

MINUTES

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
March 12, 2015
1401 Recreation Way, CSC 80905

Board Members Present: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, Mina Liebert, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella

Absent: Alex Johnson

Alternates Present: Jason Rupinski

Alternates Absent: Bob Lally

CALL TO ORDER

Opening: Chair Hilaire called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

CITIZEN DISCUSSION

Pickleball Update: Jeff Norton, Vice President of the Pikes Peak Pickleball Association, provided a brief update which included the following: a Pickleball program with the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) and having a branch office at the USAFA; approved funding from Lodgers and Automobile Rental Tax (LART) for 2015; and their intent to apply for additional funding from LART to repair pickleball courts; a post tension concrete upgrade project; and hosting the Regional Pickleball Tournament at Monument Valley Park in 2015.

Trails and Open Space Update: Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC), said that information regarding the Crew Leader Training, which is scheduled for April 17th through 19th, and the Mayoral and City Council Candidate Forums are available on the TOSC's website.

Dog Issues: Wade Gardner, a citizen, addressed various dog-related issues in the park system (i.e. off-leash dogs; dog bites; dogs using the park system all the time, etc.) and requested help to do something about it.

Board member Maynard said that the Friends of the Incline will approach the City of Colorado Springs and the City of Manitou Springs to conduct a study regarding enforcement issues, including dog-related issues, which will be a part of the study and suggested to put Mr. Gardner in touch with the Friends group.

City Auditorium: Tom Webb, a member of the Friends of the Historic City Auditorium, asked the status of the architect's contract; the restroom renovation; replacement/remodeling of the seating in the Lon Chaney Theater; and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Friends group. Kim King, Manager of Recreation and Administration, provided responses to all questions. Architect contract signed; restroom scheduled for summer; no new program for seating in Lon Chaney; and staff will provide a better MOU representation for the City Auditorium Friends to work from.

Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center Update: Linda Carter, from the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center, thanked staff and the Board for a recent event which took place to recognize Lyda Hill. Ms. Carter also mentioned that this year is the 20th anniversary of the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center and the Garden of the Gods Foundation supporting the Parks Department. The Visitor and Nature Center will be celebrating by hosting a community event on May 16th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charles Castle made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2015 Board meeting. Motion seconded by John Maynard and carried by a 7 to 0 vote. Board member Liebert abstained from voting since she was absent at the February meeting.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson
Abstained: Mina Liebert

NOTE: There was a change in the order of the Agenda to present the “Staff Report” at this time.

STAFF REPORT

- John Venezia Park Groundbreaking: April 16th at 10:00 a.m.
- Joint City/County Parks Board Meeting: March 12th at 11:30 a.m.
- Request for Proposal for the Tennis Center: Contractor will be selected in the next couple of months.
- Media Information

CEREMONIAL ITEM (8:00 a.m. Time Certain)

- **Recognition of Mayor Steve Bach**
Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, thanked and recognized Mayor Bach for his leadership and his support for the Parks Department during his mayoralship. A PowerPoint presentation, which included pictures of the Mayor participating in a number of projects, was shown.

Ms. Palus presented a framed picture which stated “In Appreciation for your Leadership and Dedication to the Importance of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services in our Community” to the Mayor.

Mayor Bach said that a book titled, “*Building a Better Tomorrow*,” will be released on March 13th. The book documents the City’s progress in the first four years of its new Council-Mayor (“Strong Mayor”) form of government.

Mayor Bach said that building a great team was his biggest accomplishment. He said that it is amazing what the Park Department has accomplished since his coming into office.

ACTION ITEMS

NOTE: Due to a conflict of interest, Board member Maynard recused himself from Action Item #1.

1. Request on Behalf of Classic Communities to Approve the Proposed Lizard Leap Neighborhood Park Master Plan Located Within the Flying Horse Master Plan

Connie Perry, Landscape Architect, said that this is a request from Classic Communities to approve the proposed Lizard Leap (10.0 Acre) Neighborhood Park master plan. This park is located southwest of Hwy 83 and Flying Horse Club Drive and will sit just west of the planned Powers Boulevard extension. The Flying Horse Master Plan includes a private golf course (197 acres), five neighborhood parks (28 acres), and one planned community park (25 acres) with 80 acres of open space.

Ron Bevens, with NES (Consultant), provided a PowerPoint presentation. (See presentation)

There was no public comment on this item.

Charles Castle made a motion to approve the Lizard Leap Neighborhood Park Master Plan, to be platted, zoned (PK), and built by the developer, with maintenance by the Flying Horse Metropolitan District. Motion seconded by Mina Liebert and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, ~~John Maynard~~,
Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson
Abstained: John Maynard

NOTE: Board member Maynard returned to the meeting.

