



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes - FINAL  
May 11, 2017**

**Members Present:** Mina Liebert, Gary Feffer, Hank Scarangella (departed after the regular session – absent for the Executive Session), Jason Rupinski, Carol Beckman, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Gary Bostrom, Ron Ilgen

**Members Absent:**

**Alternates Present:** Brooks Williams (departed at 11:50 a.m.)

**Alternates Absent:** Charlie Dunn, Michael Phan

**Staff Present:** Karen Palus, Sarah Bryarly, Kurt Schroeder, Kim King, Christi Mehew

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**Called to Order:** Mina Liebert, Board Chair, brought the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

**Citizen Discussion**

Judith Rice Jones stated the City has lost many trees due to recent storms. The urban forest provides a tremendous benefit to the ecosystem. This topic is covered in the Trust for Public Lands Colorado Springs Economic Benefit Study. She encouraged the Board to discuss this and to put in place funding and infrastructure to protect and enhance the urban forest.

Jim Coonradt, Cottonwood Disc Golf Club member, thanked Charles Castle for meeting with him about the Cottonwood Disc Golf Course redesign. He stated the redesign should be implemented after the Rampart Disc Golf Course is completed. The design lacks some details that need to be included and it is important that the Parks Department is involved. A work day was not allowed and now the work load continues to have a later timeline of completion. The Pikes Peak Flying Disc Club held a meeting and suggested to close down the Cottonwood course due to the impending work and he told them this would not be beneficial. David Deitemeyer stated the meeting was for both Pikes Peak Flying Disc Club and Cottonwood Disc Golf Club. Jim Coonradt was invited to the meeting as a stakeholder representing Cottonwood Disc Golf Club.

Carl Schueler, City Planning Manager, announced a detailed update of the City of Colorado Springs Comprehensive (COS) Plan will be presented to the Board next month. He distributed a handout that included information regarding landscapes, culture, neighborhoods, connections, unique urban places and a vibrant economy.

Tim Bergsten, Race Director of Garden of the Gods, announced the Garden of the Gods 10K Run will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup>. The course is entirely within the boundaries of the park and will finish at Rockledge Ranch with a big party to celebrate 41 years of the event using the garden. A flyer and water bottles were distributed to the Board and Park staff. In addition, he announced that Steve Rothstein, President of the Greenway Fund, will be present at the June meeting and will be bringing a check in the amount of \$25,000 to help fund the Legacy Loop as a part of their \$50,000 pledge.

Gerald Miller stated the stores on Hancock Avenue just outside of Memorial Park are overwhelmed with people using their restrooms. This problem is increasing due to the public not wanting to use the portable restrooms. The Outdoor Project at Prospect Lake would be beneficial due to it being a low income area and would help get children off the streets.

Susan Davies, Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) Executive Director, shared that this past Saturday a new equestrian skills course opened in Bear Creek Park. This is the first one in the country and free for anyone to come and learn riding skills. The Bike Master Plan public meeting was last week and 360 people attended. The Colorado Springs Bicycle Summit will be held at UCCS on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in Berger Hall with great topics that include EBikes.

#### **Approval of Minutes** – April 13, 2017

Motion – To approve the April 13, 2017 minutes.

1st – Charles Castle, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gary Bostrom, Approved, Unanimous

#### **Action Items**

**Reagan Ranch at Banning Lewis Ranch** (Presented by Connie Perry, Landscape Architect II)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: the Banning Lewis Master Plan; master plan amendment; and Park Land Dedication requirements.

- Connie Perry introduced Eric Smith from Matrix Design who was present to answer questions.
- The project is located southeast of Marksheffel Road and Hwy 94 (bordered by Space Village Avenue on the north). The total property is 162.12 acres in size with approximately half of the land use proposed as single and multi-family residential, and the other half as Office/Industrial (Research & Development), and Community Commercial.
- The Land Use application creates a new Reagan Ranch Concept Plan within the larger Banning Lewis Ranch Master Plan, with an associated Parkland Dedication requirement of 11.30 acres. The applicant proposes to satisfy the 11.30 acre obligation through one 4.16 acre neighborhood park to service this new community; with the remaining 7.14 acres satisfied through Fees in Lieu of Land Dedication.

