Minutes of the
Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission of the
City of City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
at the Village Center

PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Chair Robert Eber called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chair Robert Eber, Commissioners Joshua DiCarlo, Fred Wolfe, Aron Grodinsky, Stephanie Dahl. Also present were Emily Black, Parks and Recreation Coordinator and Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Commissioner Kate Murphy, Commissioner Peter Sutherland

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PTRC conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERIOD

There was no audience participation.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Aron Grodinsky moved, seconded by Commissioner Stephanie Dahl to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes – March 14, 2019

The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Trail Signing Project Update

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Emily Black and Parks Operation Supervisor Jeff Roberts met with Vice-Chair Wolfe to discuss next steps with the Trail Signing Project. Vice-Chair Wolfe proposed using the existing wood bollards rather than installing new poles to sign the Village Trail. A sample bollard was available for Commission members to view.

Vice-Chair Wolfe noted that the map he designed for the Village Trail includes two spur trails. One trail is off University Boulevard and will direct people to Woodie Hollow Park. The second trail is east of the High Line Canal around Chenango, Holly and Pond Road. He expressed that adding these trails spreads out the trail signage in the Village so more people feel like they are included in the system.

Ms. Black stated that the new signs will use a similar design with the same dimensions as the existing trail signs. The trail numbers will be replaced with a sign that says Village Trail and will include some directional arrows. Smaller signs below the Village Trail sign can be used to direct visitors to the High Line Canal and John Meade Park. Ms. Black explained that the number of existing bollards with Village Trail signs will be approximately 38 with an additional 2-3 signs where necessary.

Ms. Black reported that the approximate cost for the Village Trail portion of the project will be \$900. She expressed that the idea is to move forward with signing the Village Trail and see what kind of feedback is received before moving forward with signing the other trails.

Vice-Chair Wolfe asked Ms. Black how soon the Trail Signing Project could be implemented.

Ms. Black responded that the goal is to have the Village Trail signed within the next four weeks depending on weather and the Parks staff schedules.

Ms. Black discussed the option of putting miles or distances to the High Line Canal or John Meade Park on the bollards. She pointed out that the signs can be created without distance if the Commission feels it looks too cluttered.

Vice-Chair Wolfe remarked that some of the bollards will need to be rotated to be visible for people walking in either direction. He offered to work with Jeff Roberts on the inventory and placement of signs.

Commissioner Dahl commented that in previous discussions, the main purpose of the Trail Signing Project was to provide more information for people using the trails. Her preference would be to put the distance on the signs so people can be educated on the distance to different locations.

Vice-Chair Wolfe agreed, but perceived that the distance does not need to be on every sign since some of the signs are close together. He suggested that additional information about the trail system could be added to the City Trail Maps when they are reprinted.

Vice-Chair Wolfe also brought up the outdated sign near the bridge at the Dahlia Hollow parking lot. He asserted that the sign needs to be replaced with a sign that shows the Village Trail.

Ms. Black confirmed that this is one of the signs that the High Line Canal Conservancy has funding to replace. The Cherry Hills Land Preserve donated \$10,000 to the High Line Canal Conservancy to put a new sign at the bridge to better direct people on the trails.

Vice-Chair Wolfe again requested that Harriet LaMair with the High Line Canal Conservancy be invited to a future PTRC meeting to review the signage plan for the High Line Canal.

Commissioner DiCarlo brought up the idea that the Village Trail signs be designed with a red background and white lettering to differentiate the Village Trail from other trails.

Chair Eber commented that he likes the idea of making the signs on the Village Trail stand out, but he believes it is more important to establish a brand. Chair Eber emphasized the importance of publicizing the Village Trail since it will be implemented in the next month. He also cautioned that the City Trail Maps should not be printed until the trail system is more complete.

Ms. Black responded that reprinting the City Trail Maps will probably be a 2020 project that will need to be budgeted for since a consultant will be needed. She will post the existing trail map on the website with an outline of the Village Trail.

