

Draft Minutes

Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 8th, 2016

Call To Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Board Members Present: Noel Copeland, Fran Coleman, Dora Aragon, Liz Drogan, Leslie Twarogowski, Andy Sense, Jay Rust, Thad Jacobs, Jack Paterson, Shane Wright, Marcus Pachner, Jason Robinson, Florence Navarro, Ben Wilking

Absent: Frank Rowe, C.L. Harmer, David Richter, Brian Elms, Dwayne Matthews Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved for May 2016. Liz, Ben, and Shane Abstained.

Committee Reports

Shane and Noel / Red Rocks

Shane talked about some questions and communication issues stakeholders are having. Happy indicated those are items that should go through the Working Group.

Jay/Recycled Water Committee

Jay indicated the committee is making good progress. They are going to start testing samples from parks on the purple pipe. They have identified a good park that can serve as a control site because it is currently not on recycled water, but will be switching over soon. They can take samples before and after. Marcus mentioned that Boulevard One in Lowry will be on recycled water and might also work as a control site.

Andy / Outdoors Downtown

Andy and David met with Mark Bernstein to get Andy up to speed on *Outdoors Downtown*. Since PRAB members had already received the same presentation, Andy didn't go back through the whole thing, but noted items that stood out to him about the concept. For example, the concept is significantly informed by feedback indicating that the two primary concerns Denver residents have about downtown are safety and maintenance. (No capitals) The concept seems strongly guided by community feedback. He also remarked that he had an opportunity to visit *Skyline Park* with his son and they both enjoyed the way it has been activated.

Florence will bring the Game Plan task force for their first meeting on July 14th.

Shane mentioned that some PRAB members had attended the *DenverRight* conference. Jay said, "It was a very impressive conference." Happy said, "*DenverRight* will look at the big questions of zoning and how development will affect parks. She said, *DenverRight* works to think about the city holistically, not just as compartments." Whenever you quote folks you need to use the punctuation marks to show this. I've inserted them above assuming they were direct quotes. Another way to avoid quotation marks is to state; Jane reported....)

Public Comments

Katie stated that INC had no notice of the change in the day of PRAB's monthly meetings. Leslie apologized for the oversight and asked to make sure the minutes clearly reflected that going forward, PRAB will no longer meet on the second Thursday of each month but **instead will meet on the second WEDNESDAY of every month.**

Executive Directors Report (Happy Haynes, Fred Weiss, Mark Tabor)

Happy turned the floor over to Mark Tabor who presented the Capital Improvement Program, the objective of which is to revitalize the existing parks program and plan for a growing city and changing population. Mark went over the program structure and the prioritization criteria which are based on the Game Plan goals. He shared Park's and Recreations process for the developing the CIP that began in February 2016. They gathered and analyzed data over the following months and arrived at a final draft of the program in June of 2016. Mark described the maintenance plan and discretionary projects. PRAB members asked a lot of questions about the budget and maintenance plan. Mark talked about next steps for the Capital Improvement Program: the plan undergoes the Budget Office Review and Discretionary Project Evaluation in June; Development Council review in July; City Council Approval in October; and then they review submitted projects with Operation Districts in October and November.

Fred Weiss then provided an update on the Special Events Rules. He indicated that there have been three Stakeholder meetings so far that have been very productive, and that he has also presented to INC in order to keep them updated. INC has asked him to come back to provide another update and an opportunity to weigh in, and he will be going back this month to follow up. Fred indicated that there will be a Public Hearing on July 13th and Parks and Rec will ask for a vote by PRAB on the rules in August 10th. Fred indicated that the most difficult item in the meeting is still the question of Historic Priority. He asked Andy for his thoughts since he has attended all the stakeholder meetings, and Andy reiterated that they have been very informative, but the issues are so complex that he wasn't sure if the stakeholder groups had provided much concrete guidance. PRAB members engaged in a brief discussion about the question of historic priority. Fred indicated that the consensus from the meetings seemed to be to just leave Historic Priority the way it is.

Other Board Announcements

Florence: reminded everybody about Get Outdoors Day June 11th from 10am to 3pm at *Sloans Lake*.

Jason asked about dates for Denver Days. Happy said she'd get that information to us.

Happy responded to Katie's question about Free Pool time for kids, and Happy indicated that the biggest problem the pools are having right now is a shortage of life guards. They just don't have enough, but they are in the process of testing and hiring more.

Adjournment

Leslie adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm.