DRAFT MINUTES
OF THE OPEN MEETING OF THE
DENVER PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
March 13th, 2014

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Leslie Twarogowski, president.

Directors present
J.T. Allen, Jolon Clark, Noel Copeland, Andrew Doll, Brian Elms, Sarah Hall, Mary McCoin, Florence Navarro, Marcus Pachner, Jack Paterson, Keith Pryor, Jason Robinson, Leslie Twarogowski, Shane Wright.

Directors absent
Sean Bradley, Norma Brambila, Anne Green, Khadija Haynes, Bernie Sharp.

Approval of Minutes
At 5:45 p.m., a quorum was established and on motion duly made (Pryor), seconded (Allen), and carried, the minutes of the February meeting, were approved as submitted.

Public Comments
There were no public comments to open the meeting.

Manager’s Report
1) Jeff Green (Dannemiller out sick) advised of upcoming public meetings (see hand-out).
2) Scott Gilmore said Parks staff received an award for their snow removal program at DIA. Board Questions: Pryor and McCoin asked about status of 4/20 Rally permit. Pryor also asked about site planning—securing the perimeter, etc. Green responded that organizers have up until 2 weeks prior to event to provide payment to parks $14,000. 4/20 organizers also need to prove they have obtained appropriate E&O insurance, permit-a-lets, etc.
Twarogowski said RH Railyard was a huge success. Staff confirmed the yard is closed for the season. Pryor requested information on Triangle Park plans and said community wants controlled access points.

Agenda Items
1) New Freedom Park Name: Twarogowski officially opened the Public hearing.
City Council President Mary Beth Sussman spoke on behalf of supporting the name and is asking the Board to also support the name.
Scott Dissel with The Trust for Public Land and Mercy Housing collaborated on the park project. (Refer to handout). New immigrants and refugees chose name because of its resonance with their feelings once they were settled here. Dissel says he has been very pleased by response to the proposed name from the community.

Radikah ?- says the name is very significant to her and her friends who use the park, and she likes the name.
Tom Meyer agrees. Sierra Hutchinson with Mercy Housing which is adjacent to the park, appreciates the inclusionary process of naming the park, and is very supportive of the name.

Brian Hill - Appreciates the new park and name. He would also like to see a greenway connection between Lowry and Stapleton.

Twarogowski asked Board for motion for recommendation on resolution to adopt name New Freedom Park for park located at 13th and Zenia streets. Twarogowski recused herself for conflict of interest. 

*Doll moved the Board recommend the name “New Freedom Park”.*

*Navarro seconded.*

Board voted unanimously in support of new name.

Wright asked for more info from speaker re: Westerly Creek improvements. Gilmore responded there are damage funds that may be applied to restoration of Westerly Creek.

2) Echo Lake and Golf Fees- Fred Weiss presented summary of fee process and history of original Federal fee and services. Weiss said Parks is still negotiating with federal government on how process will work. Denver Parks will be amending lease for the federal government’s fee booth in order to recover some revenue. Parks&Rec will keep all revenue on $5 per vehicle fee.

Hall asked whether any precedent exists for charging fee at lot. Hall expressed concern with new charge at lot for access to federal land because of lack of precedent.

Twarogowski asked for motion to recommend Parks adopt $5 fee at Summit and $5 at Echo Lake.

*Hall moved the Board recommend Parks adopt a $5 fee at Summit Lake.*

*Pryor seconded motion for $5 fee at Summit Lake.*

*Two abstentions: Navarro, McCoin* 

*Robinson moved the Board recommend Parks adopt a $5 fee at Parking Lot Echo Lake Day Use.*

*Allen seconded.*

8 ayes.

1 nay-Doll.

3 abstentions: Wright, Navarro, McCoin

Motion passes for recommendation.

3) Golf - Fees have not increased since 2010. Fee increases are recommended to recover approximately 103% of its operating costs versus the current state of 95% (does not include capital and defer capital project costs). Scott Rethleke spoke on behalf of youth golf program-1st tee program partnership with schools. Allen asked how fees are being applied to operating costs. Rethleke said increase will help a lot with capital needs. Golf’s Advisory Board did approve the increase unanimously. Pryor asked for fee structure rationale. Rethleke said it was based supply and demand and noted Evergreen is much more costly to maintain. Hall asked why City Park and others have same fees. Rethleke said it is a philosophical approach used by Golf. Wellshire is most utilized golf course.
Copeland asked about different pricing levels noting some courses really are nicer than others, i.e., Overland and Wellshire.

*Hall moved the Board recommend the proposed fee increase.*
*Clark seconded.*
*13 Ayes.*
*Motion passes.*
*1 abstention Paterson*

**Adjournment**
The PRAB regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m. PRAB business meeting followed to discuss orientation and administrative issues.

*Respectfully submitted,*
*Mary McCoin (Secretary)*