Draft Minutes
Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
February 8, 2017

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:38pm by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Board Members Present: Noel Copeland, Frank Rowe, Wende Reoch, David Richter, Leslie Twarogowski, Andy Sense, Thad Jacobs, Jack Paterson, Shane Wright, Marla Rodrigueuez, Florence Navarro, Ben Wilking

Absent: Dora Aragon, Fran Coleman, Florence Navarro, Jay Rust, Bev Cox, Felipe Vieyva, Marcus Pachner

Introduction of New Board Members

Marla Rodrigueuez (Mayoral) gave a short synopsis of her background and interest in the Advisory Board. Felipe Vieyva has also been appointed (Mayoral) but was not present.

Public Comments

Charlie Girsch made a request to re-examine the citywide availability of operational hours for pickleball players on city tennis courts.

Greg Davis/City Park Alliance: requested renaming of City Park Bandshell in honor of Gerald Endsley.

Approval of Meeting Minutes, January 2017

Several corrections to the minutes were noted: Executive Director’s Report, change “$27M” to “$2.7M”; Other Board Announcements, Happy indicated there are no current .... change “plans” to no current “design”. Frank made motion to approve, Thad seconded; passed with abstention from Jason.

Committee Reports

CP Golf Course/Andy, Frank: Meeting on Jan 31st finalized design guidelines and provided an update on the procurement process. Happy indicated the designers are sensitive to the historic character of the course, the overall interest in a multiuse facility, and the need for a better functioning clubhouse. Noel asked about price considerations for the RFP; Happy: this is not a low bid award contract.

39th Ave Greenway/Leslie: Project is about 2/3 of the way through the design process. Leslie mentioned a community member who recently spoke about how disruptive the channel will be; she disagreed and emphasized how the design will foster foot traffic both through and across. Andy mentioned Facebook
criticism of the project and there was some discussion between the differences of detention, retention, and conveyance.

Parks Naming/Leslie: She indicated the current document is rather large and somewhat vague, the current effort is not for a re-write but to clarify the language relating to having a deceased person qualify for a park or facility renaming. Something more specific will be presented next month. Happy dalluded to a matrix of how current renamings and new proposals might address the issue. This will be presented at March PRAB meeting and a vote scheduled for April.

Executive Director’s Report (also w/ Mark Bernstein, Gordon Robertson, Scott Gilmore, Mark Taber)

Happy reported DPR has selected a consultant to update the City Park Master Plan; it shall be about a 12 month process involving design working group and stakeholders.

Happy reported on recent trip to Los Angeles to attend a national lab addressing homelessness in parks and rec, at which they learned about how other cities are doing. She mentioned her biggest takeaway was of a more philosophical perspective; homelessness doesn’t define people, it’s just what some people experience.

Happy updated briefly on the Overland Golf Course Music Festival concept. Several RNO-sponsored community meeting have been presented the festival format concept and there has been dialogue between them and the developer to address neighborhood impact concerns. Additionally, the golf community has also had meetings and dialogue to understand impact on the course and as to how revenues might be allocated to address those and the community infrastructure as well. Frank attended a golf enterprise presentation and indicated that course restoration was the one item which seems to be clearly addressed.

Mark Taber (DPR project director) addressed PRAB with an update on the GAMEPLAN process. He started with the background of the 2003 Plan and the genesis of the issues and goals formulating the current update process. a report detailing the current infrastructure conditions will be available in about 2 weeks. Mark went through many survey results indicating community desires, and pointed out a study showing nearly $B cost saving to the community by having access to public facilities. He indicated the efforts between the other DenverRight task forces with GAMEPLAN to crosscheck guiding principles and coordinated programs. Lastly he showed where we are in the overall update process; three public open houses are scheduled throughout the city in March as well as a third user survey.

Mark Bernstein updated PRAB on the proposal to include Commons Park on the approved POFA site list. He chronicled recent programs to activate the park and also addressed watershed/row restrictions. The intent will be to include a variety of programs to the park. Marla asked who will decide which proposals are sanctioned (Mark: Permitting Office, as it currently does throughout the system). Happy added that there is a revenue sharing of fees collected between the general fund and the specific park hosting the activity. David motioned for PRAB to add Commons Park to the existing POFA sites with DPR, Andy seconded; motion passed unanimously.
Lastly, Happy invited PRAB to attend the Mayor’s cabinet meeting on the 25th at Henry World Middle School in Bear Valley.

**Other Board Announcements**

Jack indicated there is currently a petition out to gather signatures for the renaming of Northside Park to Carpio-Sanguinnette Park. PRAB will be asked to recommend to the Executive Director when the process is complete.

Jason Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.