



parks · recreation · cultural services

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes - FINAL
January 10, 2019**

Members Present: Jason Rupinski, Carol Beckman, David Siegel, Ron Ilgen, Hank Scarangella, Mina Liebert, Gary Feffer, Daniel Bowan, Michael Phan

Members Absent:

Alternates Present: Sarah Bryarly, Abby Simpson, Brooks Williams, Gregory Thornton

Alternates Absent: Lisa Wieland

Staff Present: Karen Palus, Britt Haley, Kurt Schroeder, Kim King, Anna White, Tilah Larson

Called to Order: Board Chair Mina Liebert brought the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Citizen Discussion

- Gary Barber, Chairman of the Greenway Fund, gave background information on the Greenway Fund's start in 2011 and how it has evolved over the years. He detailed upcoming fundraising opportunities and also presented Karen Palus with a check for \$12,500.00 for a portion of their commitment to the Legacy Loop Grant.

Approval of Minutes – December 13, 2018

Motion – To approve the December 13, 2018 minutes with proposed changes by Parks Board member Carol Beckman.

1st – Carol Beckman, 2nd David Siegel, Approved, Unanimous

Action Items

North Cheyenne Cañon Conservation Stewardship Program – City Council Resolution

(Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grant Analyst)

Motion: Move to support the City's grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the North Cheyenne Cañon Park Stewardship Program.

1st – Carol Beckman, 2nd – Jason Rupinski, Approved, Unanimous

Board Comments:

Board member Carol Beckman asked if this stewardship program would include social trail restoration. Tilah Larson responded that this stewardship program would address social trail closures, invasive species, and other maintenance issues. She said that after a refined scope of work came back from the Rocky Mountain Field Institute [RMFI] and the Department's Regional Parks division, she would have a better idea of what specific work would take place. Carol questioned if closing social trails would include those in the Daniel's Pass area. Tilah replied that most of the closures would take place near the Mesa and Chamberlain Trails, and that most of the restoration would not take place until the new trail is built. Tilah confirmed the new trail in Daniel's Pass was being looked at as a Year Three project. Carol asked where the Chamberlain and Mesa Trail work would take place. David Deitemeyer answered that the work would be behind the Starsmore Discovery Center near the Mesa Picnic Pavilion and would connect the southern extension of the Chamberlain Trail as it exits Stratton Open Space to connect towards the South Cañon trail. This trail would be built before the new section of the Chamberlain Trail. Carol asked if there was a specific kind of restoration happening, to which Tilah replied that it would be general restoration, addressing invasive species. She said staff would be meeting to discuss the day-to-day stewardship in North Cheyenne Cañon for the summer, and what trails would be worked on based on priorities. Tilah said funding would become available in March and wanted the First Year projects to be tackled successfully and plan for larger projects for the following years. Carol's next question was about the invasive species that were going to be handled as part of this program. Tilah responded that the Regional Parks Division was still addressing that and were hoping to have a scope of work the following week. In regards to the volunteer youth corps, Carol wanted to know if this would be a partner program or the Department's own program through this grant. Tilah confirmed there would be no partnerships for the youth corps. Tilah detailed the specifications for the youth corps, which is targeting high schoolers and underserved populations. These volunteers would work 8 to 10 days total over the summer. Tilah stated the goal would be to build this youth corps into a full-time summer program. Carol asked if there was a plan to engage other volunteers to which Tilah replied yes, and that the overall goal was to expand the volunteer base. Carol wanted to confirm the volunteer base would be expanded with help from RMFI and the Friends of Cheyenne Cañon, but there was no direct partnership which Tilah confirmed. Carol's next question was the portion of non-volunteer projects to volunteer only. Tilah responded that most projects were volunteer under the stewardship program, but there was going to be some contracted work taking place for construction. Carol asked if Tilah was looking at any VOC projects to which Tilah answered no. Carol then asked if there would be any VOC projects in parks this summer. David replied that they would have a work day planned with the VOC at Ute Valley Park. Carol commented that the Chamberlain Trail seemed like a trail volunteers could work on. David responded that in the design of the trail, they looked at potentially having a partner like Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates do a rough cut and then volunteers would finish the trail.

Board member Daniel Bowan said he was pleased to see this grant and that it helps the department move in a positive direction to help care for our parks with this type of funding.

Board member Hank Scarangella asked about the funding match for the grant that the City is doing and asked if RMFI or the Friends of Cheyenne Cañon were offering any dollar amount or volunteer help. Tilah responded that the Friends were having their strategic proposal meeting the upcoming weekend to approve their amount, which would be \$10,000 to help fund Crew Leader Training. She said RMFI would be matching as well on the stewardship components, but they were still refining the number.

