

Draft Minutes

Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

October 12, 2016

Call to Order

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

Board Members Present: Noel Copeland, Florence Navarro, Frank Rowe , Bev Cox, C.L. Harmer, David Richter, Leslie Twarogowski, Andy Sense, Benjamin Wilking, Jay Rust , Shane Wright, Fran Coleman, Marcus Pachner

Absent: Jason Robinson, Jack Paterson, Dora Aragon, Thad James

Approval of Sept PRAB minutes

The final draft version was not available and approval was tabled until the November meeting.

Subcommittee Reports

Frank Rowe/City Park Redesign

There have been six meetings to date. The next meeting is October 25th / 530pm. Design has evolved with the following conclusions: First T will be increased in size; Clubhouse and Maintenance building facilities will be combined; overall course yardage to remain the same (par 71);driving range will still not allow drivers. There is currently a push to get the community more involved in the clubhouse design. Happy interjected that DPR wants to add an additional public meeting to the process and then finalize the design guideline language. Andy spoke to neighborhood support for increased pedestrian access within the course perimeter.

Leslie/39th Ave Greenway Development

The next design workshop will be Oct 29th.

Florence/DenveRight - GAMEPLAN

Florence reported on the public meetings held Oct 4 and 5th. Fran and David attended the College Vu meeting; which apparently had a smaller turnout than some other venues. Happy expressed satisfaction that attendance and participation was overall very good. The GAMEPLAN Task Force will meet again on the last Thursday of October.

Jay/Designation Rd 8

Deferred to Scott Gilmore's presentation (see below) but made opening remarks then.

David/ DenveRight – Peds&Trails : Next meeting is November 10th.

/Outdoor Downtown: Roundtable discussion of the final draft will be held tomorrow morning with several stakeholders at DDP.

Public Comments

Katie Fisher/INC: Katie attended DenveRight at College Vu and thought it was perhaps better attended than reported and that it went well.

Sam Valeriano /Be Well Initiative: A healthy happy hour will be held on Saturday at Mt Bello to promote health and fitness. Happy explained this initiative sponsored by the Stapleton Foundation to promote fitness and nutritional training.

Executive Directors Report (Happy Haynes, with presenter Scott Gilmore; and input from Kris Wilson).

Happy spoke to the ongoing efforts to activate Commons Park and in view of the Outdoor Downtown plans. Current consideration is for activation efforts along the major river easement and how to find the right activities consistent with protecting the easement.

She mentioned the pilot program for special occasion permitting; 4 types will be considered. Fran asked about the Colorado Open Land manager of the easement (HH: a non-profit conservation group). Shane indicated approval of the activation projects in Commons Park. Leslie mentioned the history of non-permitted morning yoga classes.

Parks Designation Policy Presentation: Scott Gilmore

Scott presented a summary of the overall process and some history facts/figures. Jay added that in light of all of the designations over the last few years, most of the “easy” determinations have been completed; now designations are more technical and require more time and expertise. Several specific parcels were discussed as examples of the challenges and complexity of issues surrounding acquisitions and designations. Fran commented on wildlife concerns vis a vis challenges to acquisitions and management.

Round 8 Designations

Hampden Heights West – currently a utility corridor

Sand Creek Open Space

High Line Canal (GVR)

Shane commented that the work on the process is much appreciated.

Rules and Regulations Policy: Happy Haynes and Kris Wilson

(PRAB will advise on this Draft via approval process; it will then be presented to city council committee as a formality, then be signed by her and become Effective.)

Happy presented a summary of the official “legal” document, and said a condensed how-to public guide will be produced this year. She expressed that this will be a living document which will necessitate some changes over time; the current effort has primarily been to codify a lot of existing procedures. Marcus (and other board members) expressed concerns for the control nature of the document and its effect to inhibit spontaneous and new/creative Events in the future.

Jay motioned to accept and approve the Policy; Fran seconded. PRAB voted and the motion passed with Marcus voting Nay; and Shane and Bev abstaining. Happy expressed gratitude to her staff and the PRAB throughout the process. She reported that Stu Baker passed away quite recently, and her admiration for his work for the department.

Other Board Announcements

PRAB Officer Nominations: If anyone is interested in nominating someone, or placing their own name on the ballot, forward it to Leslie and she will get it to the appropriate Nominating Committee personnel.

Forestry R&R Committee: PRAB members appointed are to be: Marcus, Fran, and Shane.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.