

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Minutes of the  
Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission of the  
City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado  
Held on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.  
The meeting was held electronically

### **PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

Coordinator Black announced that Chair Dahl and Vice Chair Wolfe are both absent, so Commissioner Eber will serve as Acting Chair for this meeting unless there are any objections.

Hearing no objections, Acting Chair Eber called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Rob Eber, Tory Leviton, Kate Murphy and Chelsea Scott. Also present were Emily Black, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, Jessica Sager, Director of Finance and Administration, Jeff Roberts, Parks Operations Supervisor and Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Chair Stephanie Dahl, Vice-Chair Fred Wolfe, Commissioner Aron Grodinsky

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Tory Leviton moved, seconded by Commissioner Chelsea Scott to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes – May 13, 2021

The motion passed unanimously.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no Unfinished Business to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Coordinator Black reported that the Rules of Procedure for the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission provide direction for the election of Chair and Vice Chair at the first regular meeting following the third Tuesday of May.

Commissioner Chelsea Scott Moved, seconded by Commissioner Tory Leviton to elect Stephanie Dahl as Chair of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Chelsea Scott moved, seconded by Commissioner Rob Eber to elect Tory Leviton as Vice-Chair of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event

Committee Member Doug Tisdale with the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee shared a slide presentation of the proposed 75+1 event planned for this summer. He said it is the

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Committee's intention to communicate, collaborate and cooperate with City Council and Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission on the upcoming event.

Committee Member Tisdale shared that the Anniversary Event will be held at the newly developed John Meade Park commemorating the City's 75+1 years of incorporation with the dedication of a 25-year time capsule. The intention is to open the capsule after 25 years on the City's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Mr. Tisdale noted that the celebration is planned for August 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and is a family friendly event for all ages. He described the theme for the event as Country Chic with featured activities including a beer and wine bar, live music in Alan Hutto Commons, food trucks, ice cream and refreshments. Mr. Tisdale shared some of the items that are being considered for the Time Capsule. He stated that the Committee is looking for feedback and support from the Parks Commission.

The Commission shared the following feedback:

### **Time Capsule Feedback**

- Emphasize the trail system (i.e. include trail map).
- Focus on history, not just current events.
- Inclusion of the *High on Country* book in the time capsule.
- Schedule a children's activity during the dedication to keep the children entertained so parents can attend the dedication.
- Include a flash drive with the Student-Produced videos Celebrating the Beauty, History, Legacy and Value of the High Line Canal Trail.

### **Event Feedback**

- Commissioner Scott has suggestions for food trucks that may be available for the event that she can forward to staff.
- Commissioner Scott also encouraged the Committee to continue the event past 7:00 p.m.
- Commissioner Scott also recommended a Cherry Hills Village Elementary school teacher-led kid's choir performance during the event. She would be willing to reach out to the music teacher to find out if he/she is interested.
- Commissioner Leviton is unavailable to perform the day of the event, but would like to be kept in mind for future events.
- Honor senior families (i.e. Pioneers/First residents) of the Village during the event and interview older residents or host a "storytelling" period during the event.
- Display historic photos throughout the event on tripods.
- Showcase images of the parks, trails and High Line Canal throughout the event on tripods.
- Include a booth that would sell the *High on Country* book.

The Commission thanked the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for all of their work and for keeping PTRC informed. The Commission expressed excitement for the event and voiced that they are in support of the Committee's ideas.

- c. Proposed changes to Chapter 11, Article III – City Property, Parks, and Rights-of-Way

Coordinator Black stated that staff is asking PTRC to approve the changes to Chapter 11, Article III in concept and staff will work with the City Attorney to draft code language that will go to City Council. She explained that City Council has discussed these changes and they are necessary because the Park has physically changed. She reviewed the following three changes being proposed:

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

- Changing Section 11-3-70 to allow wading specifically in the wading area at John Meade Park and within Little Dry Creek at Woodie Hollow Park. Swimming and entering other bodies of water in the City would still be prohibited.
- Changing Section 11-3-90 to remove the word “table” because there are several occurrences where setting up a table might be appropriate in parks without the need to go through the full event permitting process.
- Changing Section 11-3-110 as suggested by City Council in a recent study session to change the Park and Trail hours to dawn to dusk rather than the current rule which is 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The Commission discussed the proposed change to allow wading in John Meade Park and Little Dry Creek at Woodie Hollow. There was discussion on the City’s liability to allow wading. The Commission agreed with the language changes to Section 11-3-70.

The Commission agreed with the language change to remove the word “table” from Section 11 -3-90.

