

Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Thursday, May 8, 2014
at the Village Center

Commission members in attendance: Bill Lucas, Karen Barsch, Robert Eber, Mike Gallagher. Employees present: Ryan Berninzoni, Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator, Matt Krebsbach, Parks Crew Chief, Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Joshua DiCarlo, Colleen Dougherty, Councilor Katy Brown

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Lucas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

THANK YOU CEREMONY FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chair Lucas and the Commission thanked Karen Barsch and Jeff Welborn for their commitment in serving on the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission (PTRC).

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2014 MINUTES

Ms. Karen Barsch moved to approve the February 13, 2014 minutes as amended. Mr. Robert Eber seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 10, 2014 MINUTES

Mr. Robert Eber moved to approve the April 10, 2014 minutes as amended. Ms. Karen Barsch seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no audience participation

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

a. Summary Sheet

Trail Enhancement Update

Mr. Gallagher reported on Trail #5145 and whether the City should consider abandoning the trail to reduce maintenance for the City.

The Commission also discussed whether to approach the neighbors about a possible easement on Tenaya Lane, a private road that citizens and staff use to access other trails in the City. The Commission agreed to add the idea to the summary sheet and continue to monitor, but take no action at this time.

Radcliff Low Water Crossing

Mr. Berninzoni reported that he drafted a letter to adjacent homeowners based on the Commission's decision at the last meeting to pursue discussions for a possible easement. The letter was forwarded to the Trail Enhancement Committee for final approval before it is mailed.

Mr. Lucas suggested calling the residents in advance as a courtesy to let them know the letter is coming and leave contact information for any questions. Mr. Gallagher agreed to contact the homeowners in advance.

The Commission discussed opening up an access point in the wall on the east side of the Village at Quincy and Belleview. This would allow pedestrians and neighbors in Charlow to access the bike path, the Denver Tech Center and the Greenwood Athletic Club. The Commission agreed to conduct further review to determine if the City would need to obtain an easement.

Special Events Update

The Special Events Committee will meet on May 19th to confirm a date for the car show.

Ms. Barsch reported that the Barn Tour is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of September 20 and 21 or September 27 and 28.

Open Space Report

There has not been a subsequent meeting on open space since the last report in April. City Council is considering whether to establish a separate committee to study open space and what role the PTRC will take in the study.

Communications/Crier Article

Mr. Eber will include upcoming activities and City Council's approval to install two boulders at Dahlia Hollow Park for the next Crier edition.

b. Parks, Trails and Recreation EnhancementDenver Water Tree Trimming

Mr. Lucas presented photos of an area along both sides of the High Line Canal where over 100 healthy trees along a 155 foot length of trail were cut down by Denver Water. Mr. Lucas and staff researched why the trees were cut down and Denver Water responded with an email claiming that the trees were cut to clear the waterway for better flow.

Mr. Lucas spoke with Jeff Roemer, a member of City Council in the City of Greenwood Village to discuss their relationship with Denver Water and how their City handles trees that need to be cut along the High Line Canal. The colleague reported that they have a forester on staff that works with Denver Water and they are notified in advance before Denver Water cuts down any trees in Greenwood Village. The City then posts signs where the tree or trees will be cut so residents know that the trees will be removed due to potentially hazardous or dangerous situations. Greenwood Village immediately pays for installation of new trees to replace the trees that were cut down.

Mr. Lucas will contact Jim Lockhead of Denver Water do discuss creating a similar relationship so Cherry Hills Village will be notified in advance of any trees that will be cut down.

The Commission discussed the scar that cutting these trees has caused in the City and there is concern that the tree cutting was commissioned to enhance homeowner views.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that he is familiar with the tree cutting and planting policy at Greenwood Village, but the difference is that Greenwood has a large staff to accommodate watering the new trees whereas the City of Cherry Hills Village would need to hire additional staff.

Mr. Lucas will report back to the Commission once he speaks with Denver Water to determine how to proceed. He will also research whether Greenwood Village has an official agreement with Denver Water.

