

City of Colville
Park & Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, November 7, 2016
Council Chambers – 5:30pm

The meeting was called to order by Danny Todd, Chairman at 5:35pm.

Members present: Danny Todd, Dean Fischer.

Members absent: Traci Baum, April McElreath, Zach Ross, Matt Schanz, Vacancy One

Staff Members Present: Recreation Coordinator Jillian Marshall, City Planner RJ Keetch

1) Ideas for long and short term vision plan for the Parks & Recreation Departments

It was discussed that we set a short and long term plan for all of the parks and the recreation department. We are looking at 5-30 year plans. With that Jillian suggested that we prioritize our projects and our parks. The discussed and current priority is as follows:

1. Splash Pad/Wading Pool replacement: (Parks/Rec/Vision 20/20)

It was discussed to have two possible splash pads. One downtown/Main Street area to replace the free wading pool and to draw activity to the newly proposed Heritage Court area (Astor). This splash pad would be more fountain and rock structure with a possibility to convert to an ice rink in the winter. A second one to be a part of the pool. This one will have the play structures and be fully fenced into the pool area. We can use a wristband entry at the pool for price variations: Jillian suggested that we can base prices off of current prices with a possible increase as prices seem to have not been raised for possibly 5 years. This solution will address the concerns of taking a free service away (the wading pool) and not having a negative impact on pool revenues. A drop of revenue would be exceptionally hard considering the amount of money we are spending to fix the filtration system. The current funding that has been set for a splash pad can then possibly be used in a match effort on a grant. Jillian could see this as a lead to an Aquatic Center longer term. Noted that is a lofty dream.

2. Tree Removal: (Parks)

The tree removal doesn't impact current plans. It was commented that the current tree problem is an overwatering problem. Jillian has had a few comments from public with a variety for and against the removal of the trees.

3. Connectivity of Green Space: (Parks/Vision 20/20)

Creating a walking and biking path throughout Colville to connect all of our Parks. It would be great to have a path that gets community members out and from park to park (or green space to green space). Where and how will be further discussed.

4. Vaagen Field: (Parks)

Why are gates locked early fall? Keep them open to allow easier public use longer.

5. Angus McDonald Park: (Parks)

Most unused park. Possibly needs the most attention first. It was talked to make it a green

space with seating and maybe a pond as it is a drainage area. It was suggested more water-resistant trees/shrubs be added as well as a gazebo.

6. Yep Kanum: (Parks)

A decision will need to be made on the trees for removal. It has all been discussed to put in a walking/biking path around the park. It is something that can wait and also should be incorporated into the connectivity of green space. In the past it was discussed to add workout equipment to the path, that can happen in a later phase as well.

7. Public Access to Information: (Rec./Parks/City)

It was also discussed that we need to update our form of communication and community outreach. Currently it is hard for the public to access information about events and happenings around Colville, especially the Recreation Department. We need more management of information. A new website would be useful. Jillian commented about wanting to move to online information and registration for Rec. Dept. events. It is currently hard to reach the public and being online will make it easier. Jillian is also wanting to expand to having some non-physical activities such as; art, music, and film nights. She also mentioned a combined effort with our seniors in a "Youth/Senior Game Night" where seniors can teach our youth games such as chess, cards, dice, dominos, etc. Ideally it would take place at HUB, a comfortable location for everyone. Jillian did mention the ongoing thoughts of a Rec Center. It is currently not feasible and again a lofty goal. Jillian wants to further that discussion as a long-term plan. Without having those long-term goals, it will never happen, yet it is something that most people agree on as a great thing to have. We currently have facilities of similar nature that are under-used. Funding is always an issue and plans will be discussed as to how to address this. There was also discussion of how to reach more volunteers, this topic will continue.

2) Set 2017 Meetings.

Next meeting is scheduled for December 12th at 5:30, we will continue monthly meetings as we work through creating our Vision Plan for the Parks and Recreation Departments. Currently set for the 1st Monday each month.

Danny Todd stated he might be late as he will be working until 6pm

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm