

Committee Members:

Chairperson

Damian Huettl, Citizen
Term: 2013-2016

Vice Chairperson

Laurie Leingang, Citizen
Term: 2013-2016

Tammy Lapp-Harris, Citizen
Term: 2015-2018

Amy Schmidt, Citizen
Term: 2015-2018

Brian Dehnert, Citizen
Term: 2016-2019

Edgar Oliveira, Citizen
Term: 2016-2019

Jim Neubauer,
Administration

Doug Lalim, Building
Inspection

Ellen Huber, Business
Development &
Communications

Keith Johnson, Custer
Health

Steve Nardello, Fire

Justin Froseth, Planning &
Engineering

Jason Ziegler, Police

Jeff Wright, Public Works

Liaisons:

Robert Decker, City
Planner

Joe Camisa, Code
Enforcement Officer

Krista Harju, Program
Coordinator

Mandan Community Beautification Committee

Thursday, June 9, 2016

7:30 a.m.

Veterans' Conference Room

Mandan City Hall

205 Second Avenue NW

A. Introductions.

Damian Huettl called the meeting to order. Members present are indicated with a . Cole Higlin and Dustin Fleck from the Mandan Park District were also in attendance.

B. Consider minutes from the May 19 meeting.

Laurie Leingang moved to approve the minutes from the May 19 meeting. Keith Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Update on Dutch Elm and Ash Borer Disease, PARDS program, and boulevard trees.

The City raised \$5,000 for the Pards tree planting program. Businesses donating more than \$500 will be recognized with a plaque at the City Commission meeting on June 21. Businesses donating \$1,000 or more will also have their name included on a perpetual plaque, which will displayed in the Ed "Bosh" Froehlich Meeting Room at City Hall.

D. Update on potential projects.

1. Report on communications

- i. Park District – *Cole Higlin, Dustin Fleck*
- ii. NDDOT – *Jim Neubauer*
- iii. BNSF – *Joe Camisa*

Note: Lower Heart Water Resource District – *Bill Robinson* (July)

The Park District maintains the trails (25 total miles) every week or every other in the summer, which includes removing garbage, mowing and sweeping trailheads. There are six kiosks at trailheads, each equipped with a pet waste bag. There are more than sixteen garbage receptacles along the trails; the Park District checks on these twice weekly with more attention given during events.

Bob Decker asked if there are areas where future trails should be considered. Higlin said the Park District has been trying to address the area of 19th Street from Highway 6 west to Fort Lincoln Elementary School. They've been having difficulty addressing concerns with a rural road. Until they find out what is going to happen with storm water and curb and gutter, it is on hold. There is also a question of what side of the road the trail should be on, because there are big developments on both sides. In addition, the bridge is narrow and not pedestrian-friendly.

Johnson asked about the cost of a pedestrian bridge crossing across the Heart River. Higlin said in general that new trails cost about \$100,000 to \$150,000 per mile.

Higlin said he would like to see better maintenance of the grass dumps. The City of Minot has people monitoring the dump sites on the weekend. Two employees are in charge of maintaining the Mandan dump sites. Jim Neubauer will speak to Public Works Director Jeff Wright about how they can be better maintained. There was also discussion that these dumpsters do not yet have screening, but new commercial developments and buildings are required to screen dumpsters.

The North Dakota Department of Transportation is working with the Morton County Weed Control Board to spray noxious weeds. After they spray, they wait a week to mow to ensure all the foliage dies off on the noxious weeds.

Leingang asked if the NDDOT planned to address concerns regarding fencing and tall grasses alongside Sunset Drive. Huber noted there is some uncertainty about who owns the fence. Decker will find out who owns the fence on the west side of the intersection.

Camisa spoke with the assistant road master for BNSF. He says he will look at areas around Mandan and Memorial Highway. Camisa mentioned the mowing and dead trees. They have one employee mowing who covers both Bismarck and Mandan. They will mow in Mandan once finished in Bismarck. The railroad has federal sovereign immunity, which means the City has no authority in these areas.

2. Downtown business district
 - i. Report on contracts for benches
 - ii. Update on project ideas

The committee recommendation regarding the contract for benches is to be presented to the City Commission on June 21.