NEW BUSINESS

a. CHV Sculpture-on-Loan Really by Wayne Salge

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Emily Black announced that the Cherry Hills Village Art Commission is recommending to the PTRC that the City approve a two-year loan of the sculpture *Really* by Wayne Salge. The plan is to install the sculpture near the southeast corner of Quincy and University or in front of City Hall facing the Cherry Hills Village Elementary School. The Art Commission is working with the artist and Public Works Director Jay Goldie to find a place for the sculpture. The planned construction in John Meade Park restricts where the sculpture can be placed. PTRC is being asked to make a recommendation on whether the sculpture is an appropriate piece of art that would add to the City Hall and John Meade Park area.

Mr. Dave Schmidt with the Cherry Hills Art Commission was present to answer any questions. He affirmed that the Art Commission is very excited about the piece. He described the piece as being a 9-foot-tall bronze sculpture with a contemporary modern feel.

Commissioner Grodinsky asked about the cost of the project including installation.

Mr. Schmidt responded that the funds will come out of the Art Commission's budget. The Art Commission will work with City staff on the installation. Mr. Schmidt noted that the previous artist proclaimed that the City's Public Works Department was the best crew he had ever worked with on installation.

Mr. Eber commented that he is honored that the Art Commission has come before PTRC in the past for art pieces. He voiced concern that the Parks Commission is not qualified to judge art and yet they are being asked to make a recommendation to City Council on whether a piece should go in a park. He questioned whether PTRC is being asked to approve the art or the location.

Ms. Black responded that the original location for this sculpture was in John Meade Park, which would be in PTRC's purview. Due to construction the decision was made to move the piece closer to City Hall. She explained that PTRC would generally not be asked to approve artwork that is not in a park.

Vice-Chair Wolfe voiced that in his opinion the art piece is subjective. He said he is not comfortable with seeing contemporary pieces of art in the Village. He believes art should be tied to the City's rural nature.

Ms. Black maintained that the Art Commission has made great efforts to balance competing desires for representative versus abstract art. She added that the Art Commission did a good job in picking this piece that that will be appreciated by the community and elementary school students.

Chair Eber asked how the Cherry Hills Village Art Commission and PTRC could communicate better on future projects. He suggested a study session that would allow PTRC to get involved earlier in the process. His intent is to prevent PTRC from being placed in a position to inhibit the Art Commission from moving forward on a piece of art.

Commissioner Dahl commented that PTRC first needs to determine whether they are being asked to approve the art piece or the location so there can be appropriate discussion rather than multiple discussions that are irrelevant.

Ms. Black further explained that the process is case-by-case and will not necessarily follow a set path, since the exact location is not always chosen when the piece comes to PTRC. She advised that PTRC will make a recommendation, but ultimately the decision is made by City Council taking into account the recommendations from PTRC, the Art Commission, and public input. Ms. Black reiterated that in this case PTRC is being asked to approve the sculpture and not the location. The proposal will go to City Council with a specific location.

Commissioner DiCarlo commented that he is concerned that adding more art around the City Center could start to look clustered. He would like to see art pieces spread out.

The Commission discussed the progress of a permanent piece of art that will be purchased and installed in front of City Hall.

Ms. Black noted that there was a brief discussion about installing the *Really* sculpture in front of City Hall until a permanent piece is decided on and purchased.

Vice-Chair Wolfe said he believes the *Really* sculpture would look best in front of City Hall since the piece depicts someone who is thinking or contemplating.

Chair Eber commented that he liked the idea of the sculpture facing the elementary school from an educational standpoint more than facing University Boulevard.

Commissioner Grodinsky suggested that the sculpture would be viewed and enjoyed by the community and students if it were placed in the City's right-of-way in front of the school on Quincy Avenue.

The Parks Commission agreed that they like the sculpture and there were no objections to installing the piece near City Hall.

Commissioner Stephanie Dahl moved, seconded by Commissioner Aron Grodinsky to recommend that City Council approve a two-year loan of *Really* by Wayne Salge to be installed at an appropriate location to be determined by the Art Commission, Public Works and all necessary parties.