2. Approval of the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan

Sarah Bryarly, Landscape Architect, provided a brief PowerPoint presentation reviewing what was presented at the last Board meeting. (See presentation)

Website to the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan: <http://parks.coloradosprings.gov/explore-play/explore/parks/ute-valley-master-plan-0>

Public Input

- Dave Woods, President of the Friends of Ute Valley Park, and Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition, spoke in favor of the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan
- Dave Ward, a citizen, said that he was an off-leash dog supporter. Mr. Ward said that a designated off-leash dog area/trail is needed as well as designated times.

Charles Castle made a motion to adopt of the Ute Valley Park Master and Management Plan as presented. Motion seconded by Scot Hume and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard,
Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson

NOTE: There was a change in the order of the Agenda to present Action Item #4 at this time.

4. Minor Master Plan Amendment to North Cheyenne Cañon Park – South Cañon Trail Extension and Improvements

David Deitemeyer, Park Planner, said that this is a minor Master Plan amendment in North Cheyenne Cañon Park to include an extension of the South Cañon Trail in the South Cañon area. The trail will provide a necessary segment of trail to complete a one-mile trail loop from the Starsmore Discovery Center, increase park user safety, enhance the recreational experience and provide a needed east-west trail connection through the South Cañon portion of North Cheyenne Cañon Park. (See presentation)

Public Input

- Terry McHale from the Broadmoor Hotel, asked to show what the trail will look like and staff explained on a map.
- Bob Falcone, President of the Friends of North Cheyenne Cañon, said that the Friends group's comments were positive on this item and that they are supportive of the project.

- Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition, spoke in favor of the project.

Scot Hume made a motion to approve the minor Master Plan amendment to North Cheyenne Cañon Park to include the new extension of the South Cañon Trail, including lighting, as presented. Motion seconded by Charles Castle and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard, Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson

3. Acquisition of Approximately 7.022 Acres of Real Property for the Rock Island Trail Corridor

Chris Lieber, Manager of Planning and Development, said that the Parks Department, through the City's Trails, Open Space and Parks Program (TOPS) is recommending the acquisition of approximately 7.022 acres of real property currently owned by the Union Pacific Railroad ("Seller") located between the Pikes Peak Greenway and Templeton Gap Road for a 1.25 mile extension of the Rock Island Trail and key connection for the Legacy Loop. ([See presentation](#))

Public Input

- Bill Koerner with the Trails and Open Space Coalition spoke in favor of the acquisition.

Mina Liebert made a motion to approve the acquisition of approximately 7.022 acres of property, from the Union Pacific Railroad, in the amount of \$749,400 with TOPS Trails funds for the advancement of the Rock Island Trail and the Legacy Loop Project. Motion seconded by Charles Castle and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Ron Ilgen, John Maynard, Mina Liebert, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Alex Johnson

BOARD BUSINESS

➤ **Board/Committee Reports and Concerns**

Lodgers and Automobile Rental Tax (LART) Committee: Board member ~~Lieber~~ Liebert said that a meeting is scheduled this afternoon.

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services said that a Resolution/Ordinance revision will be forwarded to City Council. The resolution identifies Heritage events that will continue to receive City sponsorship.

Community Center Funding: Board member Castle requested to receive email copies regarding funding for the City's community Centers.

Homeless Information: Board member Castle thanked staff for the information regarding homeless issues.

Fountain Creek Corridor: Board member Castle asked if KCSB cleans the Fountain Creek corridor. He asked if homeless people can be hired to do that.

Ms. Palus said that court-ordered people are used but she has not heard about homeless involvement.

I-25/Cimarron Exchange: In response to Board member Castle's question regarding the I-25/Cimarron exchange, Kurt Schroeder, Manager of Park Operations and Development, said that staff will provide an update at the next Board meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

- Follow up on "Safety of Parks", including Bancroft Park.
- Chair Hilaire requested a presentation regarding the "Park Ambassador" program.

Park Master Plan – Action Plan: In response to Board member Maynard's question regarding the Park Master Plan having a follow up on Action Plan, Ms. Palus said that staff continues to look at that and will bring a consultant to work on that. Staff will provide information to the Board.

Rampart Park Disc Golf Course: In reference to the Board approving the Rampart Park Disc Golf Course, Board member Scarangella expressed his concern regarding maintenance. He said that adding more expenses and programs is adding burden to the Parks Department's operating costs.

Board member Scarangella said that the Board needs to discuss the maintenance issue.

Park Sustainability: Chair Hilaire said that the Board needs more discussions/options regarding park sustainability. This should be an off-site topic.

Old 168: Ms. Palus said that the Council approved the Old 168 with a lease agreement. This is now moving forward with a National Historic Registration.

Staff Resignation: Ms. Palus announced that Will DeBoer, Cemetery Supervisor will be retiring at the end of March.

➤ **Dogs Off Leash Rules**

Ron Ilgen and Hank Scarangella volunteer to participate in on subcommittee

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:26 a.m.