

Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission  
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado  
Thursday, February 12, 2015  
at the Village Center

Commission members in attendance: Bill Lucas, Robert Eber, Joshua DiCarlo, Colleen Dougherty, Nina Itin, John Kokish and Councilor Mike Gallagher. Employees present: Ryan Berninzoni, Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator, Matt Krebsbach, Parks Crew Chief, Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Rob Ganger

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bill Lucas called the John Meade Park study session to order at 5:30 p.m.

**STUDY SESSION – JOHN MEADE PARK**

Online Survey Results

Survey results were reviewed:

Top Three Needs:

1. More greenways and trails
2. More open space
3. More play spaces

Most Undesired:

1. Sculpture garden
2. Outdoor education Center
3. Performing arts space

Top uses of John Meade Park

1. Trails
2. Community events
3. Nature areas

Goals and Design Strategies

1. Create a community gathering place
2. Create a connection between park users and the natural environment
3. Create a community appropriate amphitheater
4. Maintain and increase current flood flow capacities
5. Increase park uses and accessibility
6. Create a park that is maintenance friendly

Stakeholder Outreach

Cherry Hills Land Preserve  
Cherry Hills Village Elementary School  
Cherry Hills Village Art Commission  
Hutto Family  
Quincy Farm Visioning Committee

Design Concepts

Three potential design concepts were introduced for John Meade Park.

Project Schedule

The next proposed Public Input meeting is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>.

The PTRC will meet on February 23, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. with THK Associates to discuss the three concepts in further detail.

### **PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (PTRC) MEETING**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

#### **APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 8, 2015 MINUTES**

Mr. Robert Eber moved to approve the January 8, 2015 minutes as presented. Ms. Nina Itin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **INTRODUCE NEW PTRC MEMBER**

Chair Lucas introduced PTRC member John Kokish who has been a resident of Cherry Hills Village for 11 years.

Mr. Kokish shared that he is an attorney and a past president and current member of the Arapahoe Tennis Club. He looks forward to working with the PTRC.

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Klasina VanderWerf  
5250 East Chenango  
Cherry Hills Village

Councilor VanderWerf stated that she is speaking as the Council liaison to the Public Arts Commission. She informed the PTRC that the Art Commission recently went before City Council to ask for Council's approval to raise funds in the Community for a sculpture of a horse by renowned sculptor Deborah Butterfield. The sculpture is proposed to be placed in front of the Joint Public Safety Facility (JPSF), but can be moved to other locations.

Councilor VanderWerf shared that the Art Commission is focused on entry features and a piece in front of the JPSF for placement of art. They are aware of public concerns and their goal is not to add a lot of art around the City, but if there is a good location and the right art piece is available they will pursue those pieces.

#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO MUNICIPAL CODE SEC 16-20-10 ESTABLISHING EXPANDED USE**

Emily Kropf presented the proposed amendment. The City is seeking a recommendation from the PTRC, to City Council, for approval of an amendment to Municipal Code Sec. 16-20-10 establishing review criteria for the expanded use permit process. Under the current code the PTRC reviews applications to establish, expand, or increase public recreational facilities based on the application, evidence and testimony presented at a public hearing and makes a recommendation to City Council. The planning review process should include more specific criteria so the City Council can make more consistent and legally defensible decisions.

The City is requesting that the following criteria be adopted:

1. The proposed use is consistent with and furthers or implements the goals and strategies of the Master Plan, including preservation of the semi-rural character of the City.
2. The proposed use complies with all applicable City ordinances and is consistent with all other City policies and plans.

3. The bulk and scale of any proposed design is compatible with the site and the character of the surrounding area.
4. Drainage and transportation systems are designed to encourage the use of natural materials and comply with the character of the surrounding area.
5. The proposed use will not result in unreasonable traffic congestion or create a safety hazard to vehicular or pedestrian traffic and adequate provisions will be provided to manage any traffic-related issues.
6. Sufficient parking in terms of parking spaces and areas to accommodate parking needs is provided and designed to minimize the impact on the character of the surrounding area.
7. Adverse impacts on adjacent properties as a result of the proposed scope of work will be eliminated, mitigated, or reasonably controlled, including but not limited to lighting and noise.

Mr. Eber questioned whether the criteria under number two requiring that the proposed use comply with all City ordinances is necessary since it is the law.

