

Draft Minutes

Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 14, 2017

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:37pm by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Board Members Present: Noel Copeland, Wende Reoch, David Richter, Fran Coleman, Shane Wright, Brande Michaeu, Leslie Twarogowski, Jason Robinson, Jack Paterson, Ben Wilking, Jay Rust, Felipe Vieyva, Florence Navarro, Marcus Pachner

Absent: Marla Rodriguez, Thad Jacobs, Dora Aragon, Frank Rowe

Approval of Meeting Minutes, May 2017

Corrections were made to Attendee List, then a motion was made and seconded and the minutes were approved; Shane abstained.

Committee Reports

David/Pedestrians and Trails Task Force. A meeting was held last Thursday, neither David, Shane, or Felipe were present. The draft of trail and networks is complete; committee members reviewed the pedestrian crossings with major barriers citywide but a second meeting was scheduled for Thu the 15th to complete the work. Public meetings have tentatively been set in August and September to review the plan.

David/Outdoor Downtown. The Skyline Park beer garden has opened. Ribbon cutting on the Square on 21st is set for 11:30AM tomorrow (15th).

Leslie/GO Bond. Leslie reported the final recommendations of the DPR Committee were largely cut from the priority funding list by the Executive Committee; only a few projects (Sun Valley redevelopment, new Westwood Rec Center) made the cut. DPR is targeted to receive about \$80M of the \$900M bond. John Martinez indicated the breakout looks like \$57M for rec centers; \$35M for Westwood Rec Ctr, \$12M for pools, \$8M for HVAC & infrastructure, \$8M for general parks. Jay commented that DPR has worked hard on deferred maintenance projects. John indicated there is approx. \$50K not yet allocated which DPR might receive some of, but this is not a large sum.

Florence/GAMEPLAN. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug 10th.

Public Comments

Katie Fischer/INC Parks and Rec Comm. Katie expressed dissatisfaction with the limited GO Bond budget and stressed we must continue to press for more funding for DPR priorities.

Public Hearing

Councilwoman Deborah Ortega initiated the hearing to rename Northside Park to Carpio-Sanguinette Park. She noted the current name was never formally adopted. She detailed the history of the park and distributed the official letters of support and compilation of historical notes detailing the work of Sal Carpio and the Sanguinette family. She indicated an additional 20 acres may be included in the park pending the completion of the National Western Master Plan. She asked PRAB to formally move this renaming forward.

Debbie Gomez provided a history of the Sanguinette family and introduced the family members present. Therese Carpio provided a history of Sal Carpio and introduced the family members present. Councilwoman Ortega chronicled Sal's political life and achievements in parks, the community, and public housing.

Other speakers Jose Martinez, Christine Martinez, John Zatia, Mary Dudamott, and Merissa Macias Carpio.

Leslie confirmed with the Councilwoman that all names in support have been verified. Fran shared stories of her work with Sal Carpio in housing issues and commented on the Councilwoman's work including this important family. Florence asked the PRAB to support the naming. She described her own relationship working with Sal and stressed the importance of acknowledging community and family in this manner. Jay asked about the possibility of getting the park designated; Councilwoman Ortega replied the effort will evolve with the NW Master Plan development. She indicated that potentially close to 100 acres could be incorporated into the park. Shane commented on community development in/around the park as a possible hurdle; the Councilwoman cited infrastructure improvements and utility projects as likely impacting the final configuration. Florence motioned to rename the park as Carpio-Sanguinette Park; Fran seconded, the board approved with abstentions from Shane, Florence, and Brande.

Executive Director's Report (Deputy Director John Martinez, also w/ Fred Weiss)

John provided an update on the Carla Madison Rec Center which is scheduled for opening late this year. Fred provided a short update on the budget, stressing no idea yet what it will look like; meetings with Finance Dept on July 8th and then forward to the Mayor's Office Aug 7th. Shane questioned why we look at new projects and proposals when we can't fund deferred maintenance. Fred noted that much of the expansion for capital improvement is really maintenance related and not new projects.

Fred Weiss/Proposed Overland Music Festival. Fred introduced David Ehrlich (Executive Producer of Superfly) who went through a presentation of the current proposal to hold a music festival at Overland Golf Course beginning in Sept 2018. Dave also brought Steve Feener, and staff, to answer detailed event questions. Dave stressed the focus of the proposed festival is to make this a thoroughly local venue

celebrating Denver; he stated Denver is the number five nationwide for music yet has no large outdoor festival. He spoke about all of the meeting he has attended, being responsive and accountable to all parties he's encountered. Addressing Superfly's commitment to the local community, he described the creation of a local non-profit –not requested by the City- to address investment in local enterprises with potential festival participation; on the order of \$100-\$200K per year. A tentative schematic of the proposed festival was shown with an overlay of the existing course layout. This was meant to indicate the sensitivity to the neighborhood to the south as well as concerns from Golf regarding greens and tee boxes.

PRAB Q&A:

Leslie inquired about family appropriate areas. A: Entirely possible to create family zones (tents) with programming aimed towards children.

Ben expressed a desire to see local food and beverage business featured. A: Dave emphasized that local artisans will be a priority. Ben is concerned about the traffic plan. A: Primary egress points were displayed as well as plans to monitor access to the neighborhood to the south. Details are not available yet, but must be approved by the Traffic Dept.

Jay inquired about likelihood of moving the venue to National Western in the future; A: No; the festival requires more space than that venue has available.

Shane expressed a desire to see non-automobile modes developed; A: this plan is expressly predicated on not providing on-site/adjacent individual parking. Emphasis is on RTD, bikes, and private valets (individual, Uber, cab, etc.).

Wende shared her experiences at other venues. Concerned about where people would go in case of a significant storm; A: weather monitoring will be in place with action plans based on appropriate peripheries in the event the festival must be shut down. Noted Sept is climatologically a "tranquil" weather month.

Fran commented that the Uber parking lot is very small. She is concerned with the environmental impact to the course. She doesn't understand why the festival is being proposed at Overland. A: Golf course care is a major concern and contractual obligations dictate both an economic impact to Superfly but also a sustainability issue going forward. Equipment to be utilized for construction is earth (grass) friendly. Other venues are simply inadequate for a large festival and do not afford public transit and alternative transpo options. The revenue into Overland Gold Course was stressed insofar as deferred maintenance projects at the course will be funded by this event. Intent is to leave the course in better condition than it was found.

Marcus stated he was impressed with the process taken to date involving the community and is satisfied with the progress; feels like it is a great opportunity for Golf Enterprise. He feels DPR still has work to do in determining benefits and addressing concerns.

Ben asked for milestone timeline. A: The proposal (sans contract) is presented to Council Committee next Tuesday, then for a one-reading approval of contract approval from City Council on July 10th. From there, the next 3 months will be involved in detailed planning. Final approvals will still be requires from city departments.

Jay asked about the Festival dates. A: Fri, Sat, Sun 10am entry to 10pm. Ticket prices? A: Comparable festivals have rough pricing of: single day/\$120, three day/\$350, VIP/???, discounted tickets available to immediate neighbor residents. Food/bev policy? A: closed water allowed, but no coolers and certainly no glass. Small food items allowed at entry.

Jack asked if event might be held over Labor Day; A: No. – He further asked if there are approvals for the festival needed from PRAB or City Council. A: No approvals needed from PRAB; City Council will need to approve the contract of agreement.

Kate Stascina, Exec Dir of Mayor's Office of Special Events, indicated the Mayor has already directed creation of an accountability task force to participate in the review process.

Other Board Announcements

None

Leslie adjourned the meeting at 7:59pm.