

Draft Minutes

Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

November 9th, 2016

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:32pm by President Leslie Twarogowski.

Board Members Present: Noel Copeland, Florence Navarro, Thad Jacobs, Frank Rowe, David Richter, Leslie Twarogowski, Shane Wright, Fran Coleman, Jason Robinson, Dora Aragon

Absent: C.L. Harmer, Bev Cox, Andy Sense, Marcus Pachner, Benjamin Wilking, Jay Rust, Jack Paterson

Public Hearing Comments

Brad Cameron and Kathleen Wells: Both have been working with Scott through INC for a number of years. While they have communicated the following to Scott already; they wanted PRAB to hear they feel Section Five of the Parks Designation Policy should be re-written with a formal process and a written proposal. Otherwise expressed thanks to Scott throughout this process.

Public Comments

Keith Pryor: Doors to Webb Bldg. locked again. Commented on the Parks Stewardship Program at Sonny Larson Park and thanked Scott for his efforts on this. Expressed support for additional development of gardens at City Park through funds allocated in the 2017 bond initiative.

Scott Gilmore commented on the above and also indicated that with coordination through public works they were recently able to re-surface several roads through City Park which were badly in need of repair.

Executive Directors Report Happy Haynes, Scott Gilmore, Rob Davis

Happy received feedback from the DenveRight Oct 4-5th public surveys to be embedded into GAMEPLAN; there was significant public sentiment for the value of parks and open space. In January, an update will feature development status of GAMEPLAN. She indicated the website has valuable information worth reading.

Subcommittee Reports

Florence/GAMEPLAN: She spoke to the information received in the public workshops mentioned above. A task force meeting is scheduled for Jan 26th. There is another survey program underway to gather input from DPR employees. Noel noted community concerns for future visions of golf courses in the DPR system and the need to include more open space access for a variety of activities. Commended Happy on an expression used recently of Denver being 'a city in a park'.

Frank/City Park Golf Course Redesign: Another (6th) public meeting will be held tomorrow night. The last meeting included about 130 people. Draft of design guidelines is taking shape.

David/Peds&Trails Task Force: Commented about the inclusion and future trails development throughout the park system which the task force is very aware of. Next meeting is on the 16th.

Shane/Forestry: Marcus and he met with Rob Davis recently and had a wide ranging discussion of trees and topics ranging to impact of urban tree canopy on climate.

Leslie/39th Ave. Open Canal Design Project: A meeting was held last week and the design development process is nearing completion. There are only 8 properties involved in the procurement process and not a lot of opposition to that. Happy spoke to progress on the Globeville Landing project. There are plenty of design issues but the land acquisition process is only just getting underway.

Thad/Recycled Water: A meeting is planned for the 22nd to review the results of the past few months' study.

Forestry Code Update Presentation, Rob Davis

Rob outlined the municipal code update involving the forestry code. He quickly went through the focus areas addressing zoning code changes, EAB, standard operating procedures, licensed contractors, and the public works language. Fran had several questions about zoning code tree mitigation. Happy spoke to the DenveRight process in future efforts to revise, define, tighten forestry code updates going forward. She looks at this revision as a first step in the process. Shane made a motion to approve Chapter 57 Article II updates, Thad seconded. PRAB voted to approve with abstentions from Noel and David.

Parks Designation Policy, Scott Gilmore

(see public comments made earlier in the meeting.) Scott indicated that the copies distributed tonight are the same version as which he previously presented to PRAB in October. There was no other discussion. Frank made a motion to approve the Policy; Jason seconded. PRAB voted to approve with Dora, Shane, and Thad abstaining.

Approval of Minutes

PRAB voted to accept draft minutes for Sept 2016, Dora abstained. PRAB voted to accept draft minutes of Oct 2017 with two grammatical revisions; Jason, Dora, and Thad abstained.

Board Elections

No new nominations for board positions were received. A motion was made by Jason to extend the current executive committee for another year (Leslie, President; Jason, Vice-President; David, Secretary) and Dora seconded. PRAB voted to re-elect the committee.

Other Board Announcements

Florence expressed concern that PRAB is too frequently not presented material in advance of PRAB meetings especially when action is sought.

Leslie indicated that ground breaking of the Levitt Pavilion at Ruby Hill Park is tomorrow.

Leslie announced there will not be a PRAB meeting in December.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54pm.