Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Directors present
Sean Bradley, Norma Brambila, Jolon Clark, Andrew Doll, Brian Elms, Anne Green, Mary McCoin, Marcus Pachner, Jason Robinson, Bernie Sharp, Ian Tafoya (new, first meeting) Leslie Twarogowski, Shane Wright.

Directors absent
J.T. Allen, Noel Copeland, Sarah Hall, Khadija Haynes.

Approval of Minutes
At 5:32 p.m., a quorum was established and on motion duly made (Bradley), seconded (Elms), and carried, the minutes of the June meeting, were approved. Abstentions: Clark, Tafoya, Wright.

Public Comments
1. Tom Kawano - advised board re: drop-in permits and problems the new process has caused. A copy of the letter he sent to the Mayor outlining his concerns was provided to Board.
2. Steve Fantz – Said he has played volleyball in the park for 35 years, and the new permit process required for drop-in play has effectively stopped what was a healthy community activity for long-time friends and neighbors.
3. Phillip Burton- Said he is very upset with Board and staff for not doing more to support the needs of Washington Park patrons over the past years. He said a ranger gave him a $100 citation when there were no permit tables or park staff there to issue permits.
4. Janet Miller – Said she has played volleyball for 25 years without a permit system. Believes it is anti-fitness and the costs to implement such a system are nonsensical and unnecessary.
5. Beth Bradford – A long-time community member and volleyball player. Said she purchased house in Washington Park so she could play volleyball there. She asked Board “not to destroy volleyball culture in the park.

Manager’s Report
Dannemiller reported that Erin Brown is leaving the Department to take a new position at the Office of Children's affairs.

Dannemiller said Park staff hosted President Obama at Cheesman Park, and she commended staff for a job well done. It was a great honor hosting the President who commented how beautiful the grounds were.

Elms said he was saddened to hear during public comment section that long-time volleyball players have had such a bad experience with the permit system. He asked Dannemiller to update the Board periodically on how this emergency trial period for the policy change is going.
Dannemiller agreed and said there was no net loss of space to play. She will check into citation given to Mr. Burton who said there were no signs or permit station set-up. Dannemiller said Park is not at the max of 50 nets at all times. She said staff hasn’t seen demand yet for all 50 every weekend. No port-a-let complaints yet this entire summer. Thinks we solved restroom problems.

**Agenda Items**

1) **Denver days Service Projects** - Michael Sapp  
   Aug 2nd-10th neighbors getting to know neighbors. Want it to be grass-roots initiative. City incentivized residents by asking public works to change insurance requirement for block parties to optional. Sapp said the goal is also to inspire service projects. Last year had 147 events/service projects in Denver. Two great service projects they would like board support for: 1) 8/2 Skyland Park (northeast park hill); 2) Globeville - neighborhood groups to work on Argo Park - 8/9  
   Encourages board members to attend park activities.  
   Robinson asked how can we learn about all neighborhood events? Sapp - see website on back of flyer: denvergov.org/denverdays. Tafoya: are you also recruiting other Boards? Sapp said yes.

2) **Update on Transition Centers** - Erin Brown  
   Original task force 2010- goal to identify Rec Centers for transition centers which were. Centers originally managed by DPR but transitioned to community based organizations. Three centers were id'd-- collegeview rec center, Johnson rec center, Globeville rec center (See presentation)

   Navarro asked if there were enough interest from potential stakeholders in Globeville? Brown said yes, initially 60 people expressed interest in participating and flyer into the community.  
   Green asked why partner group decided not to continue? Brown said it was just lack of leadership due to Exec Director experiencing health issues. No contract issues.  
   Dannemiller said different levels of capacity with the different community groups.  
   Bradley asked to get dates on upcoming Globeville meetings.  
   Doll asked how youth are accessing programming? Is there a list of partners to immediately take over? Brown said no, not yet. Wright said he’s trying to understand whether Parks can put new budget dollars towards transition centers since economic situation has changed. Wants to move that Recreation Centers be brought back into fold of Parks & Recreation.  
   Clark recommends waiting to get more info on struggling center's new course, Dannemiller would like to know whether there's Board consensus to pursue re-evaluating the status of the centers. Twarogowski asked if staff is continually reviewing situation? Dannemiller said transition centers were not just a cost issue. Proximity of centers to each other and other issues including equity across metro area. Navarro agreed with Dannemiller and said we should get an update and reevaluate need and community interest.

   Tafoya said the Johnson Center is doing well so wouldn't consider taking that back. Globeville makes sense especially with City departments moving to that center (Citywide Sports, etc).  
   Brown said engagement with community partners will be part of success story.  
   Wright suggests Parks bring Globeville back under its oversight and management and would like to see Parks focused on activating "failing" centers rather than closing or transitioning. Doll said community was very supportive of the community partners running the local center.  
   Bradley asked to be notified of upcoming public meetings/stakeholder group meetings.
Dannemiller said the Rec Centers don't have capacity to meet all programming requests so having community partners implement needed programming make sense.

3) Economics Committee Report
Dannemiller gave background on PRAB's annual white paper typically created by Economics Committee. Twarogowski asked board to advise thoughts on priorities at meeting and also email. Sharp recommends Parks find revenue sources that don't go back into the General Fund. The Board discussed forming a new Economic Committee comprised of Pachner, Bradley, Sharp, Wright, and Copeland. The committee work should produce written recommendations as to the direction Parks & Recreation should focus resources. Weiss reminded the Board the recommendations should bridge both Capital Improvements and the Operating budgets. Tafoya recommends improvements to services to encourage more park use, would like to see fountains restored/improved and system-wide waste management/recycling. Brambila would like to see Parks focus on increasing use and increasing physical activity. Clark would like to see more funds put towards maintenance. Elms recused himself from commenting on budget due to City staff budget role.
Wright would like to see more funds put towards infrastructure, would like have all parks designated, more natural areas rather than blue-grass lawns to save water. Improve connectivity in and around city through park, open space and natural area system. Wright echoed Navarro's comment around equity.
Doll would like to have more information so he can identify gaps in budget. Agrees more natural spaces needed.
Dannemiller advised the budget meeting with Mayor is Aug 15th. PRAB MTG Aug 14th. Dannemiller said if Board wants staff to explore ways to use revenue-generating opportunities to keep in their budget, it should be stated in the white paper. Weiss said the general philosophy is that the Mayor/City Council decides how to spend city's money. The more that is carved out of it, the less budget they have to control.
Pachner said it’s the Board’s job to recommend strongly when staff can't. Pachner asked for previous recommendations versus final budget so Board understands the areas for which we need to advocate. Clark agreed and said we need to be the squeaky wheel. Public meeting is Oct 20th. Twarogowski will email with meeting date and encouraged Board to review past white papers.

Board Announcements
Elms gave kudos to mural art along Platte river.
Announcements: Twarogowski introduced Ian Tafoya. Tafoya (appointed by Albus Brooks) said he grew up in Barnum and has been encouraging recycling and composting. Also on Jazz Board. He writes a weekly blog, does graphic design and works for the City in Administration. Brambila thanked the Board for recognizing and approving naming of Westwood area park and said it has been very meaningful to the community.

Adjournment
Twarogowski adjourned at 7:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary McCoin