



**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 14, 2019**

Members Present: Ron Ilgen, Carol Beckman, Daniel Bowan, Abby Simpson, Sarah Bryarly, Michael Phan, David Siegel

Members Absent: Greg Thornton, Jason Rupinski

Alternates Present: Lisa Wieland, Larry Bogue, Andrea Perry

Alternates Absent:

Staff Present: Karen Palus, Kim King, Britt Haley, Christi Mehew, Kelly Rajab, Jack Glavan, John Stark, Matt Mayberry, Tilah Larson, Brian Kates

Called to Order: Board Chair Ron Ilgen brought the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m.

Citizen Discussion

Jeff Johnson, Pikes Peak Pickleball Association President, introduced their new Vice President Wendy Venturella.

Susan Davies, Trails and Open Space Coalition Executive Director thanked everyone for their support on the 2B initiative as it was approved by the voters. She is excited about watching the projects move forward and asked city staff to keep TOSC in communications about the projects so TOSC can be a part of the completion celebrations.

Approval of Minutes – October 10, 2019

Motion – To approve the October 10, 2019 minutes

Motion by Carol Beckman, 2nd Abby Simpson - Approved, 7 to 0, Unanimously

Presentations

Prairie Necklace

Dr. Judy Von Ahlefeldt presented a proposed plan to connect ungraded native regional Prairie Grassland in the urban- rural interface of Colorado Springs and El Paso County. The area is south of Black Forest. The County is working on a master plan and there is a public meeting on December 11th.

Britt Haley, TOPS Program Manager stated Dr. Von Ahlefeldt was very helpful with the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services' GOCO application for Kettle Creek.

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

Recreation Services Update (Presented by Kim King, Recreation and Administration Manager)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

Kim King presented a division overview. She introduced and recognized staff throughout the presentation.

The overview covered: the historic City Auditorium; Community Centers; Therapeutic Recreation Program; Mark "Pa" Sertich Ice Center; and Youth and Adult Sports.

Board Vice Chairman David Siegel offered to be the Parks Advisory Board representative for the City Auditorium RFP process. Kim replied that the process itself had stopped because an agreement had been reached, but once the next level of the process begins (public input and presentations) that there would be opportunities to have input.

Pikes Peak Summit House Update (Presented by Jack Glavan, Pikes Peak - America's Mountain Manager)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

Jack Glavan provided an update on the Pikes Peak Summit Complex that included a timeline of construction progress; a schedule update for 2019; goals for 2020 and 2021; capital fundraising campaign; donor recognition wall; and an interpretive touch wall.

Board member Carol Beckman asked about the protection of the tundra landscape on top of Pikes Peak during construction. Jack Glavan responded that the tundra areas are not protected; however GE Johnson will be looking at different ways for restoration of the area affected once construction is complete. Board Vice Chairman David Siegel echoed Carol's concerns.

Board member Daniel Bowan asked if there would be a cost increase on the Pikes Peak Highway once the construction of the Summit Complex is complete. Jack Glavan replied that the price will stay steady for now if visitation remains the same. Jack did say that if visitation dropped, the price would be increased to help maintain profit. Jack said there had been no increase since 2010. Daniel reiterated a request to see discounts for area residents in the future. Jack answered that some of the seasonal passes had been decreased and detailed other discounts.

Budget 2020 Update (Presented by Kelly Rajab, Parks Financial Analyst)

Kelly Rajab informed the Board that the full 2020 Budget draft had been posted on the City's website.

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

Board member Daniel Bowan made a request for the City to illustrate how they subsidize certain recreation programs based on importance and relevance to the mission of the program. He let the Board and staff know that the National Park and Recreation Association had been recommending this as a best practice, referred to as a “Cost recovery pyramid.” He felt that the City had somewhat been doing this, but felt that a tiered system would make the information more explicit in regards to the budget.

Staff Updates

Commercial Use Permitting Process – Garden of the Gods (Presented by John Stark, Garden of the Gods Park Manager and Matt Mayberry, Cultural Services Manager)

John Stark distributed a handout to the board regarding the proposed terms and conditions of commercial use permitting in Garden of the Gods Park.

