

Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
August 21, 2008
at the Village Center

Commission members in attendance: Theresa Gilpatrick, Jane Soderberg, Heidi Schmidt-Hammell, Ann Gallagher, Bill Callison, Jim Fairbairn, Nancy McGrath. City staff members present: Ryan Berninzoni, Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator, Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Call to Order

Ms. Theresa Gilpatrick called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Approval of June 12, 2008 Minutes

Ms. Gilpatrick asked for a correction on page 2 of the minutes. She requested Scott Roswell's name be replaced with Bob Searnes. Ms. Ann Gallagher moved to approve the June 12, 2008 minutes as amended. Ms. Heidi Schmidt Hammell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Audience Participation

No audience participation

Mr. Jim Muhm Trail Report

Mr. Jim Muhm
4951 South Holly Street
Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

Mr. Muhm reported that utility companies are leaving their flags in the right-of-ways where the City mows and asked whose responsibility it is to remove the flags, and if a permit is required to post the flags.

Mr. Berninzoni responded that it is the responsibility of the utility company to remove the flags and no permit is required.

Mr. Muhm asked what the status is of the pedestrian crossing on University Boulevard at St. Mary's Academy.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that he is researching grant money for the project because the project is costly. The project will require surveys and will involve the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

Mr. Muhm reported that the City of Cherry Hills Village trail system took a great deal of planning, effort, and vision from generations before us to make the trail system what it is today. His plea to the PTR Commission is to continue those efforts. He asked that the Commission continue the vision for the Village and the generations to follow.

Welcome new Commission member Nancy McGrath

Ms. Gilpatrick welcomed Ms. Nancy McGrath as a new PTR Commission member.

Subcommittee Discussions

Parks, Trails and Recreation Enhancement

Lot Subdivision Discussion – Attorney David Foster

Mr. Berninzoni introduced Deputy City Attorney David Foster, who is here to answer questions regarding the proposed increase in cash in lieu from 7.5% - 10% on lots greater than 10 acres.

Mr. Foster provided Commission members with a detailed memo on the challenges associated with changing exactions for open space in Cherry Hills Village. Mr. Foster directed members to a three-part test, referred to as the "Nollan/Dolan" test in determining whether the courts will uphold an exaction.

Mr. Foster pointed out a couple of items the Commission should consider while making their decision:

1. Are there plans, goals, and programs in place for the extra money?
2. Is the Commission in a position to follow through with the plans?
3. Consider not placing a limitation or requirement on 10 acres or more, but have the same exaction on all buildable properties.

Ms. Gilpatrick thanked Mr. Foster for the helpful information.

Ms. Schmidt Hammell recommended the PTR Commission form a work session to discuss their options and where to proceed from here based on the information just received.

Ms. Gilpatrick asked Commission members if they were in favor of having a work session at the next meeting. All members were in favor.

Ms. Gilpatrick reported that the PTR Commission will hold a work session at 5:30 p.m., on September 11, 2008, and the regularly scheduled PTRC meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. An agenda will be emailed to all members prior to the meeting.

Goff Trail Update

Ms. Gilpatrick and Ms. Gallagher composed a letter to Mr. Goff regarding a trail easement and forwarded the letter to Mr. Berninzoni to present to the City Council.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that City Council is in support of the letter to Mr. Goff. There may be some minor additions or corrections and the letter should be approved by City Council within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Berninzoni will notify Ms. Gilpatrick and Ms. Gallagher when the letter is sent so they can follow up with Mr. Goff.

Bench Donation: Mrs. Barbra Braucht

Ms. Braucht is a resident of Cherry Hills Village and is donating \$1,000.00 for a bench on Three Pond Park. Ms. Braucht's late husband was the building inspector for the City of Cherry Hills Village from 1955-1989.

Ms. Gilpatrick made a motion to accept the generous gift of \$1,000.00 from Ms. Barbra Braucht for a bench to be placed in Three Pond Park. Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion and the following votes were recorded.

Ann Gallagher – yes
Bill Callison – yes
Nancy McGrath – yes
Theresa Gilpatrick – yes
Jane Soderberg – yes
Heidi Schmidt Hammell – yes
James Fairbairn – yes

The motion passed with all in favor.

Ms. Gallagher will contact Ms. Braucht and write an article for the Crier regarding the bench donation.

Update on Mansfield Trail Possibilities

Mr. Berninzoni provided three proposals for a possible Mansfield Trail.

Commission members discussed options for the Mansfield Trail that focused on what would be the safest choice for school children and wheelchairs. It was noted that a gravel trail would make snow removal more difficult and would not accommodate wheelchairs.

Ms. Schmidt Hammell proposed adding a gravel or grass trail beside the paved trail to accommodate horses.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the Commission will need to get public feedback on all concepts they are considering.

Ms. Gilpatrick stated she has walked along Mansfield Avenue and it is not safe. She would like to see the trail pursued.

Mr. Berninzoni will research the objectives and concerns of the Commission and will draft a plan of the Mansfield Trail to present at the September 2008 PTRC meeting. Mr. Berninzoni will also research grant options for the Mansfield Trail project.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the next step to pursue the Mansfield Trail is to present a plan to City Council. Once approved by City Council, a public hearing will need to be posted on the PTRC agenda.