Commissioner Leviton voiced that he does not agree with the proposed changes to Section 11-3-110 to change the Park hours to dawn to dusk. He pointed out that the sun goes down in December around 4:00 p.m. and if someone wants to take a walk on a trail, they can’t go at 5:30 or after dinner if the hours are dawn to dusk. He said he would prefer to keep the hours 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Commissioner Scott agreed that the Park hours should remain 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Commissioner Murphy also agreed with keeping the park hours 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Acting Chair Eber stated that he has several proposed changes to Chapter 11, Article III, in addition to the three proposed changes. He suggested that the Commission should address the three proposed changes this evening and he will work with Coordinator Black in the interim to bring any additional changes back to PTRC at the next meeting. He noted that he agrees with the Commission that the Park hours should remain 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. He said he believes it is not the hours, but the activity and the noise associated with the Park.

Acting Chair Eber summarized that the Commission is in favor of changing 11-3-70 and 11-3-90 but the Commission is not in favor of the proposed changes to the hours of observance in the Park.

Commissioner Leviton moved, seconded by Commissioner Scott to recommend that City Council adopt changes to Chapter 11, Article III of the Cherry Hills Village Municipal Code to allow wading within the splash area at John Meade Park and in Little Dry Creek within Woodie Hollow Park and to allow tables to be set up in parks and trails without a permit.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Eber moved, seconded by Commissioner Leviton to recommend to City Council that the proposed changes to Chapter 11, Article III of the Cherry Hill Village Code to change the Park and Trails hours to dawn to dusk be rejected and that the park hours continue to be in accordance with the current provision of 11-3-110 that indicates the park hours are 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. for open activity and use.

The motion passed unanimously.

Coordinator Black suggested that Commissioner Eber, Chair Dahl and staff meet to review Commissioner Eber’s proposed changes to Chapter 11, Article III. If the changes are minor administrative changes, she proposed that the item move forward to Council without coming back to PTRC if the Commission is comfortable.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Chair Eber commented that he would prefer to delay the item going to City Council if the Commission would like to provide input on his proposed changes.

### REPORTS

a. PTRC Chair Report

There was nothing to report.

b. Commission Members Report

Commissioner Leviton reported that the property at 4001 E. Quincy Avenue is for sale. He believes it is in the best interest of all residents to have access to the property as it abuts Three Pond Park. He noted that if the property is subdivided the City will have the opportunity to claim a portion of the land.

Commissioner Eber reported that he was approached by former Commissioner Josh DiCarlo who is concerned about safety issues at the High Line Canal crossings at Quincy and Colorado. He observed that with more people on the trails due to Covid and the opening of the Hampden Underpass there is increased risk. Mr. DiCarlo inquired whether the Commission could work with the Police Department to improve safety at these crossings. Mr. Eber said he would like to initiate discussions with the Police Department and think of ways to increase safety at these intersections.

Coordinator Black pointed out that there will be additional signage added to both of these crossings this summer as part of the High Line Canal signing package. She said it will be clearer for drivers that they are crossing the High Line Canal and pedestrians will also get better signage that warns what road they are crossing. She said the City has explored stop signs for these crossings in the past and based on traffic studies they are less safe. She explained that because the signs are mid-block with no cross-street drivers are not expecting a stop and pedestrians are counting on vehicles to stop.

Commissioner Eber stated that he would like the City's on-street trail system to get formal recognition and be added to the City's trail maps. He said he has witnessed an increase in people using on-street trails and he would like to have signage that reflects on-street trails to encourage people to slow down.

Commissioner Murphy expressed safety concerns with the proposed homeless parking program on the corner of Hampden and Colorado Boulevard with the Hampden Underpass now being open.

c. Staff Report

i. John Meade Park Grand Opening – June 26<sup>th</sup>

Coordinator Black reminded the Commission that the John Meade Park Grand Opening is on June 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

### New Business

Coordinator Black announced that the Police Department has acquired an E-bike and they are using it to patrol the parks and trails. She reported that the speed sensors that Public Works placed along the trail were not sensitive enough to pick up bike speeds.

Ms. Black reported that City Council is going to discuss restarting the Master Planning process at their next meeting. She will keep the Commission updated.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

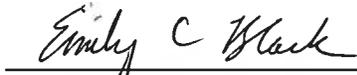
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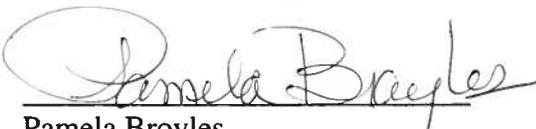
Ms. Black said Chair Dahl asked that requests for agenda items be emailed to staff and to her the week before the meeting to make sure there is time to prepare and provide the information to Commissioners.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m. The July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting is cancelled and the next PTRC meeting is scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

  
Acting Chair Robert Eber

  
Emily Black  
Parks and Recreation Coordinator

  
Pamela Broyles  
Administrative Assistant