

Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 20, 2025; 8:15 am
Fargo Parks Sports Center
Alex Stern Boardroom

Present: Vicki Dawson, Jerry Rostad, Joe Deutsch, Aaron Hill, Susan Faus, Dave Bietz, Paul Grindeland, Cindy Girdner, Kali Mork, Luke Evenson, Chad Pfau, Kevin Boe, Tony Schmitt, Tyler Kirchner, Carmen Johnson

Consideration of the Single-Track Bike Trail:

- Dave Bietz, presented. There was discussion to move forward with a single-track bike trail project, with Greg Taven leading fundraising and maintenance efforts. Greg is committed to raising funds for construction. There is more detail in the Memo of Understanding.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Regular Agenda for consideration and approval.

Review Selkirk 4th Developers Agreement:

- Tyler Kirchner, presented. The Park District is finalizing an agreement with Eagle Ridge Development for a 63-acre parcel, continuing previous development efforts.
- The agreement includes both general park infrastructure (grading, curbs, sidewalks) and specific park amenities (playground and trails).
- Construction is expected in 2027 or 2028, with a special assessment district to be created for funding.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Consideration of Agreement for Installation of Synthetic Turf at Tharaldson Little League Complex:

- Tyler Kirchner, presented. Discussion on installing two synthetic turf infields at Tharaldson Little League Complex, funded initially by Fargo Area Sports.
- The Park District will ensure the plans meet standards and is considering an escrow account for future turf replacement.
- The expected turf lifespan is 10-12 years, with replacement costs estimated at \$350,000–\$450,000.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Regular Agenda for consideration and approval.

Consideration of Beverage Concessions and Vending bids:

- Kevin Boe and Chad Pfau, presented. Kevin and Chad reviewed bids from Pepsi and Coca-Cola for beverage contracts, comparing annual funding, incentives, and product pricing.
- Coca-Cola's offer includes higher annual funding and additional marketing/donation incentives.
- Recommendation to move forward with Coca-Cola for the board's consideration.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Regular Agenda for consideration and approval.

Consideration of Snack Food Vending bids:

- Kevin Boe and Chad Pfau presented. Snack food vending only one bid received; recommendation to reject and revisit with interested vendors due to low usage and operational concerns.

The committee recommends moving to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda. Staff will work with the executive team and develop a future plan.

Consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with the City of Fargo for the Construction of the Red River Shared Use Path (15th Avenue North to the Woodcrest Addition)

- Tony Schmitt presented. Tony introduces the consideration of a memorandum of understanding with the city of Fargo for the construction of the river shared use path.
- Tony explained the project, which will run from 15th Avenue North to the Wood Crest Addition. The cost will be split between the City of Fargo and the Fargo Park District for the project.
- The park district will maintain the trail, including mowing and snow removal, and share future replacement costs with the city.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Consideration to Apply for an Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant for the Bank Stabilization and Repair of the Forest River Park Kayak Launch

- Tony Schmitt presented. The Park District will apply for an Outdoor Heritage Fund grant to stabilize and enhance the launch at the Southwest Regional Pond.
- The grant requires a local match and is part of a larger \$500,000 project.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Consideration to Approve ND Department of Transportation Authorizing Resolution

- Cindy Girdner, presented. Cindy requested approval to add her name to the North Dakota Department of Transportation authorizing resolution for Valley Senior Services.
- Cindy explained the need for a signature to add her name to the list for signing contracts.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Financial Overview through June 2025

- Luke Evenson presented. Reviewed financials for the year, noting a surplus due to tax collections and increased revenues in several areas.
- Discussed increased expenses, particularly in utilities and capital equipment.
- Updates on programming, facility maintenance, and community engagement efforts. Addressed recent operational challenges, including a sinkhole and pool pump issues, and the response to these incidents.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.

Minutes submitted by Carmen Johnson, Executive Assistant