A subcommittee including Del Wetsch of the Mandan Progress Organization met twice this spring to discuss project ideas for the downtown area. The subcommittee includes Huber, Leingang, Amy Schmidt and Edgar Oliveira. Topics of discussion include the addition of black benches, more garbage receptacles, more pedestrian street lights, public art, planters and greenery. There have also been concerns about trash and litter in the downtown area. The committee discussed placing trash receptacles on corners of each block on Main Street. They also discussed the possible extension of the screening fence along the railroad and signs encouraging pet owners to pick up pet waste.

Possible public art projects include wrapping utility boxes with artwork, a downtown alley project. There are nine traffic signal utility boxes that could be wrapped, and each box would cost about \$1,300. Other concepts could include permanent or leased sculptures.

Subcommittee members discussed putting together a project that could be bid out over the winter and completed next spring. Huber recommends planning a public information and input meeting for downtown property and business owners. The subcommittee scheduled its next meeting for June 24.

There is between \$300,000 and \$400,000 available in a Supplemental Environmental Project Trust that could potentially be used for downtown projects. Trustees are Tim Helbling, Francis Schwindt and Dave Glatt. There is a trustee agreement that indicates what the funds can be used for. An amount of \$1 million may be needed for library building repairs. SEPT funds have been previously used on the intersection bulb outs and other enhancements following the installation of remediation equipment and the parking area near Dykshoorn Park.

E. Update on administrative procedure for code enforcement ordinance. (Joe)
The draft ordinance is being circulated amongst staff for review. The city attorney has reviewed it. Plans are to present it to the City Commission on June 21 or in July.

F. Consider signage to discourage littering and possible increase in fine. (Jeff & Jason)
This item was held to a future meeting when Police Chief Ziegler and Public Works Director Wright can be in attendance.

G. Other Business

The Bismarck-Mandan Young Professionals are looking for a service project in Mandan. Neubauer recommended they provide input on improvements to Longfellow Park with the adjacent property recently donated to the City by the NDDOT. The YP group would present a concept for the City to consider. There was discussion that other stakeholders or representatives to a committee working on this project might include a resident of Pirates Cove and Bridgeview Bay, a Park District representative and a city staff member with Justin Froseth being named as a possible participant.

The way-finding signs project was bid out in May. The contract was awarded to Mann Signs. The signs are being fabricated. The 24 signs are contracted to be in place by July 2.

Leingang asked for thoughts on potential projects for United Way Day of Caring to occur during the first half of August. Past projects include litter clean-up, landscaping and painting projects. Neubauer will send an e-mail to department heads asking for ideas.

Tammy Lapp-Harris voiced concern about a property east of Dan's Supermarket. There is a house on the corner of First Street and 10th Avenue SE. She thinks the house number might be 1008. The neighbors all say it is condemned by the City and they are waiting for it to be torn down. There are huge weeds and old couches in the fenced yard. There are no windows. Doug Lalim said there are no properties that are condemned or are in the process of being condemned by the City. Camisa will visit the property.

The revised ordinance regarding business signs, including bench signs will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission in June. Lalim asked for any recommendations for changes. It now includes language requiring all advertisements to be for Mandan businesses and limits advertisements to one panel per bench if the benches are in the public right of way.

Camisa asked if the committee could start moving forward with the property maintenance code, which was postponed until recycling concerns were revisited. The committee previously drafted a summary of recommendations to be presented to the City Commission. The City Commission reviewed the recycling program in June. Neubauer said the property maintenance discussion could be resurrected. He will work with Camisa and Decker.

H. Future Meetings

1. Thursday, July 14, 2016 7:30 a.m.
2. Thursday, August 11, 2016 7:30 a.m.

I. Adjourn

Johnson moved to adjourn. Froseth seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. *Report on status of presentation of summary to City Commission regarding proposed property maintenance code. (Discussion postponed until concerns regarding recycling are addressed)*
2. *Report on status of revise language in a proposed ordinance for outdoor storage in industrial, commercial and residential properties. (Discussion postponed until concerns regarding recycling are addressed)*
3. *Update on status of revised language in a proposed garbage container ordinance. (Await potential proposal from Armstrong Sanitation on containers)*