

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

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Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission  
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado  
Thursday, March 8, 2012  
at the Village Center

Commission members in attendance: Katy Brown, Bill Lucas, Jeff Welborn, Jim Fairbairn, Jeff Ferrell, Karen Barsch, Councilmember Klasina VanderWerf. Employees present: Ryan Berninzoni, Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator, Bill Bauer, Parks Crew Chief, Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Jane Soderberg

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Katy Brown called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2012 MINUTES**

Mr. Jeff Ferrell moved to approve the February 9, 2012 minutes as presented. Mr. Jim Fairbairn seconded the motion and it passed with one abstention.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no audience participation.

**PARKS DIVISION 2012 MAINTENANCE PRESENTATION - BILL BAUER**

Mr. Bauer, Parks Crew Chief, presented the 2012 maintenance goals as follows:

- Complete installation of new bollard sleeves and locks throughout trail system.
- Install new irrigation and a small tree nursery at 90 Meade Lane.
- Improve irrigation at the Annex berm and plant 10 new trees.
- Develop and implement a plan for improvements at Clarkson and Quincy entryway. Remove easterly berm and replace with sod and various plantings. Also improve the island.
- Replace additional sidewalks on Belleview between Holly and University.
- Complete Phase 5, the final phase of the tree planting program at Buell Mansion. The project will include 8 new trees. The City has applied for a \$500.00 grant to assist with funding.
- Improve the entry feature at Happy Canyon and Quincy.
- Routine maintenance that includes mowing, tree trimming, weed control, fixing split rail fence, etc.
- Tree maintenance and watering following industry standards.

**SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS****a. Summary Sheet****Trail Enhancement Update**

Mr. Ferrell suggested that the proposed play structure in Dahlia Hollow Park that is listed on the Summary Sheet should be declared "Completed" since it will be addressed in the new Parks Inventory discussions. Mr. Ferrell and Ms. Brown provided a brief narrative of the history of the proposed play structure to the Commission members that were not present during the original discussions. Mr. Ferrell pointed out that he is not suggesting that the proposed play structure not be pursued at some point in the future.

MR. FERRELL MOVED TO DECLARE THE DAHLIA HOLLOW PLAY STRUCTURE ITEM CURRENTLY LISTED ON THE SUMMARY SHEET AS "PROPOSED" TO THE "COMPLETED" SECTION WITH THE OPTION TO RECONSIDER THE IDEA IN THE FUTURE. MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF A SECOND.

Mr. Welborn suggested that the Summary Sheet could reflect that the PTRC will defer further consideration of the play structure pending the completion of the Parks Inventory project.

The Commission agreed with this suggestion.

Mr. Ferrell referred to the comments he made at the previous meeting on Trail 4452 on Pond Road and made some corrections to his comments. After reviewing the plat from the original subdivision plan he discovered that the City reserved a twenty foot bridle easement down the length of Pond Road. He suggested that since the properties have since changed hands the Commission might consider communicating with the new homeowners to inform them about the easement. He added that there are other trail easements that were granted in that same area and he will spend some time doing additional research.

#### Special Events Update

Ms. Brown reported that the Committee is proceeding with the car show tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. The Committee is still waiting for a response from the Cherry Creek Elementary School to confirm whether the car show can be held in their parking lot. Depending on the response from the school the Committee will also consider moving the car show to Volunteer Park or having the show on a Saturday and using the church parking lot. Ms. Brown also reported that the Outdoor Movie Night is scheduled for Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> and the Holiday Tree Lighting event is scheduled for Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### Website and Signage

There was nothing to report on this subject.

#### Communications/Crier Article

Mr. Lucas reported that he will write an article for the Crier on the upcoming special events. Ms. Barsch reported that she has written an article for the Crier on the Charter Amendment regarding City Parks.

#### General Updates

There was nothing to report on this subject.

### **b. Parks, Trails and Recreation Enhancement**

#### **(i) Discussion on Resolution to Amend the City Charter regarding City Parks**

Mr. Berninzoni reported that on February 7, 2012, City Council approved Resolution 2; Series 2012, approving a ballot issue and a question to be submitted to the voters at the municipal election held on April 3, 2012, to amend the City Charter to provide that all City Parks shall be maintained in perpetuity for public use except in the event of a vote of the electorate.

Ms. Barsch commented that although the resolution is not a conservation easement that specifies the space cannot be used for anything but parks, it does prevent the City from selling the parks.

