Draft Minutes
Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
October 10, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:37pm by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Board Members Present: Noel Copeland, , Leslie Twarogowski, Jack Paterson, Shane Wright, Marla Rodriguez, Fran Coleman, Tashmesia Mitchell, Florence Navarro, Mark Brown, Jaime Aguilar, Brande Micheau, Jay Rust, Wende Reoch

Absent: Felipe Vieyra, Frank Rowe, Ben Wilking

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Sept 2018 meeting were distributed. A small correction was made and Marla moved to accept with the change; Florence seconded. The motion passed with abstentions from Wende and Jay.

General Public Comment

Barbara Harris: She brought up several issues at the MLK Rec Center regarding maintenance items and lifeguard availability during scheduled pool hours.

Committee Reports

Florence/GAMEPLAN: She reminded the board to read and comment online or to her before the end of October.

Jay/Designations: Several additional opportunities may make designation before going to city council by the end of the year, some still in the city attorneys’ office. Happy referred to some of the park-like amenities at Lakewood Gulch but added that there are complex issues surrounding the inclusions.

Leslie/GranDoozy Accountability: She indicated that the majority of comments made by the residents were very positive. The golf course has re-opened and it looks good. The owl has returned.

Shane/Mobility: He noted a variety of transportation concerns at GranDoozy.

Executive Directors Report: Happy Haynes (with Laura Morales)

Regarding GranDoozy, the operations surrounding the festival were successful; there were not as many tickets sold as anticipated. Many suggestions have been received as to how to improve future festivals. The golf course is already in better shape than was expected. Final numbers on the city’s proceeds will
be available soon. Happy said the department has a move date to The Post building of Oct 22nd but that future PRAB meetings will remain at current Webb 4th floor location. The next public meeting at College View Rec Ctr is the 24th. The Mayor has committed to provide activity support for College View programming, similar to conduct at the Johnson Rec Ctr, to support some programs which will extend to My Denver passes. The athletic fields permitting season kicks off again on November 1st. Changes recently made to the permitting process are in effect and she explained the highlights affecting neighborhood groups through the end of the year. The Dog Park Master Plan update will host public review meetings on October 20 and 21st. Heron Pond updates will be presented at a public meeting on November 3. St. Charles Rec Center will host very spooky go-ings on later this month. Lastly, she distributed a draft for PRAB review of the new Code of Conduct policy for rec center use. It’s a new policy compiling existing rules and regs but also adds issues and conduct which have not previously been codified. Fran inquired about GranDoozy’s responsibility to return for the remaining 4 years of the contract; Happy replied there are “out clauses” for both parties. Jack brought up several issues on the distributed Code of Conduct referring to alcohol consumption not consistent with approved wording used in the recently updated Alcohol Policy; Happy took note.

Board Elections

Florence indicated there were no new nominations for PRAB Executive Committee other than the three current members (Pres, Leslie; Veep, Marla; Sec., David). Jay moved to accept the current committee by acclamation, Wende seconded, the vote was unanimous in favor. Florence and others thanked the officers for their work and opened a dialogue for increasing engagement by all members. Fran raised the issue of not having an excused absence policy as one reason she chose not to pursue a nomination. David commented the bylaws do not provide such a distinction. Fran brought up that each meeting’s agenda is still not posted early enough for the board (or the public) to view. David brought up the need for committee assignments to be re-visited (the current assignments were distributed); between board member and issue changes this offers an opportunity for all to re-examine their interests and participation; Marla suggested assigning a chair to each committee. Shane offered the upcoming ballot measure 2A as an example of participation for board members.

Other Board Announcements

Leslie reported on Denver’s hosting of Greater and Greener next summer and the possible opportunities to volunteer (especially at the St. Charles build out event slated for Sunday morning). David provided more details of the overall agenda from a recent planning overview meeting. Tash expressed interest in participating and wants more visibility for PRAB at this conference. Globeville Rec Ctr will host an open house to highlight the physical changes which have been made. Jay asked the board to send him comments after our recent DPR update on the recycled water issues and programs; Wende asked to become involved. Fran noted a variety of detention and flood control projects system wide and suggested possibly a tour be arranged to better understand all of the activities. Wende noted the restoration completion at Cranmer Park of the Sundial and thanked The Park People among others for their support. David thanked DPR for hosting the Mountain Parks tour last weekend and commented that there are plenty of tangible changes and improvements which have been made that aren’t always
seen by the public. Both Marla and Wende were impressed with the programming and moreover the energy and dedication of the park personnel.

Adjournment

Leslie adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm.