Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Thursday, October 8, 2015
at the Village Center

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

Absent: Robert Eber, Joshua DiCarlo, Colleen Dougherty

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

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 MINUTES
Mr. John Kokish moved to approve the September 10, 2015 minutes as presented. Ms. Nina Itin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION
There was no audience participation.

PRESENTATION ON 2016 PARKS FUNDS BUDGET
Mr. Berninzoni reviewed the Park funds included in the 2016 budget; Fund 30, Fund 14, Fund 07, and the Catherine Anderson Fund.

Fund 30 is the main fund that includes day to day operations and equipment. Personnel funds increased due to a request for an additional fulltime parks worker in 2016 to meet current and future demands of additional open space. Mr. Berninzoni reviewed each line item in the budget.

Fund 14 is the Arapahoe County open space fund created for sales tax revenues referred to as shareback funds. Funds are received annually through Arapahoe County. There is $50,000 budgeted in 2016 for a potential project through Arapahoe County Open Space to resurface the High Line Canal Trail. Work will include grading, rebuilding the footing, rebuilding the trail and capping the trail with 2-4 inches of crushed granite.

Fund 14 is used for park improvements and includes $450,000 in 2016 for Phase 1 engineering, design and construction of the John Meade Park master plan. These funds will be used as matching funds for two grants the City is applying for.

Fund 07 is a trust fund from the sale of lottery tickets. This fund is used for trail restoration throughout City. The City is in the process of doing a trail easement and inventory study that will be completed around February 2016. $218,000 has been budgeted for 2016 for the Hampden underpass project. The City is in the process of securing an easement through Denver First Church to create a trail connection on the High Line Canal from the Jefferson Bridge through an underpass under Hampden Avenue.

The Catherine H. Anderson fund is a land donation fund and there are no expected expenditures in 2016.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that $20,000 has been budgeted in the Capital account for the purchase of a new John Deere mower.

PRESENTATION ON 2016 PTRC PRIORITIES

Mr. Berninzoni reviewed the PTRC's projects and priorities for 2016. The main projects include:

1. Phase 1 construction of John Meade Park and the Alan Hutto performance area.
2. Citywide park and open space master plan if time permits.

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the Commission's top priority will be Phase 1 engineering and design of John Meade Park. This will include designing the Alan Hutto Amphitheater, public restroom, playground equipment, addressing floodplain issues and all items that are included in the John Meade Park master plan. The PTRC will be involved with establishing an expanded use permit. Mr. Berninzoni stated that programming for the park should also be included in this study.

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

a. Summary Sheet

Trail Enhancement Update

The Commission is working to get a trail easement to create a connection from Monroe to Glenmoor.

Special Events Update

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the car show was a great success with approximately 300-400 people attending the event throughout the day.

The Holiday Tree Lighting event is scheduled for Friday, December 11, 2015.

Open Space Update

There was nothing to report on this subject.

Communications/Crier Article

There was nothing to report on this subject.

b. Parks, Trails and Recreation Enhancement

Update on Three Pond Park Tree Planting and Irrigation Installation

Mr. Berninzoni reported that the City received an Arapahoe County Open Space Grant to fund the planting of a variety of new trees in Three Pond Park over a 5-year period. The project also includes new irrigation for existing and newly planted trees, a new water tap and boring for a water line that will run under the High Line Canal. The City is now in the implementation phase and crews are currently installing irrigation. Mr. Berninzoni presented an area map that shows where the new trees will be planted with a goal to preserve view corridors. The new trees will be planted in the spring of 2016.

Mr. Berninzoni confirmed that Lucinda Greene with the equestrian community reviewed the tree planting program in Three Pond Park and approved the placement of the new trees.

PTRC CHAIR REPORT

Chair Lucas reported that he has been appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission. He made the following comments about his term on the PTRC.

One reason for joining the PTRC is that he believes the High Line Canal is the community's greatest asset and the City will continue to take more responsibility to preserve this asset. He likes that PTRC members are not elected and are a proactive not a reactive Commission. He stressed the importance of voting based on your beliefs and what is best for the community as a whole.

Chair Lucas stated that another reason he joined the Commission was to build community. He shared that the history of Cherry Hills Village shows a rural community that is very community oriented. The PTRC is building community through special events and the Alan Hutto performance area. The biggest accomplishment is the planning of John Meade Park. He expressed the importance City Council's support and the Commission's next goal to design the City Park that will strengthen and help the community. Mr. Lucas also shared that Woodie Hollow Park is a gem in the community and encouraged Commission members to look at opportunities to activate the park.

Chair Lucas addressed the push for open space. He reported that the City does not have funds to purchase open space. Between parks, trails, the High Line Canal, Kent Denver School, the Country Clubs and private properties the City has 14% open space. He believes the biggest deficit to the City's open space is the policy on fences and walls. He is concerned that large properties with walls and fences surrounding them are breaking down the community by creating barriers. He would like to see more restrictions on larger properties to maintain open space and community.

VOTE FOR NEW PTRC CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Chair Lucas asked for nominations for a new Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission.

Mr. John Kokish motioned to nominate Mr. Robert Eber as the Chair of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission. Ms. Nina Itin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bill Lucas motioned to nominate Mr. John Kokish as Vice-Chair of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission. Ms. Nina Itin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

a. Parks Division Maintenance Log

There was nothing to report on this subject.

b. City Council Report

Councilor Gallagher stressed the importance of writing support letters for City grants. The success of John Meade Park is dependent on the City receiving grants.

Councilor Gallagher thanked Chair Lucas for sharing his comments. He also thanked Mr. Lucas for his dedication and hard work on the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission where a lot of good was accomplished during his term.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The next scheduled PTRC meeting is November 12, 2015.

Bill Lucas
Chairman

Ryan Berninzoni
Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator

Pamela Broyles
Administrative Clerk
Parks & Trails Commission
10/08/15