into the stadium.
- An Event Coordinators office has been included for the purpose of having an individual employed by the Park and Recreation Department or Non-profit organization to assist in planning events to be held at the ballpark. The event coordinator may also be used during the off season as additional receptionist. This position has not been established as of yet.
- The current design shows the break room along side the conference room, it has been relocated to the telecom/data room. By doing this it will give additional space in the conference room.
- The conference room has been changed from the current design to show a twelve seated room instead of an eight seated room. The room will be open year around to the community for use.

- The team store will be located toward the entry of stadium. It will be selling materials from the Billings Mustangs, Legion and MSUB. Additional items will be sold at kiosks located throughout the concourse area. Access to the store will be available from the concourse and the reception area hallway.
- The Fan Assistance room will be used for multiple uses. During the day it can be used as a general office and then during the evening it can be used as an additional ticket office or public first aid room.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

### A. **Yellowstone County Museum Update:**

Charles Yegen and Maurice Deverill gave a brief presentation on the proposed future development of the Yellowstone County Museum, aka the Peter Yegen Yellowstone County Museum. Location of the proposed museum will be within the boundaries of Swords Park as provided for in the Swords Park Master Plan approved in 2004. The current museum is located adjacent to the Billings Logan International Airport.

The museum will have both a regional and national scope. It will be approximately 100,000 square feet in size, current museum is only 55 square feet, and will be in a better location with easier access. No contracts or agreements will be drawn for the development of museum at Swords Park until it is first approved by the Park, Recreation and Lands Department and City Council due to the fact that it will be located in a City owned park.

### B. **Mustangs' 2007 Management Agreement:**

The corrections mentioned in the March 14<sup>th</sup> PRC Board Meeting have been applied to the Mustangs' 2007 Management Agreement. A comment was made to change the term of the agreement from January 1, 2007 – September 17, 2007 to January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007. The suggestion was accepted. *Rachel Cox made a motion to present to City Council the 2007 Turnkey Agreement of Cobb Field Stadium in Athletic Park with the addition to have the term of the agreement end on December 31, 2007. Tom Iverson seconded. Motion was not accepted unanimously. Margy Bonner objected to the motion stating that the ticket sells from this year go into a fund to pay for maintenance and upkeep of the ball park. Gene Blackwell made a comment that this agreement would first go before the Ball Clubs, Billings Mustangs, American Legion and Montana State University-Billings, for their final approval and then be presented to City Council sometime in May 2007.*

### C. **Disc Golf:**

Representatives from the Pioneer Park area were present at the Board meeting to discuss their concerns and possible solutions on Disc Golf at Pioneer Park. Those concerns were security and the wear and tear. Neighbors expressed they would like to see Disc Golf relocated to another park, possibly Riverfront or an underdeveloped park. The Park and Recreation Department commented that the cost is a problem when it comes to relocation. Neighbors also expressed the

possibility of changing the layout of the Disc Golf poles in the park to make the wear and tear on the park less.

Over all consensus from park neighbors were supportive of Disc Golf and realize that it is a great sport for the Cities teenagers to play.

The Parks, Recreation and Lands Department will be doing a community wide survey with questions regarding Disc Golf and Pioneer Park. Results from the survey will be given at a future PRC Board Meeting.

## **VI. DIVISION UPDATES**

### **A. Recreation Division:**

The Recreation Division report was included in the April 11<sup>th</sup> Board packet for review. No comments or questions were made concerning the report.

### **B. Park Division:**

The Park Division report was included in the April 11<sup>th</sup> Board packet for review. No comments or questions were made concerning the report.

### **C. Park Planning Division:**

The Park Planning Division report was included in the April 11<sup>th</sup> Board packet for review. Mark commented the Riverfront Park Master Plan contract was approved. A survey will be going out to area residents for their comments and suggestions regarding Riverfront Park and City parks in general.

### **D. Cemetery Division:**

The Cemetery Division report was included in the April 11<sup>th</sup> Board packet for review. No comments or questions were made concerning the report.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.