

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
April 9, 2015**

**Members Present:** Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Alex Johnson, Charles Castle, Hank Scarangella , John Maynard, Mina Liebert, Ron Ilgen, Scot Hume

**Alternates Present:** Bob Lally, Jason Rupinski

**Staff Present:** Kim King, Karen Palus, Kurt Schroeder, Julie Lafitte

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**Call to Order**

Jackie Hilaire convened the meeting at 7:30am

**Citizen Discussion**

- Jim Bensberg expressed his objection to the Board’s approval of a trail from the Broadmoor to Seven Falls and announced his intention to bring the matter up at City Council.
- Vic Appugliese urged support for the use of non-potable “gray” water for irrigating park properties wherever feasible, and offered to write a letter of support to Colorado Springs Utilities for lower rates for the PR & CS department and more usage of non-potable water in general.
- Cyndy Kulp voiced her opposition to the proposed Broadmoor stables in Bear Creek Regional Park and her concern that City-managed trails might also be used for commercial purposes (specifically trail rides). Kurt explained that there are conservation easements on several City properties restricting commercial activities, and also that entities wishing to engage in commercial activities on properties without restrictions must apply for a permit. Jackie urged Cyndy to bring her concerns to the County Parks Board as Bear Creek Regional Park is in their system.
- Linda Carter (Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center) invited Board members to attend Earth Day celebrations on Saturday, April 18. The activities are co-sponsored by Friends of Garden of the Gods, Garden of the Gods Foundation, PR & CS and Rock Ledge Ranch.
- Susan Davies (Trails and Open Space Coalition) shared that TOSC is “cautiously optimistic” about the results of the City Council elections, and mentioned that one of the new Council Members, Tom Strand, is a TOSC board member. She invited Board members to a mayoral run-off forum covering environmental and other issues of concern to TOSC. The event will take place on April 27 at 7:00pm at Celeste Theater at Colorado College.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Charles Castle/Second: Scot Hume      Approved - Unanimous  
(See March 12, 2015 minutes online for minor corrections highlighted in red.)

**Ceremonial Items** (These took place at 10:00am.)

- Karen Palus recognized Councilmembers Jan Martin and Val Snider for their service of 8 and four years respectively on City Council. Both spoke briefly after receiving framed pictures of local parks they particularly enjoy spending time in.

- Karen also recognized Sonia Park for her years of administrative support to the Parks Board and presented her with a framed picture of Balanced Rock. Sonia has moved to other duties within the PR & CS department.
- Kim King gave a brief summary of 2014 volunteer activities and thanked Volunteer Coordinator Tilah Larson for her excellent work. She mentioned upcoming volunteer events including Spruce up the Springs events on April 18 (Harlan Wolfe) and April 25 (El Pomar Disc Golf site clean-up). Other projects sponsored by various Friends Groups will take place throughout the summer, and 19 VISTA volunteers from AmeriCorps will be on board with the department as well for 10 weeks. Lastly, the Park and Trail Ambassadors program will be expanded.
- Individual volunteers and volunteer groups were recognized for their contributions in 2014:
  - Parks Board Members
  - Friends Group of the Year—Incline Friends and Friends of Ute Valley Park
  - Therapeutic Recreation Volunteer of the Year—Terry Smith
  - North Cheyenne Canon Volunteer of the Year—Lois Zehr
  - Crew Leader Diversity Award—Jerry Rhodes
  - Coach of the Year—Curtis Hamstra and Julie Keller

**Action Items** (All actions items appended to these minutes.)

1. Transportation Enhancement Grant Resolution of Acceptance for the Sand Creek Trail-Palmer Park Boulevard to Constitution Avenue

**Proposed Motion:** The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board votes to pass a Resolution of Grant Acceptance allowing the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department to sign a Grant Agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation in order to receive an \$800,000 Transportation Enhancement grant for the Sand Creek Trail project.

Public Input: Susan Davies (TOSC) expressed enthusiastic support.

Motion: Charles Castle/Second: Mina Liebert    Approved: Unanimously

2. Transportation Enhancement Grant Resolution of Acceptance for the Rock Island Trail-Sand Creek Trail to Constitution Avenue

**Proposed Motion:** The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board votes to pass a Resolution of Grant Acceptance allowing the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department to sign a Grant Agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation in order to receive a \$613,549 Transportation Enhancement grant for the Rock Island Trail project.

Public Input: Susan Davies (TOSC) gave a “thumbs up.”

Motion: Mina Liebert/Second: Charles Castle    Approved: Unanimously

3. Springs Ranch Golf Course/Parkland Credit Agreement (Tim Seibert and Tom Tausch presenting on behalf of NES.)

\*\*John Maynard recused himself from this item and abstained from voting.\*\*

**Proposed Motion:** A motion recommending to City Council the approval of the Second Amendment to the Agreement Concerning Park Credits for Springs Ranch Golf Course

Public Input: none

Motion: Charles Castle/Second: Ron Ilgen      Approved: Unanimously by remaining Board Members present

**\*\*John Maynard returned after the vote.\*\***

**Presentations** (All presentations appended to these minutes.)

4. Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Update (Kurt Schroeder)
5. Larry Ochs Sports Complex Update (Craig Ochs)
6. Westside Community Center Update (Dick Siever/Kathy Phillips)
7. Golf Enterprise Year-End Report (Dal Lockwood)
  - Kim King announced that Dal would be retiring at the end of the month after more than 28 years of service to the City. She gave a brief recap of his career and presented him with a golf club from the PR & CS department.

**\*\*There was a brief break at this point in the meeting, after which the agenda resumed at 10:00am with the Ceremonial Items.\*\***

8. Forestry Annual Report (Jay Hein)
9. Cemetery Enterprise Year-End Report (Kim King)
  - Kim King introduced Jody Sanchez who is the interim Cemetery Operations Administrator

**Staff Reports**

- Kaboom Playground Build
- Venezia Park Update
- Legacy Loop Update
- Media Information

**Board Business**

- Chris Lieber gave a summary on behalf of John Maynard of their meeting with Kurt Schroeder and Scott Abbott regarding the Dogs Off Leash issue. They determined the first step is to define the breadth of the problem we are hoping to address, identify and engage affected stakeholders, and discuss and plan a public process.
- Mina Liebert gave an update on the most recent LART Committee meeting. Seven recent proposals were funded. The Committee is working on improving the application process in order to get the most value from the funds awarded. They have also discussed raising the LART since it is low relative to other communities, but have not reached any conclusions. Karen offered the option of a presentation by the CVB on their recent LART economic impact study. (June)

- Charles Castle mentioned several upcoming events at Meadows Community Center:
  - NFL Play 60 program with Broncos players, Monday, May 11, 2015
  - Daddy/Daughter Dance, April 25, Doubletree World Arena Hotel
  - Walk with a Duck—Memorial Hospital is interested, Kaiser Permanente
  - Charles' book is now available to order on Amazon
- Jackie Hilaire reported that the Public Art Commission will meet at the airport, looking for more space to display pieces.
- Scot Hume reported on the TOPS Working Committee tour of several gaps in the trail system.
- Ron Ilgen Summit House group reviewed the RFP's and will meet next week to start the selection process.
- Hank Scarangella reported that the inaugural Switchbacks game was a great success and that the improvements to Sand Creek stadium are "fabulous." Karen thanked all the PR & CS team members who worked on the project. Kurt applauded Ragain Sports for their community involvement and first class operation.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:56am.

DRAFT