Board member Daniel Bowan requested to see a rate added to the list of fees for commercial uses specific to educational organizations, as they are typically not trying to generate revenue. John Stark responded that the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department is working with the Garden of the Gods Visitors and Nature Center to review applications and would work on a case-by-case basis for different organizations.

Ceremonial Item (time certain 10:00 a.m.)

Timberline Calendar Sponsorship (Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grant Analyst) Tilah Larson acknowledged Stephanie Early, a representative of Timberline Landscaping, for the sponsorship of the 2019 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services calendar and thanked them for their continued support.

Meadows Park Community Center – DAWSON (Presented by Brian Kates, Parks Operation Administrator) DAWSON, a native Hawaii small business that does work in cities all over the United States, including the Colorado springs area, help with the Meadows Park Community Center by coordinating and volunteering for a project day building of a new playground, as well as the renovation of the center’s garden area.

Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) Awards (Presented by Karen Palus, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director) Karen Palus recognized the individuals that received awards during the CPRA Conference and thanked them for their service. This included Mark Snow, program coordinator for the Therapeutic Recreation Program, as he received the Certified TR Specialist award for the state. TOPS was also received an award for innovative programming, recognizing their Traveling Backpack Program.

Additionally, Jeff Cooper spoke about the North End Woodlands Community partnership that received an award from CPRA for their landscaping efforts in their neighborhood. He thanked a few members present from the Old North End Association for their help.

Karen Palus also recognized Mina Liebert for receiving the Community Champion Award from

CPRA.

Board Business

Abby Simpson - Congratulated Karen Palus for her Women of Influence award.

Sarah Bryarly – Provided an overview of the Austin Bluffs Open Space master plan public meeting that was held last Thursday. There was a great turnout by the community.

Daniel Bowan – Was interested in an update on Corral Bluffs after attending the tour. He was wondering how the Parks Department plans to supervise the area now that it has garnered national attention. He felt that there needs to be a plan in place to protect and preserve the area. Britt Haley responded that she has not been widely publicizing the means we are taking action to protect and inventory the area. Both Britt and Matt Mayberry have done several interviews about the area, but did comment that they did not receive much notice after the release of the information about Corral Bluffs. She said that rangers were brought in on a three-step approach: by identifying all of the entrances to the parks and various fenced areas that could be used, installing signage about unlawful entry, and having rangers closing and locking gates daily. We have had two ranger teams identifying boundary lines, as well. Britt did say, that in an interview with KRDO News, she explained that the area was not open yet and that people will be prosecuted if there unlawfully. She added that the Corral Bluffs Alliance is available for guided tours, which people are urged to sign up for. Britt said that there is a need for further analysis paleontologically as well as archeologically so we have information to create a master plan.

David Siegel – The Public Art Master Plan committee is meeting next week with an initial plan from consultants. A LART committee meeting was scheduled to take place later in the day. Added that VisitCOS may want to do some media about the NHL Stadium Series coming to Colorado Springs in February to complement Olympic City USA. Provided an overview of the Downtown Historic master plan meeting earlier this week.

Carol Beckman provided an overview of the TOPS Working Committee. The TOPS Wayfinding committee had a public meeting with stakeholders to refine the concepts, though there was very little public attendance. Karen Palus said many citizens are interested in this process, but some people may not have been able to make the meetings. Carol also gave an overview about a recent Friends of Boulder Park meeting. Carol said she would also like to see a tour of the Summit Complex for the Board. Kim said she would look into it through GE Johnson.

Ron Ilgen stated the Parks Board Orientation was very impressive and thanked staff.

Adjournment

Motion: Move to adjourn the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Board meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Motion Carol Beckman, 2nd David Siegel, Approved, Unanimously

The closed executive session was not held due to time constraints.

Closed Executive Session (Presented by Britt Haley, TOPS Program Manager)

In accord with the City Charter Art. III, §3-60(d) and the Colorado Open Meetings Act, C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4) (a, and e), the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, in Open Session, is to determine whether it will hold a Closed Executive Session. The issues to be discussed involve receipt of legal advice and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations and instructing negotiators regarding a land acquisition matter. The Chair shall poll the Park and Recreation Advisory Board members, and, upon consent of two-thirds of the members present, may hold a closed executive session. If consent to the closed executive session is not given, the item may be discussed in open session or withdrawn from consideration.