

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services



PR&CS Administration
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Agenda

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Please silence your phone during the meeting.

Thursday, January 12, 2017

7:30 am

Palmer Room

Call to Order

Citizen Discussion

Time for any individual to bring before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board any matter of interest they wish to discuss that is not elsewhere on the agenda. Comments are restricted to three (3) minutes; you will hear an alarm when your time is up. Please contact PR&CS staff no later than the last Wednesday of the month prior if you wish to place a longer presentation on the agenda.

Approval of Minutes- December 8, 2016

Minutes are posted no later than 5:00pm on the Tuesday before the meeting at:

<http://parks.coloradosprings.gov/explore-play/get-involved/boards-committees/parks-and-recreation-advisory-board>

Action Items

2017 Prospect Lake Hour Changes

Kim King

Larry Ochs Sports Complex

Sarah Bryarly

John Venezia Community Park Supplemental Appropriation

Sarah Bryarly

Presentations

Trust for Public Land Parks Economic Benefit Study

Jennifer Plowden

Crest at Woodmen Land Exchange

David Deitemeyer

Staff Report

Switchback's Stadium Name Change

Kurt Schroeder

Numismatic Property – Rock Island Trail Corridor

Sarah Bryarly

CIP Year-End Update

David Deitemeyer

Board Business

Committee Reports/General Comments

Board

Conservation Finance Feasibility Status

Nissa Steinhour

Adjournment

Closed Executive Session

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

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, b 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 If consent to the closed executive session is not given, the item may be discussed in open session or withdrawn from consideration.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: January 12, 2017
Item Number: Action – Item #1
Item Name: 2017 Prospect Lake Schedule

BACKGROUND: Prospect Lake is located in the southeast corner of Memorial Park. The land where the Lake is located was deeded by General William Jackson Palmer in 1890. It served as the reservoir to irrigate Evergreen Cemetery until a non-potable irrigation system was installed in 1950. Since that time, Prospect Lake has served as a recreational amenity for the citizens of Colorado Springs.

CURRENT STATUS:

As one of only a few public lakes within the City limits, Prospect Lake is very popular for both motorized and non-motorized uses. In 2016, 224 annual boating permits for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft were issued. Another 128 non-motorized day passes were issued during the same year resulting in total revenue of \$17,507. To accommodate these varied user groups in a safe and efficient manner, hours of operation are posted. Per standard practice, an annual public meeting was held on November 16, 2016 to review proposed hours of operation for the coming boating season.

Based on feedback from the public, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was presented the proposed schedule changes for Prospect Lake at its December 8th Board meeting. Based on no additional recommendations from the Board, the proposed year-round schedule for Prospect Lake is as follows:

Motorized Hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday	Sunrise to Sunset
Saturday and Sunday	Sunrise to 1 PM (Motorized Boats Only) 1 PM to 5 PM (Personal Watercraft Only)

Non-Motorized Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday	Sunrise to Sunset
Saturday and Sunday	5 PM to Sunset

Any special event/program days or times will be noted within the annual guide and on the City's website as well as being posted onsite. Examples include days reserved for the Department's Therapeutic Recreation program as well as special events including the Labor Day Lift-Off and the Rocky Mountain State Games triathlon.

In other areas beyond 2017 scheduling, staff continues to work with our consultant on development of conceptual plans related to the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Inspire grant which includes possible improvements to Prospect Lake and Memorial Park as well as the Hillside Community Center, Fountain Park and Adams Park. Interested individuals from the

boating community have provided their email addresses and will be notified of upcoming public meetings as the grant submittal is developed in the coming months.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the 2017 Prospect Lake schedule as presented.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion to approve the 2017 Prospect Lake schedule as presented.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Boating Permit Holders and Interested Parties

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: January 12, 2017

Item Number: Action Item # 2

Item Name: Larry Ochs Sports Complex

Summary:

The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department (Parks Department) has proposed a land exchange between the City of Colorado Springs and the New Crossings, Inc., a Colorado Corporation successor by Conversion to SRKO Family Limited Partnership, a Colorado Limited Partnership (New Crossings, Inc.). The proposed land exchange provides an opportunity to achieve several major goals identified in the Colorado Springs Parks System Master Plan including: providing additional sport complexes, providing additional fields in the north portion of Colorado Springs, conservation of water through the use of artificial turf, and to enhance and formulate strong and broad partnerships.

Previous Council Action: N/A

Background:

In January 2013 representative from the Robert Scott Hall Field of Dreams Foundation (Scott Hall Foundation) approached the Parks Department to discuss potential locations for a new sports complex within Colorado Springs. The Scott Hall Foundation arose after the untimely death of Scott Hall, in 2012. He was a champion of youth sports, primarily baseball, on Colorado Springs' north side. It was a dream of his, and others on the Scott Hall Foundation, to have a baseball/softball/soccer park in the north part of Colorado Springs to complement the El Pomar Youth Sports Complex within the southern part of Colorado Springs. Over the next several years the Parks Department and the Scott Hall Foundation worked together to develop a partnership and agreement to work together. The Scott Hall Foundation during this time also worked to assemble of team of professions to develop the design of the sports complex. In the fall of 2015 a press conference was held on the Larry Ochs Sports Complex site to kick start the master planning process.

The first public meeting was held on November 12, 2016. There were about 65 community members who attended this meeting. At this meeting the Parks Department introduced the project and the project team. Immediately concerns were raised by the surround neighborhood about traffic, congestion, noise and light pollution. Upon hearing the concerns, the Parks Department and Scott Hall Foundation, conducted a traffic study and worked with City Traffic Engineers, worked with industry leaders in the sport lighting field, examined potential uses within the Preble Meadow's Jumping Mouse habitat, and access off of Powers Boulevard. In addition the Scott Hall Foundation continued to develop the sports complex design to better articulate to the community how the fields could be aligned and their proximately to surrounding homes.

During the January 20, 2016 meeting Staff presented the information collected. The industry leaders were invited to engage the community. During the meeting the community expressed their concerns and requested the Parks Department to explore alternative access to the property or find a new location. Currently the only access into the Larry Ochs Sports Complex is off of Chapel Ridge Drive. Due to the concern raised by the community, the Parks Department took a break during the master planning process to explore the alternatives proposed by the community. The major options explored including looking at vehicular access from Powers Boulevard (right in, right out), an overpass over Powers, a bridge over Kettle Creek or an alternative site.

Staff contacted the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to understand the feasibility of these options. CDOT will not allow any additional access or overpasses off Powers. Due to the cost of construction and the Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat the bridge over Kettle Creek was not possible. During this time New Crossings, Inc., the property owner of the formal Colorado Crossings, at Voyager Parkway and Interquest Parkway, and the Parks Department engaged in potential opportunities to exchange the existing Larry Ochs Sports Complex site for property within Colorado Crossing. Although the existing Larry Ochs Sports Complex is still a very viable location for the sports complex, citizens during the public process specifically asked Staff to look at different locations for the sports complex.

The proposed exchange advances the needs for a sports complex within the northern part of our community and the desire from the adjacent neighborhood to relocate the sports complex. Although the existing Larry Ochs site is still a very viable location for the sports complex, citizens during the public process specifically asked Staff to look at different locations for the sports complex. There are two potential outcomes for this exchange:

1. The Larry Ochs Sports Complex remains in its current location.
2. The Larry Ochs Sports Complex is relocated to an alternative Location.

If the sports complex remains in its current location the Parks Department will continue the master plan process to develop the park. The master plan will be presented to Parks Board for formal consideration.

If the sports complex is relocated the Parks Department will submit a rezone application to the Planning Department to change the PK zone to a residential zone. A community meeting will be held for this application. The rezone will be presented to the Parks Board as an information item, Planning Commission and City Council for approval.

During this time the Parks Department will reengage the community in master planning the New Crossing, Inc., site as a sports complex. The final design will be present to Parks Board for approval.

Financial Implications:

The costs associated with exchanging properties, include appraisals, surveys and title work. The Parks Department is working with New Crossing, Inc., to share the costs of rezoning the 57.82-acre parcel. Cost sharing includes traffic studies, drainage studies, etc.

Stakeholder Process and Involvement:

The Parks Department has engaged the public in three public meetings, November 12, 2015, January 20, 2016 and November 17, 2016. Between the January public meeting and the November public meeting, the Parks Department explored alternatives that were raised by the public.

Board/Commission Recommendation:

N/A

Staff Recommendation: A motion to recommend this land exchange between the City of Colorado Springs and the New Crossings, Inc.

Proposed Motion: A motion to recommend City Council authorization of the proposed land exchange between the City of Colorado Springs and the New Crossings, Inc.

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: January 12, 2017

Item Number: Action Item #3

Item Name: John Venezia Community Park Supplemental Appropriation

SUMMARY:

The John Venezia Community Park, located at the southwest corner of Briargate Parkway and Union Boulevard, has been on the Parks Master Plan since the 80's. Development of this new community park will provide much needed multi-use sport fields in the north part of our community, currently families have to travel to the southern portion of the community to participate in team sports. Due to this, many families do not participate in team sports because they do not have the time or ability to travel across town. This park will also provide pavilions for both small and larger scale requests. Currently Palmer Park is the furthest north that houses larger scale pavilions.

The community park will also be home to the second Universally Accessible Playground and Sprayground. The first Universally Accessible Playground and Sprayground are also located within the southern portion of town, which prohibits many families from partaking in these amenities. The new Children's Hospital will be constructed across the street from the Venezia Community Park. With the new Universally Accessible Playground, children attending therapy sessions or children visiting loved ones in the Children's Hospital or Memorial Hospital can burn some energy as they run around the park. Doctors and nurses have already expressed their excitement to be able to utilize this park with their patients.

In addition, the tennis and pickleball courts will be the furthest north within our community. With pickleball being the fastest growing sport, at this time, the pickleball community has strongly advocated for courts within the park. When the master plan process was revisited in 2013, one of the revisions made, due to the request of the community, was to add pickleball courts to the park's design. They had not been previously requested during the design of the park in 2006.

Completion of the John Venezia Park will be in July 2017. It is anticipated that revenue generated from the pavilions and multi-use fields will be close to off-setting the maintenance costs.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

City Council has approved a resolution supporting the Great Outdoors Colorado Grant (GOCO) for the Universally Accessible Playground.

BACKGROUND :

The Parks Department began engaging the community in the design of the John Venezia Community Park in 2006. After working for two years on the financing and design of the park, the City had worked out a financial plan that would fund the construction of the community park. However, with two weeks of the park going out for a public bid, the economy declined and the financial institution financing the construction would no longer finance municipalities. As a result the construction of the park was put on hold.

Since 2010, the Parks Department has not been able to construct additional neighborhood parks, due to the cost of on-going maintenance. This slowdown in development of neighborhood parks, allowed the Parks Department to slowly build the fund balances up within the TOPS (Trails, Open Space and Parks) Program, within the Parks Category and the PLDO (Public Space and Development) Fund. In 2014, the Parks Department was able to pull together enough funding from these two funds to construct the first

phase of the community park.

In addition to the funding sources growing, the agreement between the Parks Department and the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) expired for the use of 4-Diamonds Sports Complex. With the closure of this sports complex, it allowed the Parks Department to move the maintenance crew that took care of 4-Diamond, to the Venezia Community Park. This move allowed the Parks Department the ability to add this new community park into the system without the need to increase staff.

Over the past two years the Parks Department has completed appropriations within the yearly City's budget, has applied for grants and attempted to develop partnerships. The Parks Department applied for a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant in the fall of 2016. The selected projects will be announced in March of 2017. The Parks Department also attempted to work out a partnership between Lifetime Fitness, to fund and operate the tennis and pickleball facilities. The Parks Department worked through an agreement with Lifetime Fitness and a representative from the organization came and spoke to City Council in March of 2016 to express how excited they were to enter into this agreement with the Parks Department. After City Council approved the agreement, management of Lifetime Fitness changed at the corporate level and the new management did not support the agreement that was crafted by their staff and the Parks Department. After several attempts to reach out to the corporate level, in August of 2016 the Parks Department finally received an email stating they were willing to financially contribute to half of the cost of the tennis and pickleball facilities; however, they would operate it as a private business totally disregarding the agreement that was previous reached by the Parks Department and Lifetime Fitness representatives. The Parks Department countered with our original agreement, stating the park is a public facility thus the amenities had to be made available to the public. The Parks Department has not heard from Lifetime Fitness since August.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost to construct the John Venezia Community Park is \$13 million. Prior to 2017, the Parks Department had appropriated \$10.8 million for construction of the park. In the 2017 budget, the Parks Department requested \$822,000 from the PLDO account and \$62,000 from the TOPS Trails Category, to complete the Briargate Trail along Briargate Parkway. The funding from the trails category will be coupled with \$62,000 from the missing sidewalk fund. The GOCO grant is pending at \$350,000. This supplemental appropriation for \$800,000 will allow the Parks Department the ability to construct the tennis courts and pickleball courts, as well as a small shade shelter to support the use of the courts.

The PLDO funding comes from development of residential housing within our community. With end of year accounts reconciliations, developers pushing final plats through the system before the end of the year and looking forward to the projections for 2017, the Parks Department is confident this appropriation will complete the construction of the John Venezia Community Park.

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS:

The Parks Department has engaged the public in several community meetings, in 2006 and again in 2013. The Parks Department engaged the community again in 2015 to help design and develop the Universally Accessible Playground to ensure it meets the needs of all children.

ALTERNATIVES:

Parks Board could deny the supplemental appropriation. If denied the Parks Department will complete construction of Phase 1 and the tennis and pickleball courts will be put on the Unfunded List and await future funding.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion to approve the supplemental appropriation for the John Venezia Community Park in the amount of \$800,000, with PLDO funds.