- The Reagan Ranch future parkland is to be dedicated to (and eventually built and maintained by) the City of Colorado Springs.
- Per current ordinance, this parkland is to be zoned PK in conjunction with and before dedication to the City, by the applicant.
- Developers in conjunction with the Department look at the service radius and the number of homes to determine how much acreage is appropriate for a neighborhood park versus paying fees.
- Eric Smith stated at this time the size of the proposed development is insufficient to support creation of a Metro District.
- Board member Scot Hume asked how the Parks Department would sustain this park. Connie Perry replied that today the board is approving the land dedication and rezoning of the project.
- Board member Gary Bostrom inquired about the neighborhood park construction process. Kurt Schroeder responded it would be in the queue of a long list of parks and as dollars for operations and maintenance are available parks are constructed.
- Board member Gary Feffer expressed concern regarding setting a precedent for the future as similar requests will come before the Board. Once the Board decides to dedicate the parkland, then the Department is committed to complete the project; however, the construction will not happen for years due to the long project list.
  - Sarah Bryarly replied that this is how the Parkland Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) process has been implemented and the procedure is not new. This is the Board's opportunity to make a recommendation. Now is the time to ask for the land due to this development plan submitted. This opportunity potentially will not exist in the future and funding opportunities could change in the future.
  - Gary Feffer asked when the project would begin. Eric Smith stated they hope to begin construction within two to three years with a three to four year build out.
  - Gary Feffer inquired about the idea of making it a pocket park as part of the overall development project. Sarah Bryarly replied pocket parks are small and can only take on one element and the usage is then very low.
  - Gary Feffer stated that if this proposal is approved the builder will be entitled to advertise the park in promotional materials to prospective buyers.
  - Gary Feffer said he will not approve this type of project in the future and it is important that this issue be discussed. Sarah Bryarly replied that what is presented is following the current PLDO ordinance. The Department is currently working with auditors and testing various models to modify the PLDO process. Karen Palus offered to have the PLDO process presented at the next Board meeting. In addition, she stated that PLDO modifications are needed in the future. Money is available for construction; however, does not exist for operations and maintenance.
- Board member Hank Scarangella asked about the timeline for this project and the desire to have more time to make a decision. He would like time to consult with City Council since this issue will continue to be presented as Banning Lewis Ranch develops and knowing how Council members see this situation would be helpful. He stated that this item should have come before the Board as a presentation first and then an action item.

Connie Perry stated that sometimes schedules and information isn't available to present the project sooner. The next step is approval from the Planning Commission and then approval from City Council. Sarah Bryarly stated that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board need to evaluate the project on the merit presented if the developer is meeting all the PLDO requirements, then each individual plan needs to be evaluated to move forward.

- Board member Charles Castle stated this is not a good way to do business and a precedent is being set.
- Board member Ron Ilgen stated an amendment to the motion could be made that the Board approves the project with the recommendation that the PLDO process be modified.
- Board member Gary Bostrom stated the developer has met the requirements. The Board can look at the PLDO ordinance and make modification recommendations.

Susan Davies, TOSC Executive Director, stated this is a great discussion and more dialogue is needed. People move to Colorado Springs and want a park in their neighborhood. Please remember that City Council did not support the tax increase for Parks that was recently recommended so a disconnect exists.

Motion: A motion approving the Banning Lewis Ranch Land Use Master Plan, creating a new Reagan Ranch Concept Plan, satisfying the Parkland Ordinance through one Neighborhood Park site (4.16 Acres) with the remaining (7.14 acres) to be satisfied through Fees in Lieu of Land dedication.

1<sup>st</sup> – Gary Bostrom, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ron Ilgen  
Charles Castle - Nay  
Scott Hume - Nay  
Carol Beckman – Yay  
Gar Feffer – Yay  
Mina Liebert – Yay  
Hank Scarangella – Yay  
Jason Rupinski – Yay

Passed: 7 yays to 2 nays.

**Minor Amendment to the Prospect Lake area of Memorial Park** (Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grants Analyst)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: project background; minor amendment to the Prospect Lake area of the Memorial Park Master Plan; Prospect Lake – Inspire Hub; Prospect Lake – long term vision for improvements; Fountain Park minor plan amendment; Fountain Park – Inspire Hub; Fountain Park – concept ideas; Inspire implementation grant; Prospect Lake – Initiative

grant focus; Prospect Lake – Inspire Initiative requests; Fountain Park – Inspire Initiative ideas; programs and pathways; and next steps.