The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

a. PTRC Chair Report

Chair Eber shared that it is an exciting time to have the opportunity to bring John Meade Park to fruition. He emphasized the importance of including partners such as schools, boy scouts, girl scouts, etc. for educational purposes to understand the changes being made in the Park. He would also like to see before, during and after documentation of the Park that could include journals, blogs, photos, etc.

Chair Eber encouraged the Commission to become involved in the activities of the Quincy Farm Committee as a lot of effort is being made to move the Master Plan forward.

Ms. Black confirmed that Lucinda Greene is the new Chair of the Quincy Farm Committee and Klasina Vanderwerf is now Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Wolfe stated that Quincy Farm is an important part of the Village and it is important for the Commission to be abreast of what is going on. He suggested that up-to-date information should be added as a regular agenda item for PTRC meetings.

Chair Eber noted that he attends the Quincy Farm Committee meetings as a liaison for the PTRC

Ms. Black proposed that she give an update on Quincy Farm at each PTRC meeting. She informed the Commission that City Council made a recommendation on the hours to open the Farm. That recommendation was sent to Colorado Open Lands who oversees the conservation easement. Colorado Open Lands responded to the proposal with specific operational questions. The City is currently working on a new plan to present to Colorado Open Lands that will be reviewed by the Quincy Farm Committee prior to sending.

Ms. Black shared that the Quincy Farm Committee will be discussing the Master Plan at their next meeting to determine whether they would like to work with a consultant to complete the Master Plan.

Chair Eber reported that he and Commissioner Grodinsky attended the City Council study session on Tuesday. They reviewed PTRC's priority list. Chair Eber said the report was well received and Council extended their appreciation to the entire Commission for their hard work and excitement about the upcoming John Meade Park and Alan Hutto Commons project. Chair Eber pointed out that there was a lot of discussion on the tower that may or may not be moved out of John Meade Park. Chair Eber said for now the budget reflects the tower remaining at its current location in the Park and the Commission will move forward accordingly.

b. Commission Members Report

There was nothing to report on this subject.

c. Staff Report

(i) John Meade Park - RFP and Grant Request

Ms. Black announced that the John Meade Park Request for Proposal (RFP) has been posted. The bid opening is scheduled for May 15th at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Black announced that the Arapahoe County Open Space Grant application for a \$500,000 grant for John Meade Park will be submitted tomorrow. She shared that initial feedback on the draft application she submitted expressed concern that people are not aware of the Park. Arapahoe County voiced concerns that the perception is that the Park is not open to the public and that people do not know it is there.

Ms. Black stated that part of what will be included in the grant application is the City will advertise the Park grand opening more regionally in The Villager and Englewood Herald to let people know that the Park is open and has new amenities. She said the City's special events will also be advertised regionally to share the Park with more people. Ms. Black noted that if the City is accepting County funds for the Park, it is important to make sure that everyone in the community can enjoy the Park as well.

As a reminder, the City Hall Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16th at 4:30 p.m. There will be an unveiling of the new sign and a video of John Meade Park plans will be playing in the Council Chambers.

The Volunteer Appreciation event for all Boards and Commissions in the Village is scheduled for Saturday, May 11th from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. The Commission is encouraged to attend the event.

(ii) High Line Canal Working Group Task Team

Ms. Black reported that the High Line Canal Working Group is working on the Framework Plan, which is the next step in the planning process. She described the Framework Plan as a demonstration of what the High Line Canal will physically look like based on the Vision Plan that was done earlier.

The Framework Plan includes a plan for vegetation and signage along the High Line Canal. A draft plan will be delivered to all jurisdictions within the next week. Ms. Black said she will bring the plan before PTRC once she has more information. The goal is to have the Framework Plan completed by mid-June.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next PTRC meeting is scheduled for May 9th at 5:30 p.m.

Robert Eber, Chairman

Emily Black

Parks and Recreation Coordinator

Pamela Broyles

Administrative Assistant