PRAB Minutes
January 8, 2015

Present:
Shane Wright
Brian Elms
Ean Tafoya
Leslie Twarogowski
Sarah Hall
Anne Green
Bernie Sharp
Florence Navarro
Jack Paterson
Marcus Panchner
Jason Robinson
Andrew Doll
Lauri Dannemiller
JT Allen
Dwane Matthews
Jolon Clark
Mary McCoin
Noel Copeland
Norma Brambila

Absent:
Sean Bradley

Call to order: Ean Tafoya 5:33pm

Consent Agenda Items

Approval of November minutes motion: Brian Elms second: JT Allen
Approval of October minutes motion: Brian Elms second: Andrew Doll

Public Comment

Add an agenda item to a future meeting to address adding rangers and more tools and equipment to help rangers to better do their job.
  - We have upgraded two ranger positions and we have added additional positions for this summer. We will begin the budget process again in May and continue to address our ranger needs and budgetary constraints.

Lincoln Park would like to feel like there is more collaboration between the Parks department and the neighborhood. Contact information was given to them and advice about whom to contact to help with this situation.

Scott is working on a project on looking into the number of public restrooms. People who are working with the homeless population would love to see more 24
hour public restrooms available. Portland has a system called the Portland Loo, and that is one intriguing option. Scott is aware of the Portland Loo project and it is being considered. Park bathrooms cannot be open at night right now based on the curfew laws. Parks close at 11pm. A larger issue might be the overall criminalization of being homeless. A recommendation was made to have a collaborative relationship with the homeless community because they are park users as well.

There is a movement to have City Park given a historic landmark designation.

Managers Report

1: Denver's Outdoor Downtown
   Master planning effort kicked off in late 2014
   Check out the feedback at www.DenversOutdoorDowntown.com

2: National Western Master Plan
   Comments will be taken online until January 15, 2015
   Public Meeting is January 14, 2015
   The National Western Complex is an integral part of the park system for many reasons. Some of those include access to other parks and that there are two parks right there at the complex.

3: Ruby Hill Rail Yard
   Snowboarding under the lights in the City. This is such a cool thing for this city. Opens this Friday.

4: Things to look forward to in 2015 at PRAB
   Wash Park Passive Areas
      First Presentation in January
      Public Hearing in February
   POFA review
      First Presentation in February
      Public Hearing in March
   Rules and Regulations
      First Presentation in March
      Public Hearing in March

Other Items

Park Rules and Regulations Update - Bob Finch
- In 2012 the Department of Parks and Recreation completed an update of the Denver Parks Use Rules and Regulations. We are now ready for additional updates.
- The Staff is requesting the formation of a PRAB subcommittee to review the rules and regulations update in detail to assist the staff in the review and final preparation of draft rules.
- Hoping to present the full Rules and Regulations update to PRAB at the March 12, 2015 meeting and a public hearing at the May 14, 2015 meeting.
- Shane Wright, Dwayne Matthews and Mary McCoin volunteer to be on the subcommittee.

**Washington Park Rule- Lauri Dannemiller**

- We have a temporary directive in place now, but we are now working toward having a permanent rule. The Staff is requesting the formation of a PRAB subcommittee to review the rules and regulations update in detail to assist the staff in the review and final preparation of draft rules.
- The goal of citations is to educate the public about what is allowed and what is not. To this end, we saw a decline in citations across the board from June to August of last year. Hopefully this is an indication that people are beginning to understand what the rules are.
- Volleyball permitting at the park was based on the need to ensure that the meadow wasn’t being overused and that people who wanted to play volleyball were there playing and not there throwing an all day party.
  - For the most part the neighborhood was happy and a majority of the volleyball players were happy. Hopefully equilibrium has been found.
- **Proposed Policy:**
  - There will be a determined passive area to allow for passive use and up to 50 nets (which is the same number allowed by permits this summer.
  - No permit required in the non-passive area
  - These areas will be determined by turf conditions and rotated frequently.
  - There will be the possibility of citations for team sports being done in the passive area
  - Unlimited volleyball will be allowed outside the meadow
  - There will be special event expectations
  - This will be enforced from April 1 until September 30
  - **A formal vote from PRAB will be requested in February**

**Bicycle Facilities Update- Jay Henke**

- The two main projects for this year are Goldsmith Gulch and the trail between Leetsdale and Virginia adjacent to George Washington High School.
  - Goldsmith Gulch is an opportunity to continue to upgrade and connect the Cherry Creek path to the Tech Center
- Weir Gulch project has been completed
- South Platte River Vision is ongoing but much of it will be completed by Summer 2015
- **Coming soon:**
  - Ruby Hill Mountain Bike Park
    - Intended to be a progressive park for young kids all the way up to skilled older kids.
• Should go to construction in the spring and hopefully be done by the end of 2015
  o Weir Gulch/ Barnum Park Bridge
    ▪ Installation to begin Spring 2015
  o CDOT US6 Bridge Project
    ▪ Reconstruction of the South Platte Regional Trail through Frog Hollow and Phil Milstein Parks
  o Westerly Creek and Sand Creek Improvements
    ▪ In the final design process
      • Construction scheduled to begin in February 2015
      • Hope to complete the project Winter 2015/Spring 2016

- Wash Park Loop Road Study
  o There is not currently any funding for the implementations of the recommendations but they are looking at the 2016 budget

**Announcements**

- Leslie Twarogowski: Board Retreat will be January 31 at 9:30-1:00ish at the City Park Greenhouse. We will be having lunch. Be thinking about what you would like to see addressed at this meeting.

Adjourned: 7:22pm