

## Draft Minutes

### Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

August 10, 2016

#### Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:32pm by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Board Members Present: Dora Aragon, Florence Navarro, Frank Rowe, Noel Copeland, Shane Wright, Liz Drogan, David Richter, Leslie Twarogowski, Jay Rust, Thad Jacobs, Andy Sense, Jack Paterson, Benjamin Wilking, Jason Robinson

Absent: Marcus Pachner, C.L. Harmer, Fran Coleman

#### Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved for July, pending inclusion of comments by Jay Rust.

#### Subcommittee Reports

Frank: City Park Golf Redesign. There have been community meetings in July and Aug, more scheduled, and those meetings will conclude in October. With all of the interests for what can be provided on 229 acres, there tradeoffs will be necessary as to what can be most heavily emphasized. Next meeting is Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm at The Greenhouse.

Leslie & Jack: 39<sup>th</sup> Street Greenway Park. There have been a couple public meetings so far; well attended and received much input on design elements. Numerous concepts to be addressed. Next meeting Aug 25<sup>th</sup> at the St. Charles Rec Ctr.

Jay : Designation Committee. Five new sites are being evaluated, comprising 1,000 acres. Scott Gilmore: Reported that First Creek at Rocky Mountain Arsenal open in the past week. The Federal grant for access points netted Denver about \$700K.

Jay further reported on the Recycled Water Project that conifer tissue and soil testing is still in progress and may be completed late this year. (DPR was nominated and will receive citation for the best water reuse customer, nationally, at a presentation in Florida.

Florence: GAMEPLAN & DenveRight. A large group is actively involved with a methodology review and an overview of how meetings will proceed.

David/Andy: Outdoor Downtown. An 80% complete draft of the Master Plan will be submitted early next week and our comments are due by this Friday.

Leslie: She'll be forming a new subcommittee on the Park Naming Process and is looking for volunteers.

Public Comments – None.

Executive Directors Report (Happy Haynes, with presenters Fred Weiss, and Mark Bernstein, and input from Kris Wilson)

Happy reported DPR's budget request for '17 has been submitted and the Mayor's budget submittal will be released mid-Sept.

Beer Garden Update: Happy indicated the whole project became more complex and thus was delayed, but now moving forward with a 30-day pop up in Block 2 of Skyline to be kicked off on Aug 19<sup>th</sup> – an invite to PRAB will be extended.

Confluence Park Redesign Update: Remediation of the coal tar and affected water treatment will begin in the fall and then the entire project can continue. Now scheduled for full completion in the fall of 2017.

Fred Weiss: Levitt Pavilion Fee Proposal. The golf & event facilities fee structure has been approved. The Levitt fee structure has utilized the plans from other Levitt facilities nationwide and has been vetted with both those and A&V . Essentially, the first 3 years of operations will use flat fees segregated between non-profit and private entities wishing to use the facility. (Operation of the Pavilion has a mandate of 55 "free" performances each year.) A schedule was provided and discussed. A notable segment of this effort is the proposed removal of event application fees (which will require City Council approval) to be replaced with event (non-refundable) deposit fees. Dora asked whether there will be room for additional events/perfs since 55 other free events take precedence; Fred replied, yes. Jack asked whether fixed costs for DPR to support the operation of the Pavilion were covered in the fees; Happy replied that to the best of their ability to forecast same, yes. Noel inquired as to how fee structure might change after initial 3 year period; Fred indicated market conditions and a re-assessment would dictate such. Leslie asked how long the Levitt contract is; Fred wasn't sure but in consideration of Levitt's overall strength and growth throughout the US, "probably pretty long" but that he would follow up with that information. Shane expressed concern that other City responsibilities for traffic/parking infrastructure be addressed. Brian made a motion to approve the proposed Levitt fee structure; it was seconded and passed. It will move on to City Council.

Fred presented the public comments received on the Rules and Regulations proposal. He showed several categories reflecting typical community comments received. Pending turnaround from the City Attorney, PRAB should expect to see the final version in either Sept or Oct for a vote.

Further discussion centered on the Consequences of Violations and the Enforcement protocols being proposed. Fred went through the 4 categories, and he, Happy, and Kris addressed these. Happy reiterated DPR's philosophy of compliance over punishment, and the proposal supports that position.

The Rest Period provision was addressed and it now seems that DPR will support a 2-year pilot program and review its effectiveness thereafter.

#### Public Hearing on Rules & Regulations

Cindy Johnson/INC P&R Co-Chair. Pleased that the process is evolving. Has concern that more details aren't present and INC is not ready to endorse at this time. Fred and Happy both re-iterated that because the Exec Director of DPR has the discretion to determine numerous provisions (e.g., rest periods, capacity) because they apply to individual parks they will ultimately not be codified as policy.

Robbie Goldman/Dry Bone Denver. This organization uses parks extensively bringing in youth groups from outside of the city. He expressed dismay that a permitted entity discriminated against his group previously. Fred pointed out that this is largely a legal issue, but that a permit holder cannot exclude a group. Happy clarified that they can exclude if activities are outside of the permit. Thad brought up the issue of sound (aka "noise"); asking who monitors it. Fred replied that both Environmental Health and DPR have the ability to enforce sound violations. He indicated that since both entities have become involved, violations have diminished. Jay had a list of questions about the overall policy for R&R and submitted those concerns to DPR offline. Fred indicated that even October first is about the drop dead date for making changes insofar as new permits for next year become imminent. Shane expressed concern that the accidental exclusion of bicyclists surround the R&R policy. Brian expressed thanks to DPR for being forceful but in a cooperative spirit to non-profit issues related to permits and events.

Fred then went through an explanation for how DPR has developed capacity guidelines for each park. They will not be part of the R&R per se, and will be monitored for effectivity for a 1 year pilot in case they need adjustment.

#### Other Board Announcements

Thad inquired about a specific event last week and how DPR addressed the permitting; Kris indicated there were several complaints and DPR is involved in determining whether a response is necessary.

Andy expressed concern that event parking overall is frustrating (Jason seconded), and asked whether incentives or special considerations can be made for entities making special accommodations for bike and ped traffic and amenities thereof.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.