Draft Minutes

Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

January 14, 2016

Call To Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by President Leslie Twarogowski

Board Members Present: Marcus Pachner, Jack Paterson, Florence Navarro, Dwayne Matthews, Eric Clayman, Frank Rowe, Jay Rust, JT Allen, Liz Drogin, Noel Copeland, Shane Wright, Thad Jacobs, David Richter, Leslie Twarogowski, Jason Robinson, Dora Aragon

Absent: Brian Elms, CL Harmer, Fran Coleman

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from both Nov and Dec were presented in hard copy but were not posted in advance and thus neither was submitted for approval.

Public Comments

No advice or comments was received.

Executive Directors Report

Scott Gilmore presenting. Meetings were announced for Levitt Pavilion, status update, 19th; Outdoor Downtown, final public meeting, 26th; Globeville Landing Park, 27th. The PRAB Retreat/Orientation will be held at The Molkery on the 23rd from 9-1pm.

Scott announced formation of another working group, on the Recycled Water project created within the IGA water agreement. Board members (Jay, Thad, Liz, and Eric) were chosen from the district’s most affected. A tour of the recycling plant is scheduled.

The Red Rocks working group has met already. Comments were made by Shane and Noel regarding the differences and considerations of both the National Historic designation as well as possible local designations. Principal considerations for each involve boundary changes and the differences between experience of designating landscape versus buildings (amphitheater and Trading Post). Jay asked about status of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame expansion. Scott replied there remain no plans to replace alter or expand the present building.

Councilman Paul Lopez attended, and formerly introduced his new Board appointee, Dora Aragon (who later made her own intro/bio to the Board). Further, he expressed his gratitude for the work of outgoing Board Member Norma Brambila who has served for the past two years. Norma reiterated her desire to see the creation of a new Rec Center for Westwood to which the Councilman also spoke to.
DPR Presentations

Paco Sanchez Park Update, presented by Michael Brouchard, Asst Director for Planning.

This update presented the evolving layout of the park redesign. Michael described the effort and importance of reaching out to stakeholders in the community who will be instrumental in activating energizing and organizing programs to utilize Relimage. Updated concepts for the northside were presented; two overall loops are planned. The Upper Loop will accentuate the topography and contain the Outdoor Rec building as well as Relimage playspaces. The lower loop will be the fitness loop and encompass the smaller-format fields for team activity development programs. Michael explained the unique nature of the design development phase and the negotiations with which involve the general contractor is selected to finalize the design within budget requirements. The Phase One budget total is $4150K. It will remain an evolving scope of work to best complete portions of northside projects whereas Phase 2 will address the remaining northside work for approx. another $2M. While there are concepts for redevelopment of the southside, it remains TBD, though Michael indicated the existing Frisbee gold course will likely be retained. Florence asked about the potential for a dog park in southside. Jay asked about passive recreational opportunities on the northside; Michael explained they will largely be confined to perimeter areas where trees and natural landscape features exist. David asked about cost impact of unconventional Relimage play items. Michael reiterated the necessity of community organizations to drive overall program development within the park.

Two Basins Project, presented by Chris Proud, Planner & Project Manager

Chris presented a more detailed look at the need for flood water management including detention in the Park Hill and Montclair drainage basins. He described the general plans for floodwater management in the Platte to Park Hill system and outlined the two primary candidates for detention: City Park Golf Course and Cole neighborhood. Either site is predicated on the City acquiring properties to develop an open channel along 39th street. Obviously it is more desirable to utilize existing city properties than to purchase and redevelop a section of the Cole. Not only for cost of land considerations but also for the multitude of community impacts from commercial zone to housing displacement. Dora asked about city program considerations for home relocation in the Cole option; Eric reported on attending a public meeting on the impact to the Golf Course. Shane asked for a PRAB vote at the Fb meeting; Leslie will develop a proper motion with Happy in the interim. Michael indicated that in order to remain in step with other North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative projects (e.g., CDOT funding), a decision on which detention system to pursue is needed by the end of February.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.