Board member Ron Ilgen asked what the timeline for this grant would be. Tilah responded that the grant would be approved at the awards session in early March and she anticipated that this grant would begin to be implemented by April 1. He asked if Bear Creek Park was included in this grant, which Tilah responded would be addressed in the next action item.

Bear Creek Canyon Greenback Cutthroat Trout – City Council Resolution (Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grant Analyst)

Board Comments:

Board member Jason Rupinski asked when the money granted to us would have to be spent. Tilah responded that it would have to be spent within two years from the current month. Jason's next question was if Tilah foresaw any issues with the project completion. Tilah replied no, that this has been in the planning process with multiple entities and that they felt ready. Jason asked if there would be any issues recreating around the area during project completion. David Deitemeyer responded that those restrictions had already been put in place during the initial U.S. Forest Service plan. He said a majority of the restrictions are already city regulations but there will be additional signage.

Board member Daniel Bowan asked to see the area on a map for an outline of what the County had done and for some background information on what they had done thus far. Tilah replied that the City would be working on the first $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile up from the caretaker house at the start of Bear Creek Canyon on the in-stream area. She said the plan is to do education related to the project, including interpretive signage and implementing some of that information into a scavenger hunt that will be part of the Bancroft Park improvements. David then highlighted the scope of work on the map.

Board member Carol Beckman asked if this project would extend past High Drive. David responded that it would stop near High Drive. He said additional work would take place higher up to establish trail bridges. Carol commented that the bridges David pointed out already existed, however David mentioned that the current "bridges" are just 12-inch logs and they would rather have 36-inch trail crossings. Carol asked if the work for this project was just to the stream and stream banks, to which David responded yes. Carol's next question was if a social trail closure was holding up in the area. David answered that there was a new alignment to the trail that has been fairly successful. Carol asked how another social area closure was holding up where people used to picnic, and David replied that RMFI had fenced the area off. Carol asked about the amount of non-volunteer versus volunteer projects. David responded that the stream work is all contractor based, but the restoration of High Drive has mostly been volunteer based.

Carol's next question was if the work on High Drive was successful, to which David responded yes. He said that we would see the results from the work on High Drive to reduce sediment in the creek in this upcoming project. Carol's final comment was about the funding for this project, as the Gazette misprinted the amount. David and Tilah clarified the funding sources and amounts: \$75,000 from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, \$52,725 from grant money, and a \$14,000 City match.

Motion: Move to support the Resolution of Acceptance for the Bear Creek Greenback Cutthroat Trout Habitat Restoration Grant.

1st – Carol Beckman, 2nd – Jason Rupinski, Approved, Unanimous

Presentations

Garden of the Gods Park Projects Update (Presented by Karen Palus)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

1. Garden of the Gods Flood Mitigation Facility – Mike Chaves P.E., Engineering Manager
2. Camp Creek Channel Improvements Phase II – Mike Chaves P. E., Engineering Manager
3. Garden of the Gods Archaeological Excavation Update – Matt Mayberry, Cultural Services Manager
4. 30th Street Corridor (Mesa to Fontanero) – Robin Allen P. E., City Engineering
5. Garden of the Gods Infrastructure Improvements – David Deitemeyer, Sr. Landscape Architect
 - There was a formal request in this presentation from Board member Hank Scarangella to see the final schematics of the proposed new bathrooms at the Garden of the Gods.
6. Garden of the Gods Trail Assessment Update and 2018 Field Season Review – Jennifer Peterson, Executive Director of RMFI
7. Garden of the Gods Operations Overview – Kurt Schroeder, Park Maintenance and Operations Manager
8. Garden of the Gods 2018 Interpretive Programming – Bret Tennis, Park Operations Administrator
9. Garden of the Gods Transportation Study – Kim King, Recreation and Administration Manager

Board Business

Gary Feffer

- Board member Gary Feffer mentioned there would be a PLDO meeting later in the month at the City Auditorium to reengage.

Mina Liebert

- Board member Mina Liebert said that LART was receiving reports from larger partnerships.

David Siegel

- Board member David Siegel said the Art Commission was accepting new members. He asked about the timing on the Triple A Parks Master Plan to which Britt Haley responded that the RFP would be posted on January 15.

Carol Beckman

- Board member Carol Beckman would like to be involved in the process as well as the stakeholder group for the TOPS signage project.

Adjournment

Motion: Move to adjourn at 12:40 p.m.

1st – Hank Scarangella, 2nd – Jason Rupinski, Approved, Unanimous