

Draft Minutes

Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

February 13, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:37pm by President Leslie Twarogowski. A quorum was established.

Board Members Present: Leslie Twarogowski, Noel Copeland, Mark Brown, Shane Wright, Marla Rodriguez, Tashmesia Mitchell, Florence Navarro, Jack Paterson, Jaime Aguilar, Brande Micheau, Wende Reoch, Jay Rust, Frank Rowe, Tony Smith, Fran Coleman, David Richter

Absent: Felipe Vieyra

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Jan meeting were not available.

General Public Comment

None

Committee Reports

Game Plan/Florence: The task force hasn't met yet, but Happy indicated that would be set up. An updated project list is due Feb 19th but some revisions may be necessary due to 2A.

Greater&Greener/Leslie: There are opportunities to volunteer in a variety of ways for the many conference tours throughout the city. David and Leslie participated in the host committee conference call last week. Happy indicated that a major funding goal has been met but other efforts are on-going.

Mountain Parks/Shane: Shane and Noel met with DPR staff recently to status mountain park issues including Red Rocks historic designation, mobility/transportation concepts, and outdoor programming both recreational and cultural. They reviewed these issues again with David in a separate meeting. David thanked DPR for the efforts of Shannon Dennison in developing a variety of programs; Happy indicated it's a team effort with staff.

Mobility/Shane: Shane discussed regional connectivity concepts with neighboring counties as they relate to hiking and biking. The new 180 day rule for e-devices in city parks will be implemented in a couple months. Ranger Supervisor Bob Toll offered perspective. Jay observed that different parks (e.g., Cheesman Park's concrete north and south meadow loop paths are designed for pedestrian use as stated within the park's master plan) should have some specific rules due to their unique trail/path designs.

Designations/Jay: Several new inclusions are in the works, including the wide parcel along the east side of CPGC, a long section near Mile High Stadium was considered but it is not owned by the city, the dog park area adjacent to the Carla Madison Rec Ctr, and the First Creek Trail at Martinez Park.

Recycled Water/Jay: The committee is scheduled to meet with Scott Gilmore and Rob Davis later this month.

Budget/Finance/Wende: Wende, Noel, and David met with Fred Weiss and Sheila Urban last week and discussed both overall DPR funding sources as well thoughts on 2A. Happy apologized for the meeting's content and promised that the committee will be involved in the process. Wende and Noel discussed concerns over both the time frame of 2A planning (scheduled for PRAB and Council review in April and May) and committee participation in the process (unclear how and when this will occur). Happy concurred that participation by the committee will need to be at a greater level of detail than the traditional White Paper; one that is essentially ongoing and integrated with the department planning and decision making process.

Executive Directors Report (Happy Haynes, with Scott Gilmore, Kathy LeVeque, Pam Smith, Bob Toll, and Laura Morales)

Happy expanded on the 2A dialogue. A meeting is being prepared. She spoke to the integration needs of developing a 6 year plan and the budget process in general as impacted not only by Measure 2A but also the direction of Game Plan. The traditional role of the committee is still needed in terms of the White Paper and philosophical guidance. The addition of the 6 year plan for capital planning, 2A, and Game Plan maturity, a very comprehensive plan is evolving. Kathy LeVeque then presented an updated framework on the budget process and reiterated that the PRAB budget/finance committee will be involved. Jay stated the importance of keeping the public updated after 2A approval, and Happy indicated that Marketing Communications is thinking that through. Having said that, public outreach meetings are being scheduled for March-April. Noel thanked Fred and Sheila for the recent meeting with the committee. Shane expressed concern about the CIP process and Happy replied it will be much more comprehensive than just that.

Tony asked for clarification of DPR's information about the Congress Park pool closure and asked for better information for the neighboring RNO's. Happy agreed to connect with John Martinez's staff.

Happy then reported on the Community Planning and Development update of the general development process. A new strategic planning process (Large Development Review) is being created and DPR is coordinating with CPD to determine how the process can contribute to additional parkland and/or open public space (via a 10% open space requirement). Jeff Hirt of CPD referred to the change from 10 acre developments to 5 acres as a more comprehensive planning process rather than a set of drawings. Shane mentioned the Sloan's Lake project as an example where the inclusion of open space doesn't really provide useful space. Noel agreed, the 10% rule isn't that great and that it seldom results in useable public space beyond a plaza at a building entrance. Scott cited the example of the St. Joseph

Hospital redevelopment which provides significant open space greater than just meeting the 10% requirement.

Public Hearing – Golf Course Memorial Policy

One community member spoke in favor of the policy.

Pam Smith again presented the details of the new Memorial Policy which will first apply to City Park Golf Course. After some questions and discussion, Fran motioned to accept the Policy, Jay seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Presentations

Park Ranger Update, Scott Gilmore with Bob Toll

Bob provided an overview of DPR's ranger organization, philosophy, activity, and state of operations. There were questions about potential impact of ballot measure 300, training programs, and volunteer opportunities.

Adjournment

Leslie adjourned the meeting at 8:02 pm.