

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Thursday, May 13, 2010
at the Village Center

Commission members in attendance: Jane Soderberg, Ann Gallagher, William Callison, Jim Fairbairn, Jeff Ferrell, Karen Barsch and Councilmember Klasina VanderWerf.
Employees present: Ryan Berninzoni - Parks Trails and Recreation Administrator, Bill Bauer - Parks Crew Chief and Pamela Broyles - Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Katy Brown

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jane Soderberg called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 8, 2010 MINUTES

Ms. Ann Gallagher moved to approve the April 8, 2010 minutes. Mr. Jim Fairbairn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Becky Benes
12 Blackmer Road
Cherry Hills Village, CO

Ms. Benes reported that she is here to protest the proposed porta-potty at the parking lot on Dahlia Street. She stated that she lives on Blackmer Road and she thinks the parking lot is already overused and this will only increase the usage. She said she noticed while driving here that people are going to be parking along Quincy and she asked if that is what the Commission really wants and do they want more usage of the High Line Canal. She stated that the Arapahoe Tennis Club is probably in favor, but she asked that the Commission take into consideration the neighbors. She stated she is opposed because she believes it will bring more litter and mess and greater usage of the High Line Canal.

Ms. Benes also noted that Blackmer Road has become a construction site for the past two years and it is a mess. She stated that there is an uprooted tree at 10 Blackmer Road that has been there for two years now.

Ms. Soderberg suggested that Ms. Benes bring her concerns before the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Dick Benes
12 Blackmer Road
Cherry Hills Village, CO

Mr. Benes reported that he has lived in Cherry Hills Village for 30 years and he has seen the Dahlia parking lot grow from a few cars on the weekends to being jam-packed. He stated that it is very difficult to find a parking place and there are people who over park that have been ticketed and some people are parking at the Arapahoe Tennis Club. He stated that he believes the additional outhouse is going to promote more traffic from outside of the Village because residents living in the Village can use the facilities in their own home and then go for a walk. He commented that as far as the resident that is complaining about people urinating in her front yard, he believes those people will do it regardless of whether there is an outhouse there or not. He is opposed to building the outhouse.

Ms. Soderberg thanked Mr. and Mrs. Benes for their comments and reminded them that the PTRC is a recommending body only and they do not make decisions. They only make recommendations to City Council.

PRESENTATION BY BILL BAUER "PARKS CREW CHIEF": 2010 Parks and Trails Maintenance Update

Mr. Bauer, Parks Crew Chief, presented the Parks Division maintenance goals for 2010. Mr. Bauer reviewed some of the projects that the Parks Commission has already accomplished this past winter:

- The removal of Russian Olive trees in the parks.
- Enhancement of the entry feature at Quincy and University including new irrigation.
- Replaced 5,000 square feet of sod at the entry feature at Holly and Quincy.

This spring the Parks Division will continue to perform routine maintenance on the parks and trails. The Parks Commission recently received a \$500.00 grant to assist with the Buell planting project. The Parks staff will also be replacing the older donated benches that are in need of repair with new stone benches and will work to restore the bridle trails.

Mr. Fairbairn asked if the bridle trails that are native grass will remain that way.

Mr. Bauer responded that they will remain native grass.

The Commission questioned how many benches will be replaced and if the plaques will also be replaced.

Mr. Bauer responded that they will replace approximately 10 benches this year depending on budget and they will also replace the plaques.

BELLEVIEW UNDERPASS

Mr. Berninzoni reported that staff was notified that Greenwood Village rescinded their grant application for the Belleview Underpass and decided not to move forward with the project in 2010. Arapahoe County informed staff that it might be in the best interest of Cherry Hills Village to also consider rescinding their grant application as there is no need to build something that will dead-end.

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

SUMMARY SHEET REVIEW

Trail Enhancement Update - Jeff Ferrell and Jim Fairbairn

Mr. Ferrell reported that he recently had a conversation with a neighbor regarding the Stanford Avenue abandoned right-of-way that the Commission has been looking at. There are four property owners that have equal rights to the abandoned right-of-way and his neighbor stated that three of the four homeowners may be in support of making this section an addition to the trail network.

Mr. Fairbairn stated that he also talked to one of the homeowners regarding the potential right-of-way through Stanford and the homeowner was reserved, but somewhat open to the idea of letting an easement go thorough as long as it doesn't affect his trees.

The Commission discussed ideas on how to move forward with contacting the homeowners.

Incentive Program Update - Ann Gallagher

There was nothing to report on this subject.

Special Events Update

Ms. Soderberg reported that she will work on a letter to send to the equestrian community regarding the equestrian event.

Website and Signage - Jane Soderberg

Ms. Soderberg reported that the new website is going well and is a good interactive tool.

Communications/Crier Article - Ann Gallagher

There was nothing to report on this subject

General Updates

Ms. Barsch reported that the Commission presented the Inventory Study to City Council and walked them through the inventory and how they prioritized the properties that are currently undeveloped.

PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ENHANCEMENTDiscussion on park improvements at Dahlia Hollow Park

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the goal of this meeting is to come up with 2-3 different play structures that could possibly be used at Dahlia Hollow Park. Mr. Berninzoni provided Commission members with pictures of possible play structures. Mr. Berninzoni suggested that the City apply for a grant in 2011 to help fund the play structure since the cost is more than was budgeted for.

Commission members discussed the options and the cost. They asked Mr. Berninzoni to research the cost to add a boulder like the one located at Heritage Park. The Commission also discussed adding picnic tables, a seating area and a tire swing.

Ms. Barsch asked Mr. Berninzoni to email members with a location where they can look at the texture of the proposed structures.

Discussion on a portable restroom at the Dahlia Street parking lot

Mr. Berninzoni reported that at the April 8, 2010 PTRC meeting, a public input meeting was held concerning a possible portable restroom at the Dahlia Street parking lot. At the conclusion of that meeting it was decided by the Commission to address the issue in more detail at the May 13, 2010 meeting. Mr. Berninzoni reported that after careful consideration, staff believes the best location for the portable restroom is at the south portion of the parking lot if approved by City Council.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that Mr. Fairbairn asked him to look into the history of the property that was donated by Mr. Salazar where the proposed restroom would be located. Mr. Berninzoni reported that in 1983 Cherry Hills Village relinquished the trail easement, which is about 540 feet long and 16 feet wide. In total approximately 8,800 square feet of trail easement was relinquished and given back to Mr. Salazar along the east side of his property. In return the City received roughly 5,000 square feet of the parking lot, which is approximately 1/3 of the parking lot itself.

Ms. Gallagher asked if the property was donated free and clear with no stipulations.

Mr. Berninzoni responded that it was donated free and clear.

Ms. Soderberg asked Mr. Berninzoni to clarify the difference between the trail easement versus the donated land.

Mr. Berninzoni responded that the trail easement was double the size of the donation, but the easement was relinquished and the City never truly owned the property.

Ms. Barsch noted that the Salazar property is currently for sale.

Ms. Soderberg commented that there was a lot of opposition from neighbors at the last meeting.

Mr. Callison remarked that he does not believe that adding a porta-potty is going to make the parking lot fuller or used more.

Ms. Barsch stated that she has informally questioned some of the runners on the High Line Canal to see if there is any interest in adding a portable restroom. She said she first asked them if they were from Cherry Hills Village and if they were not she asked them if they would find a need for a portable restroom. She said they responded yes because they now have to drop over the side since there is no facility available. If the person was from Cherry Hills Village she asked them the same question and she received the exact same response in favor of adding a restroom so they didn't have to use the bushes or drop off the side. Ms. Barsch stated that she took pictures to look for an alternative space because of the opposition and for many reasons this is the only space that really makes sense. She also took into consideration Cat Anderson's concerns.

The Commission discussed other possible locations for the portable restroom.

Mr. Callison suggested that since the portable restroom is not a permanent structure they could build the structure and revisit it in six months. If there is a lot of opposition it can always be removed.

Mr. Berninzoni assured Commission members that the portable restroom would be maintained and kept nice.

MR. BILL CALLISON MOVED TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL THAT THE CITY PROCEED WITH A PORTABLE RESTROOM AT THE SOUTH PORTION OF THE DAHLIA STREET PARKING LOT. MS. KAREN BARSCH SECONDED THE MOTION.

Jane Soderberg - Aye
Ann Gallagher - Aye
Bill Callison - Aye
Jeff Ferrell - Aye
Karen Barsch - Aye
Jim Fairbairn - Nay

REPORTS

City Council Report

Councilmember VanderWerf thanked the Commission on behalf of City Council for their work on the Annex fence along Hampden Avenue.

Councilmember VanderWerf also reported that resident Ann Polumbus will be at the June PTRC meeting to discuss the proposed Arts Council and present some of her ideas. The thought is that there might be an opportunity for the City to acquire some art and it is important to have a committee established to formally accept or reject the art.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Barsch asked if there is any formal training available for Commission members to better understand what their role is and what they have jurisdiction over. She said it would be helpful to understand what we should or shouldn't do and what the Commission's responsibilities are.

Mr. Berninzoni suggested that there is a film that was shown in previous years that may answer many of her questions and he will also research having the City Attorney address the Commission on these issues.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

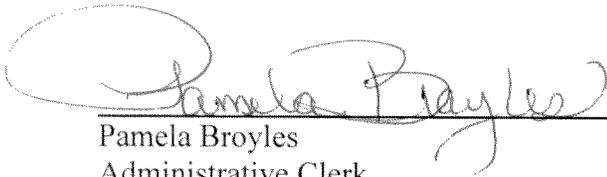
The next scheduled PTRC meeting is June 10, 2010



Jane Soderberg
Committee Chairperson



Ryan Berninzoni
Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator



Pamela Broyles
Administrative Clerk