QUINCY FARM VISIONING COMMITTEE (QFVC) UPDATE

Ms. Barsch reported that the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee (QFVC) has completed a draft report of the visioning plan and the Committee will meet on May 20th and June 17th for final edits. The QFVC should be ready to present the visioning plan to the PTRC at the July PTRC meeting.

PTRC REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL – CHAIR BILL LUCAS

Mr. Lucas reported that City Council passed the Caulkins subdivision with all of PTRC's recommendations. They will move forward with the final plat process.

City Council will vote on two new Parks Commissioners on May 20, 2014.

REPORTS**a. Discussion on possible PTRC Retreat – Bill Lucas**

Mr. Lucas presented a draft of a PTRC retreat that he would like to schedule for June or July. The Commission has relatively new members and the goal is to get the Commission on the same level of understanding. Speakers would include the Cherry Hills Village Land Preserve, historians, Planning and Zoning, the High Line Canal Working Group and a tour of some specific parks and trails. One key issue will be enhancing John Meade Park. He asked for ideas and input from the Commission on potential topics to include at the retreat. Mr. Lucas volunteered to host a dinner at his home after the retreat.

The Commission was receptive to the idea and agreed to move forward with plans for the retreat. Mr. Lucas will work with City staff to get some potential dates to email to the Commission so a date and time can be finalized. The retreat will potentially be one full day or two half days. The Commission also discussed having a picnic in one of the City parks.

Mr. Lucas reported that a review and revision of the City's Master Plan will take place in 2015. Mr. Zuccaro, Community Development Director, will speak with the PTRC to coordinate the parks section of the plan. The proposed PTRC retreat will lay the groundwork for the PTRC to be stewards of the Master Plan.

b. Upcoming PTRC Projects

Mr. Berninzoni reported that he would like the Commission to start thinking about projects and priorities for 2015. The Commission listed the John Meade Park master plan as their number one priority for 2014. The City should know in a few weeks whether they will be awarded the Arapahoe County Open Space Grant to hire a consultant to assist with the planning of John Meade Park. If the City is awarded the grant, the money will need to be used within two years of the award. Mr. Berninzoni will submit a Request for Proposal to accept bids and interview potential consultants.

The Commission discussed whether the planning of John Meade Park coincides with the Alan Hutto Memorial requirements. The Commission does not want to be in a situation where quick decisions need to be made because of time constraints. Mr. Berninzoni will confirm the Alan Hutto Memorial guidelines and report back to the Commission.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that a lot of ground work has already been completed on John Meade Park by the Parks Commission. He suggested that the Commission focus on the two main projects over the next couple of years including John Meade Park and open space. These two quality projects will demand a lot of the Commission's time. Mr. Berninzoni expects that City Council will assign tasks to the Parks Commission to assist with open space.

c. Parks Division Maintenance Log

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the over-seeding project at the Annex Parks and Three Pond Park has been successful and is showing new growth.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the boulders that will be installed in Dahlia Hollow Park have been ordered.

d. City Council Report

Councilor Katy Brown was unable to attend the meeting, but she forwarded a report on City Council updates including the approval of two boulders and stumps at Dahlia Hollow Park, approval of the preliminary plat of the Caulkins Trust subdivision and a City Council retreat that will be held on May 31st.

Mr. Lucas recognized Commissioner Jeff Ferrell in appreciation for his years of service on the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

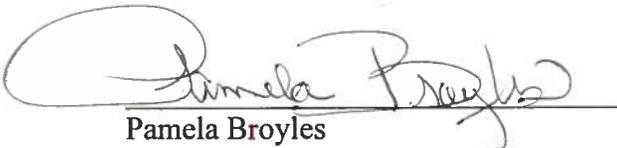
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.
The next scheduled PTRC meeting is June 12, 2014.



Bill Lucas
Committee Chair



Ryan Berninzoni
Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator



Pamela Broyles
Administrative Clerk