Mr. John Kokish moved, seconded by Ms. Colleen Dougherty to recommend adoption of the proposed amendment of Municipal Code Sec. 16-20-10 establishing review criteria for the expanded use permit process, with a suggestion that the City Attorney review the language in number two that states the proposed use will comply with all City ordinances, to determine if this language is necessary. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS**

##### **a. Summary Sheet**

##### Trail Enhancement Update

Chair Lucas reported that the City has trails that dead-end with no connection access. If a property becomes available in the City where an easement would provide a trail connection, the City could purchase the property for the trail easement and then resell the property.

##### Special Events Update

The Special Events Committee will meet in the near future to determine dates for the 2015 events.

##### Open Space Update

There was nothing to report on this subject.

##### Communications/Crier Article

Mr. Eber will work with City staff to add information to the website that would have gone in the Crier, but due to the compressed schedule does not allow enough time to get information to the public. This would include information such as the John Meade Park public meeting scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Lucas also suggested that the addendum to the Alan Hutto contract be posted on the website to eliminate some of the confusion. He also suggested that the Alan Hutto amphitheater should be referred to as the Hutto Commons so people are not envisioning a large structure.

Ms. Itin suggested that the Commission should visit the amphitheater located at Kent Denver. It is in a natural setting that is tiered with great seating, but very non-intrusive. An amphitheater similar to this might eliminate the concern of residents.

Chair Lucas requested that Commission members view the amphitheater at Kent Denver before the next PTRC meeting.

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

There was nothing to report on this subject

**PTRC CHAIR REPORT****Report to City Council**

Chair Lucas reported that he gave an update on John Meade Park to City Council.

Chair Lucas discussed the importance of protecting view corridors in the City and what the Commission can do to make recommendations. He stated that the PTRC needs to work with the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission on this issue.

Mr. DiCarlo stated that the Blue Ribbon Panel report emphasizes the need to protect view corridors. He suggested the Commission could consider a 10% land dedication. He is also concerned that the Commission has no power over where the land dedication will be. He suggested the Commission could create a list of criteria for land dedications so the Commission has the authority to protect view corridors.

Chair Lucas stated that the Commission can work with Planning and Zoning to consider parameters that can be established to prevent blocking view corridors.

The issue comes down to property rights versus view corridors and how the City can strengthen ordinances to achieve this goal.

**Upcoming PTRC Projects**

There was nothing to report on this subject.

**May 2015 John Meade Park Meeting Dates**

The Commission agreed to move the John Meade Park planning meeting from Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day) to Monday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at the City Center

**REPORTS****a. Parks Division Maintenance Log**

There was nothing to report on this subject.

**b. City Council Report**

Councilor Gallagher discussed the power and influence the PTRC has to protect view corridors and open space.

He addressed the concern of time constraints with The Crier and City Council is aware that communication needs to be better.

Councilor Gallagher reported that \$3.5 million in grants was just awarded for the trail crossing that will go under Hampden and come up through Wellshire creating safe and much needed trail connectivity on the High Line Canal..

Councilor Gallagher reiterated that communication between the City Council and PTRC is important as several projects are interrelated. He stated that Council is in the process of prioritizing projects to strategically address funding and timeframes.

Mr. Eber reported on two items that City Council needs to coordinate with PTRC for the planning of John Meade Park. First is the purpose or plan for 90 Meade Lane and second is the plan for the Public Works facility.

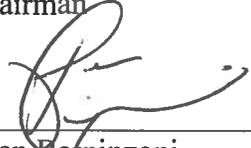
The Commission agreed that clarification is needed before the April 9<sup>th</sup> public meeting so Commission members can address questions from the public.

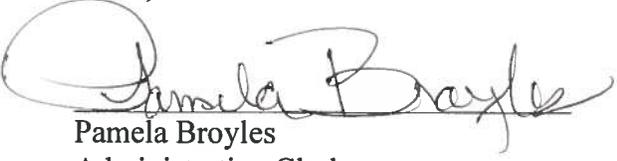
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The next scheduled PTRC meeting is March 12, 2015.

  
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Bill Lucas  
Chairman

  
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Ryan Berninzoni  
Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator

  
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Pamela Broyles  
Administrative Clerk