

Meeting Minutes
DENVER PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
October 11, 2023 – 5:30- 7:30 pm
Virtual Meeting: Via Zoom Webinar

PRAB Meeting Norms

Be respectful and presume positive intentions.
Seek first to understand and then to be understood.
Stay focused on topics at hand.
Allow space for all to have a voice.
Listen without judgement.
Live our values of equity and inclusion.

Board Members In attendance:

Kate Fritz, Frances Coleman, Chandi Aldena, Pam Jiner, Jill Mullen, Jevon Taylor, Frank Rowe, Tate Carpenter, Florence Navarro, Meredith Levy, Michael Rendon-Thofson, Jack Paterson, Lynn Mason

Absent: Lee Rains Thomas, Trena Marsal, Brooke Badon, Deana Perlmutter, Marlene DeLaRosa

Call to Order: 5:31

Board Norms read by Florence. Land Acknowledgement read by Frances Coleman

Welcome to Jevon Taylor, D. 9.

Introduce Laurie Mathews—Interim ED for DPR.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Approve August and September Minutes

EDITS: None

MOVED: Chandi

SECOND: Kate

RESULT: PASSED

Fran Abstains

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bryan Wilson: Lives in Dist. 10. Concerned about park restrooms. Not solely a DPR issue. Wants to know if non-profit like Housekeys Action Network could possibly help with maintenance. Knows Councilmembers Lewis Parady are working on issue. Asking to consider separate funding for repairs and replacement of restrooms. See attached additional comments.

PRESENTATIONS

DATA INFORMED EQUITY PLANNING: Colton Rohloff. See attached.

Thinking about how to figure the 5Ws to the how: Who What When Where Why=how.

Who has been the trickiest part. Difficult to get data on who is using parks.

Foundational data is 2022 equity index. Investment is guided by equity needs.

Movement data is aggregated cellphone data—DPR buys data.

Case Studies:

Over Performing Parks

Paco Sanchez—too much investment can bring unwanted results on project—can lead to community living near park not feeling that amenity is for them. Goal is to serve everyone living in community *and* people visiting—maintain the integrity of the community where facility is located and to keep DPR accountable to goals. Bring new visitors but do not displace local community.

Under Performing Parks

Governors Park

Use data to determine the potential visitors. Look at asset condition (good/bad) and then determine potential user market based on 10 minute walk/roll area. There is a playground in a park where overwhelming percentage of households do not have kids. So need to plan for park upgrade to account for use.

So next problem—equitable service. Need to figure out how to have a 10 minute walk/roll to a quality park. Using data to figure out how to do this. Use data to determine park condition/amenities/purpose and ensure that all of these are equitable.

Legacy Fund Status: Gordon Robertson. See attached.

This will plan much of the work for next 5 years.

Game Plan is the goal and legacy plan is the engine. They fit together. Legacy fund puts dollars toward the pillars and strategies of Game Plan with focus on Priorities set out in Legacy fund.

DPR is conducting lots of public outreach to understand community priorities for projects and investment.

Looking to have first engagement phase end soon and develop draft plan in Spring 2024 have 2nd engagement phase with final plan adoption in Summer 2024.

PRAB COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations, Maintenance, Budget

Frank: Laura gave update on work to look at renaming of certain city assets. 17 assets have been identified for further review. 6 parks on list. Meetings now happening with local communities. DPRs role is to support process.

Sustainability & Resiliency

Jack: Assigned what to do with public comments. Update on process. Discussion on what is best.

Recreation

No report

Planning

Working on public comment response times.

Pickleball

Report out from Laurie Mathews—update on status. Eisenhower Park courts are going to close 11/6. Committee is working well together to find solutions. Next meeting in Oct.

Sidewalks

Pam: Last meeting committee saw presentation. See attached. Discussed analysis of fee structure presented by Katy Bridges, trying to figure out percentages of people/owners paying fees. Committee is suggesting that 3 scenarios be devised for DOTI to present for fee structure pricing. Average \$126 per foot of concrete per household.

Executive Committee

Discussed comment tracker and process. Lighting in parks, off-leash dog parks and sidewalk access.

ELECTIONS: every fall there are elections. Encourage people to run and participate. Can self-nominate. Also have committees with open leadership spots available. Would like to have nominations committee—to present slate for November.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Scott Gilmore: See attached report.

Denver is well represented at National Recreation and Parks Assn. meeting in Dallas. Jill and Damien gave presentations—very well received.

Winterizing now for restrooms and drinking fountains and sprinklers. Some restrooms are heated and will be kept open.

DPR external newsletter went out today. Gives updates and engages Denver residents in DPR work. Great resource.

November is recreation membership sale. All of November yearly rec passes are 40% off.

Winter Activity guide is coming out soon. Registration opens 11/8.

Budget—2024 budget is moving forward. DPR is slated to get minimum wage and inflation increase and 1 FTE.

Mayor's office is in negotiations now with City Council. 10/16 the revised budget book will be released.

DPR effort to do urban forestry strategic plan now. Working on final recs. 6 other cities have reviewed the plan. Final open house in December. Update in November PRAB meeting.

DPR is in the 2 companion pieces to Ken Burns' American Buffalo film. DPR plays big role in DPR film.

Mtn. Parks International Archaeology Day 10/21 at Red Rocks.

Pahaska Tepee, contract not being renewed. DPR going to investigate what to do with facility next.

Chief Hosa Lodge—celebrated official renaming of Evans to Mt. Blue Sky. All of the other Mt.

Evans named things at the area also need to be renamed.

Mt Blue Sky Road will be closed in 2025 to replaced. CDOT project.

DRP Greenhouse will be growing plants to be used to replant at the summit lake.

Axton ranch—access—agreement has been signed with the Church. Easement with full access. Master plan work will now begin.

Doing study on rainbow scarab dung beetles.

With evergreen Parks and Rec have been working on north trail system. Almost finished. There will be ribbon cutting on October 24.

OTHER ITEMS

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: Chandi

SECOND: Kate

Adjourned: 7:44