PTRC 2009 Priority List

Ms. Gilpatrick asked each Commission member to list the goals and priorities of the PTR Commission for 2009.

Attached is Exhibit A: A draft of the goals for 2009.

Mr. Callison asked about the status of the Woodie Hollow Trail extending into Greenwood Village.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the trail expansion is in the hands of Greenwood Village and they have the plans.

The PTR Commission would like to pursue communications with Greenwood Village on the Woodie Hollow Trail.

Ms. Soderberg would like to see the Trails Expansion Committee formed to identify trail connections and pursue them, prioritize open space options, and form a vision for improving John Meade Park.

Ms. Soderberg expressed approval of the new sign in front of the Village Center, but asked if bedding plants or shrubs could be planted around the sign to enhance the appearance of the sign.

Ms. Schmidt Hammell would like to see the metal fencing around the Sie Trail replaced with a Split Rail Fence.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that City Council is in the process of a vacation/dedication of the Sie Trail.

Ms. Gilpatrick complimented the City Staff on the work that has been done on entry points throughout the City and she would like to see funding to make sure the work continues. Ms. Gilpatrick also stressed the importance of providing the equipment and manpower that is needed so Parks and Trails can continue the work that is needed.

Ms. Gilpatrick would like to add a piece of property that is for sale on the corner of Quincy Avenue and University Boulevard to the wish list. There are currently no parks on the west side of Cherry Hills Village and if the City ever acquires enough money to purchase the property, it would be a perfect spot for a park and playground. The land has the potential to be preserved in its natural state.

Committee members were all in favor of planting a variety of new trees and increasing the watering of trees in the City.

Mr. Berninzoni reported on items that he would like to be considered for the 2009 budget. Mr. Berninzoni had a conversation with Mr. Fairbairn regarding stocking the ponds with fish to possibly organize a youth fishing event. He would also like to keep moving forward on the St. Clair Property as it will be a great asset to the City.

Mr. Berninzoni reported the City is looking to enhance the entry features at Holly Street and Belleview Avenue and Colorado Boulevard and Hampden Avenue in 2009.

Mr. Fairbairn reported that the enhancement at Quincy Avenue and Clarkson Street looks great and he would like to propose doing something similar to minimize traffic when reconstructing the entry features.

Mr. Berninzoni reported he will submit the list of ideas for the 2009 budget to City Council in September.

Recreation and Events Subcommittee

Ms. Gilpatrick reported that due to an unfortunate incident with a key vendor, the Race for Open Space has been postponed. No registration forms have been received and sponsorship was slow. A fabulous route was marked for the 5K race that can be used for future events.

Communications and PR

Ms. Gallagher reported that she recently submitted an article with pictures to the Crier. She will submit an article on the bench donation from Ms. Braucht for the next Crier.

Reports

Update on John Meade Horse Arena Rebuild

Mr. Berninzoni reported that he is waiting for an Intergovernmental Agreement from City Council to start work on the John Meade Park Horse Arena. The work will not start until some upcoming events are complete.

Design Update on Woodie Hollow Shelter

Mr. Berninzoni reported he emailed members the projected cost to refurbish the Woodie Hollow Shelter.

Mr. Callison reported that the current shelter is dated and useless and he recommends building a new shelter that is attractive and useful.

Committee members discussed the price difference for a new shelter versus refurbishing the old shelter.

Ms. Gilpatrick reported that she is in favor of a new shelter.

Mr. Fairbairn reported he does not believe a new shelter is necessary and would like to see the money spent elsewhere; however, he will support the committee on their decision.

Mr. Berninzoni reported the City will look into applying for a grant for the Woodie Hollow Shelter.

Mr. Berninzoni asked committee members to give direction on exactly what they want for the shelter so he can apply for a grant and submit a proposal to City Council.

Committee members agreed on a 20' x 20' open, octagon shelter with stamped concrete. Mr. Berninzoni will provide a bid at the next PTRC meeting.

Maintenance Log Update

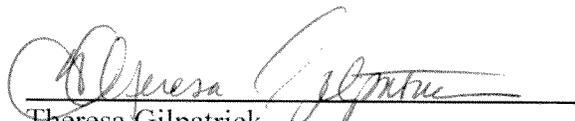
Mr. Berninzoni reported that staff is working on fence repair and tree watering. Staff will begin working on the new bollard trail markers this winter.

Mr. Berninzoni informed Commission members that the new bollard plates are not holding up. They are made of plastic with a sticker and the sticker is already peeling off. Commission members stressed the importance of quality bollards and recommended using plates that are engraved. Mr. Berninzoni will research the cost of new engraved plates.

Commission members viewed the CIRSA video "In the Scope of your Authority: Preventing Public Officials' Liability."

Adjournment

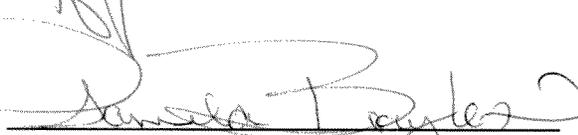
The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Theresa Gilpatrick
Committee Chair



Ryan Berninzoni
Interim PTR Administrator



Pamela Broyles
Administrative Clerk