

Minutes of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission  
 City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado  
 Thursday, January 14, 2016  
 at the Village Center

Commission members in attendance: Robert Eber, John Kokish, Rob Ganger, Liejse Johnson and Councilor Mike Gallagher. Employees present: Ryan Berninzoni, Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator, Matt Krebsbach, Parks Crew Chief, Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Nina Itin, Colleen Dougherty, Joshua DiCarlo

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Robert Eber called the PTRC meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2015 MINUTES**

Mr. John Kokish moved to approve the November 12, 2015 minutes as presented. Mr. Rob Ganger seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no audience participation.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW PTRC MEMBER LIESJE JOHNSON**

Ms. Johnson shared that she has four children and has lived in Cherry Hills Village since 2002. She was instrumental in starting a Charter School in Douglas County. She also works with the "Girls on the Run" organization and serves on the board of her HOA in Devonshire Heights. The Commission welcomed Ms. Johnson to the PTRC.

**PRESENTATION UPDATE ON TRAIL EASEMENT INVENTORY PROJECT  
 STANLEY CONSULTANTS, INC.**

Stanley Consultants was contracted by the City in 2015 to create a trail easement inventory and long-range maintenance and repair program. Mr. Jon Altschuld with Stanley consultants presented a project update including work to date. The project is nearing completion with the following goals:

- Goal 1: Verify and document easements and ROWs for all City trails.
- Goal 2: Create an easily accessible online map that displays information on all City trails and accompanying easements.
- Goal 3: Inventory all City trail segments and evaluate for condition, improvements and use-type.
- Goal 4: Develop realistic recommendations for implementation through a modified CSS process to ensure a balance of Safety, Mobility, Community, and Environmental goals.
- Goal 5: Identify potential future connections to major trails and facilities.

The presentation included a trail condition evaluation rating the trails as good, fair or poor. The majority of trails in the City are in good condition. The following recommendations are included in the plan:

- Establish trail design guidelines
- Utilize unused easements for new trails
- Improve signage and trail network identity
- General repairs based on trails inventory
- Soft recommendations for improving the connection across University Boulevard.

Mr. Altschuld provided a demonstration of the WebGIS Online Map showing the features of the map and how the tools work.

The Commission commented on the importance of community outreach for residents who might not be aware that there is a trail easement on or near their property.

The Commission thanked Mr. Altschuld and Stanley consultants for the presentation and their work on the project. The Commission also thanked intern Nate Silverstein who spent countless hours doing research to develop this plan.

The Commission is excited about the program and did not have any changes at this time. Stanley Consultants will present the program to City Council.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS**

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

##### Trail Enhancement Update

There was nothing to report on this subject.

##### Special Events Update

The Holiday Tree Lighting event was a great success with a record turnout. The event continues to bring the community together for a fun family gathering.

The 2016 Spring Cleanup is scheduled for May 14th through May 22nd with paint, electronics and shredding scheduled for Saturday, May 21st.

The annual Tree Planting Program will kick off in February. Information will be posted in the Village Crier.

##### Open Space Update

There was nothing to report on this subject.

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

##### **PTRC CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Eber reported that this will be a busy and exciting year for the Commission with the planning of John Meade Park and the Alan Hutto Memorial.

### **REPORTS**

#### **a. Parks Division Maintenance Log**

There was nothing to report on this subject.

### **REPORT ON 201 PARKS AND TRAILS RELATED GRANTS**

Ms. Emily Kropf reviewed the following 2016 grant applications that the City is working on:

- Highline Canal Trail Connection. Grant to construct a new section of the High Line Canal to the south of Hampden Avenue to accommodate two new underpasses that will be installed.
- Design and Phase I construction of John Meade Park and Alan Hutto Memorial Commons. Grant to complete the engineering design and first phase of construction for the redevelopment of John Meade Park and Alan Hutto Memorial Commons.
- High Line Canal Trail Resurfacing. Grant to resurface a 3-mile section of the High Line Canal trail.

**UPDATE ON JOHN MEADE PARK AND ALAN HUTTO MEMORIAL COMMONS PROJECT**

Mr. Berninzoni reminded the Commission that the John Meade Park and Alan Hutto Memorial Commons project is a priority for 2016. It is a large scale assignment that will kick off in March. The City recently posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a firm that will assist the Commission with this project and the Village Center as a whole. Mr. Berninzoni will report back in February after consultant interviews on the direction and timeline for the project.

b. City Council Report

Councilor Gallagher reported that the Tree Lighting event was well attended and it was nice to see young families with kids from the community.

The City will work with the feds to modify the ordinance that was recently passed on drones so the City is in compliance with their recent recommendations.

City Council addressed the fencing issue at the January 5, 2016 meeting. There was a passage on first reading and it will go before a public hearing for the second reading. There were some minor adjustments to the PTRC's recommendations based on some specific and measurable images that Mr. Zuccaro shared. It was realized that the split rail fence that is historical in this community did not make the 25% mark. For that reason, Council increased the amount of coverage on fences next to public trails, parks and open space from less than 25% solid to less than 40% solid with the intention of including split rail fences. Other changes included a distinction in the R1, R2, R3 and R3A zone districts to allow 6 foot maximum height and less than 25% solid or 4 ft. maximum height and less than 60% solid. Council agreed that the R1 district needs to be treated differently to maintain open space. Fences adjacent to public roads in the R4 and R5 districts would be allowed to have 6 foot maximum height and up to 100% solid to protect their privacy.

Councilor Gallagher thanked the Commission for their work on the fence issue.

**ADJOURNMENT**

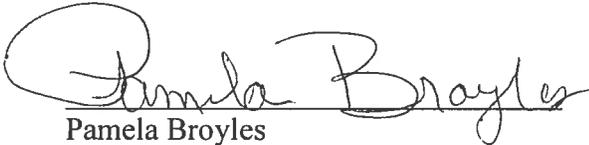
John Kokish moved, seconded by Rob Ganger to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.



Robert Eber  
Chairman



Ryan Berninzoni  
Parks, Trails and Recreation Administrator



Pamela Broyles  
Administrative Clerk