Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by President Keith Pryor, presiding and Mary McCoin, secretary.

Directors present
JT Allen, Jay April, Jolon Clark, James Coleman, Noel Copeland, Brian Elms, Anne Green, Khadija Haynes, Mary McCoin, Florence Navarro, Marcus Pachner, Keith Pryor, Jason Robinson, Bernie Sharp, Shane Wright, Darrel Watson

Directors absent
Norma Brambila, Mary Ewing, Leslie Twarogowski

Approval of Minutes
At 5:34 p.m., a quorum was established and on motion duly made (Elms), seconded (Watson), and carried, the minutes of the meeting of March 14th, were approved as submitted. Sharp abstained.

Public Comments
Ean Tafoya expressed kudos for the handling of improvements at Civic Center Park and concerns about Fuller Park. Tafoya offered to assist Park staff with implementing three-stream waste management systems (containers for recyclables, organic and waste materials) at the park.

Teddi Bryant with HotMammas exercise stroller class said she was a stakeholder participating in discussions on commercial use policy (now Private Outdoor Fee Based Activity). Bryant expressed concerns about the general policy provisions not differentiating between field and trail use. (Exclusive use of space versus not exclusive), and said the fee structure could include rates for monthly use and seasonal use. Bryant said the daily fee of $32 would cost her $400/month and that amount is cost-prohibitive.

Dave Felice (Park Hill resident) requested a moment of silence for the loss to Parks of the Hentzell Natural Area/Hamden Heights Open Space, and expressed concern about decreased natural areas. He also voiced a concern about the proposed policy Private Outdoor Fee Based Activity.

Manager’s Report
Lauri Dannemiller provided details on the management of restrictions needed on park use during the Stage 2 Drought. The department is working closely with Denver Water to monitor the situation and mitigate potential problems. A water budget plan is in place to cut overall water usage in all parks by 20 percent from 2010.
Dannemiller said parks on recycled water are not restricted to water budget by Denver Water but parks using potable water are on the restricted budget.

All pools and many (but not all) interactive fountains will be open for community benefit. All decorative fountains will be shut down for the season. No misting trees in Central Park, Greenway Park and Ruby Hill Park.

Recycled water parks will not irrigate between 10am and 6pm.

All athletic fields are open but could close early if drought conditions persist. 30 day notice will be given.

Dannemiller provided a list of upcoming public meetings for POFA, City Loop and Ruby Hill Phase II (Refer to Parks web site for dates and locations).

**Other Items**

Scott Gilmore, Deputy Manager presented and requested a Board ACTION ITEM re: the use of re-allocating Parks land for City Park/Denver Zoo Perimeter improvements. (Refer to presentation hand-out). The Plan includes improvements to the park road and landscaping adjacent to the Gate 5 service entrance at the zoo, the City Park Pump House on the south side of the zoo, addition of pedestrian sidewalk and the first phase of improvements to the zoo perimeter fence. **BOARD ACTION ITEM: Motion: Brian Elms** It was moved the Board recommend proceeding with City Park expansion request of 3150 sq feet - **Seconded- Marcus Pachner.** **Motion Passed Unanimously.** No abstentions. In return, the Parks Department will get additional landscaping, irrigation, and parking.

Gilmore also gave an update on the City Loop at City Park (a public health amenity designed to be a flagship public open space). City Loop is located within 5 miles of 85 percent of the Denver population making the playground accessible to many underserved communities. Key features: half-mile-long mobility circuit with undulating topography, super-sized swings, artificial rain, giant tunnels, intricate climbing structures, boulder fields, lush plantings. Key intent: Play in all its forms is essential characteristic of healthy lifestyles. Overall budget: $5million for design&construction, maintenance and programming. Seeking private funding.

Fred Weiss, Dody Erickson gave the initial presentation on the proposed draft policy on Private Outdoor Fee-Based Activities (POFBA). Refer to presentation hand-out and web site. Weiss discussed the stakeholder input and upcoming community meetings to respond to questions and concerns re: the draft policy. Weiss said Denver would be in leading edge of cities looking at policy as it has recently become a hot topic for major cities.

Dannemiller said there is currently a moratorium on enforcing policy. Recommends board review public comments and draft plan prior to May meeting. **Board members may make motions during May meeting regarding desired policy changes.**

Weiss said philosophically Parks holds there should not be private gain on use of public space unless citizens receive some benefit from private use of public park. Believes their activities
should be regulated. Fees will be for limited number of group participants daily "renting" of park space.

Dannemiller said the City Charter wording allows ability to regulate. Charter defines what sales are and the ability to issue permits.

**Board Discussion**

Board members commented that regulation and enforcement were appropriate and needed and asked about best practice approach to policy, more clarity around types of groups that fall under permitting requirements, and rationale around fees and definition of exclusive and non-exclusive use in terms of trail/path use versus designated green space sites in zones. Noted confusion about whether licensed business, the participant group size, regular use or other criteria would trigger permitting requirement. Advised parks staff not to take punitive approach or send mixed messages about supporting healthy activity/fitness versus making fitness groups feel unwelcome. Discussed need to properly manage turf protection and balancing needs of all park users.

**Other Announcements**

Pryor discussed next steps following Board Retreat on April 6th. Several advisory board members volunteered to serve on task-force committees addressing Board purpose and scope, orientation materials, and budgetary review and advisory role. Pryor will send out email reminder after getting facilitator notes. Pryor also asking for additional volunteers for economic/budget task force. Jay April will convene the budget task force.

Haynes recommends that Parks staff provide more signage about public hearings at entrances on main lobby floor and 4th floor as well as at community meetings.

Pryor advised the May 11 Better Blocks celebration fun day at Sonny Lawson park. He will send out a link. Pryor also reminded on the Parks People Arbor Day celebration and tree giveaway. Clark advised on the upcoming S Platte River Clean-up Day project April 27 8-Noon. 500-600 volunteers will participate.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary McCoin

(Signed Upon Approval at Next Month Mtg), (Recording) Secretary