

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

April 9, 2009,

City Park Golf Course

Attendees: Elfenbein, S., Loshbaugh, H., Ott, R., Done, E., Kester, B., Phuonglan, N., Copeland, N., Sharp, B., Gilmore, S., Novarro, F., Watson, D., Pryor, K., Robinson, D., Truwe, D., Holdman, A., Ewing, M., Gray, E.

Absent: Fox, M., Norbie, D.

Staff: Kevin Patterson – Manager, Dody Erickson, Gordon Robertson, Jill McGranahan
Chantal Unfug,, Scott Robson

Guests – Mayor Hickenlooper, Councilwoman Peggy Lehman, Staff representatives
from Jeanne Robb, Rick Garcia, Carla Madison, and Chris Nevit

Meeting called to Order – Heidi Loshbaugh

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Approval of minutes from March 12th meeting - without corrections

PUBLIC HEARING

Recreation Facility Permitting Policy – Dody Erickson

Final Draft of Rec Facility Permit Policy – Dody Erickson

The new Recreation Facility Permitting Policy was passed out to board members. Dody reviewed the amendment to the existing policy which adds “Special Consideration” to the 2.0 Definitions Section. It formally allows the capture of users who were not included under the previous policy. Now groups that provide a service to the community and the rec center may use the facilities. The permitting fees would be waived to support these groups. A boy scout group or a dance group are examples of users who might qualify for special consideration.

Questions from the board members and public were entertained. It was emphasized that this specific change in the policy is to address a need that is “falling through the cracks” in our recreation centers.

A motion to approve the change in policy was made by Dianne Truwe and seconded by Alexis Holdman. The vote to approve was unanimous.

UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

Recreation enter Task Force – Final Recommendations :Florence Navarro and Dody Erickson

The Recreation Center Task Force (RCTF) has finalized their recommendations for a strategic management vision of Denver’s recreation system for the next 5 to 10 years.

This project has consisted of 3 years of assessments, 8 months of a Task Force process, and 21 community meetings. Florence and Dody have given countless hours to bringing the project to fruition, but the recommendations reflect the hard work of the task force committee, the Parks & Rec staff, and the communities that are served . The establishment of a tiered system of recreation centers and the encouragement for the city to actively pursue a full range of partnership opportunities represent the core elements of these recommendations which had “equitable solutions” as their main goal. The recommendations will now go to the Manager for his review.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Advisory Board Materials Posting on Website – Jill McGranahan

A brief presentation was given to the board about recent changes to the Parks & Rec web site. Jill highlighted the efforts of her department to make access to documentation easier for board members and thus avoid “clogging our e mail boxes with 6 plus attachments” every month.

Heidi Loshbaugh agreed that it is helpful to have the documentation available on the web site, but the board still needs the linkage from the Parks & Rec staff.

Overview of PAL Agreements at Val Verde and Parkfield - Gordon Robertson

Gordon presented this partnership opportunity as one of the most creative and beneficial to the community that he has ever been involved in. The Police Athletic League (PAL) will contribute \$3.6 million to build two new ball fields which will benefit the districts of Councilmen Garcia and Nevitt. Fred Weiss spoke to the increase in revenue for the city , because it allows for more permitting to groups other than PAL . More programming will happen, because the artificial turfed fields can be used all day and every day.

A requirement for the funding from Bill Daniels will is that one of the fields be named after a “fallen officer”. Sonny Jackson of the Denver Police department announced that Donnie Young has been chosen for this particular dedication. It is also requested that the second field be named after popular basketball star and Denver native, Chauncy Billups. In addition , the Parks dept. would like to put a logo on the turf which signifies the partnership with PAL on this project. These requests will be voted on at our next board meeting when the staff returns with specifics on the size and design issues.

All – Employee Meeting – Kevin Patterson

The advisory board is invited to this opportunity to bring together all of the Parks & Rec staff at Invesco Field on 5/21/09.

Meeting Adjourned

*** May 14th meeting will be held at City Park Golf ***