MS. KAREN BARSCH MOVED THAT THE PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ENDORSES THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER ON CITY PARKS, TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS ON APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>. MR. JEFF WELBORN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### REPORTS

a. Parks Division Maintenance Log

Mr. Berninzoni expressed how important it is for residents to report any maintenance issues that they see in the parks and on the trails so staff can address those issues

Mr. Welborn reported that the communication structures that are located along the trails in his neighborhood should be part of maintenance because there are metal pieces and wires along the trail making it a safety issue. He does not believe that these structures are active and he asked if there is a legal obligation for these companies to remove their facilities when they are no longer in use.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the structures belong to Century Link and Comcast. He spoke with Comcast about this concern and they stated that the structures are active, but he will do further research.

Mr. Welborn asked if the City has a weed control policy and asked how the Parks Department controls weeds.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that staff mainly uses mechanical eradication by mowing and weed whacking. There are a few select areas that they treat chemically for weeds such as Purple Loose Strife.

Mr. Welborn asked if staff contacts homeowners about dealing with the weeds in their areas. He said City staff works hard on the trails, but right next to the trails there are weeds that Code Enforcement can't see unless they are walking on the trails.

Mr. Berninzoni said it comes back to how important it is to get feedback from residents on these issues.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ferrell reported that he recently attended a High Line Canal Working Group meeting that included several municipalities along the High Line. He presented a handout that summarized a great presentation by a gentleman that was hired by the group to do a detailed analysis of the High Line Canal. The report will be forwarded to the High Line Working Group in June.

Councilmember VanderWerf added that this study will help them with planting trees in the future since the Village is losing several Cottonwood Trees.

b. City Council Report

Councilmember VanderWerf reported that Councilmember Alex Brown is working with Ryan Berninzoni to replace pedestrian lights with motion sensitive lights at the pedestrian crossings. Councilmember Brown feels that the pedestrian lights currently being used at the crossings are inadequate.

Councilmember VanderWerf noted that Mayor Wozniak commented on how nice the event was that Jane Soderberg hosted to recognize members of the City's Boards and Committees and City Staff.

Councilmember VanderWerf updated the Commission on the status of the GOCO Grant that the High Line Canal Working Group is working on. She reported that the group visited various points along the High Line Canal and looked at various projects to get a perspective on how to make the High Line Canal experience even better. During these visits the group realized that the Village has one of the largest interruptions where the trail dead-ends at Hampden. Hampden is a very busy street with only a walk light, which makes it problematic whether you are crossing from the Denver side or from Cherry Hills Village. While riding her bike across Hampden she also realized that there is no landing spot at the Hampden crossing. There were a lot of concerns about this crossing and Arapahoe County also felt it was a problem. One of the things that the group is requesting is better signage to direct traffic down Jefferson Street along the sidewalk. The City will add some plantings along this stretch. The group is also requesting funding to add a trailhead just to the west of the Church of the Nazarene. The Church owns 5 separate lots close to Hampden and the group is looking to possibly purchase the southern most lot to use as a trailhead.

Mr. Ferrell asked if the City would need to match funds.

Councilmember VanderWerf responded that the City would need to match funds, but City Council seems to be open to considering the options.

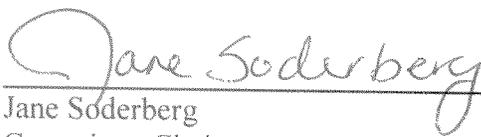
Commissioner Bill Callison Appreciation

Ms. Brown spoke on behalf of Jane Soderberg to publicly acknowledge and thank Mr. Bill Callison for his service to the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission (PTRC). He served with distinction, commitment and enthusiasm on the PTRC since 2006. He participated in numerous trail dedications and land dedications. He helped with the development improvements at Woodie Hollow Park and gave insightful participation to this body. The PTRC thanked Mr. Callison for his years of service and wished him the best.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

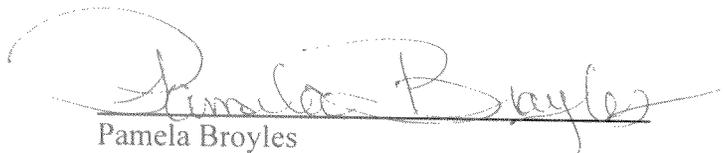
The next scheduled PTRC meeting is April 12, 2012.



Jane Soderberg  
Committee Chairperson



Ryan Berninzoni  
Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator



Pamela Broyles  
Administrative Clerk