- As part of the GOCO Inspire planning process the Pikes Peak Coalition identified opportunities to engage youth and families at Prospect Lake. The site and improvements offered at Prospect Lake address barriers including time, transportation, money, access, and lack of interest, which inhibit kids from getting outside and developing the lifelong passion for the great outdoors.
- Minor master plan improvements include incorporating nature-based improvements at Prospect Lake, such as creating a naturalized lake edge; expanding the playground facilities to include natural play components; a youth fishing pond; improvements to the beach house; and expanding on water play opportunities.
- Staff has worked with members of the Hillside and Adams neighborhoods, Rogers and Adams Elementary Schools, and community youth through a variety of meetings and events.
  - 1000+ responses from youth and adults through a community survey.
  - 4 events and 450 youth engaged at youth directed workshops and events.
  - 63 community members and youth provided feedback at an Adams School community event.
  - 38 community members attended a Prospect Lake Boating community meeting.
  - 33 community members attended a Prospect Lake public meeting.
- Board member Carol Beckman asked if there is a text to describe the amendments to the areas. Tilah Larson replied that the master plan has been implemented and the amendments we are proposing today are shown on the map that is presented.
- Board member Scot Hume asked if the beach house at Prospect Lake would be available for use. Tilah Larson replied that they hope to have it opened more regularly and identified as a programming place for activities that will occur at the lake.
- Board member Ron Ilgen asked why were these locations chosen. Tilah Larson responded that the entire Southeast Colorado Springs was evaluated and they chose the Hillside area as it was identified as an area for underserved youth and Prospect Lake was high on the list due to the water activities that could be implemented.
- Board member, Jason Rupinski inquired if the Parks Department has addressed the concerns of the community and if the department does not receive this grant what happens next. Tilah Larson stated the Department has addressed the concerns of the community and they may have to be flexible in scheduling hours on Prospect Lake for non-motorized activities as they anticipate increased participation. There are other grants the Department can apply for if the GOCO grant is not awarded.
- Board member Mina Liebert inquired if the Department would have enough matching dollars from the PLDO account and various providers. Tilah Larson replied that they are looking at two other grant opportunities and feel there will be enough to fund the project.

Gerald Miller , citizen, recommended a light house for the Prospect Lake area.

Motion: A motion to approve the minor amendment to the Prospect Lake area of the Memorial Park Master Plan.

1<sup>st</sup> – Jason Rupinski, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle, Approved, Unanimous

**Minor amendment to the Fountain Park Master Plan** (Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grants Analyst)

- As part of the GOCO Inspire planning process the Pikes Peak Coalition identified opportunities to engage youth and families at Fountain Park. The site and improvements offered at Fountain Park address barriers including time, transportation, money, access, and lack of interest, which inhibit kids from getting outside and developing the lifelong passion for the great outdoors.
- Minor master plan improvements include incorporating recreation opportunities at Fountain Park to provide a youth dedicated biking facility. Biking amenities such as a strider pump track, learn to bike zone, staged trail loops, and elevated features provide an opportunity for youth to build skills and interests in a safe and contained environment constructed specifically for their needs and interests.
- Additional amenities would include a cross-country trail to support the Girls on the Run program, restrooms, a gateway to promote the facility, art elements, and additional pavilion space to support events and provide a viewing space for parents.
- Staff has worked with members of the Hillside and Adams neighborhoods, Rogers and Adams Elementary Schools, and community youth through a variety of meetings and events.
  - 1000+ responses from youth and adults through a community survey.
  - 3 events and 35 youth engaged at youth directed workshops and events.
  - 4 community members participated in a Fountain Park public meeting.

Motion: A motion to approve the minor amendment to the Fountain Park Master Plan.

1<sup>st</sup> – Charles Castle, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Carol Beckman, Approved, Unanimous

**Inspire Grant Implementation Grant Application and Resolution** (Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grants Analyst)

- The Pikes Peak Coalition focused on the Hillside and Adams neighborhoods as a target region. As part of the planning process and based on GOCO's direction, the coalition identified opportunities for improvements to local places, programming that engages youth and families from the backyard to the backcountry, and career pathways that provide internships and job opportunities.
- Local backyard improvements to parkland include expanding recreation opportunities at Fountain Park to incorporate a youth dedicated biking facility and nature-based improvements at Prospect Lake, such as creating a naturalized lake edge, expanding the playground facilities to include natural play components, a youth fishing pond, improvements to the beach house, and expanding on water play opportunities.
- GOCO will award up to a \$3 million grant, which has a required 25% overall match with at least 10% cash and 15% in-kind.

- Cash match for parkland improvements: \$250,000 from Parkland Dedication Ordinance Funds.
- Match requirements for programming and pathways: Each program provider is responsible for providing the necessary match for their proposed programming and career pathways.
- Additional in-kind services and grant opportunities will be sought in support of the grant.

**Motion:** A motion to approve the request to apply for a Great Outdoors Colorado Inspire Implementation Grant.

1<sup>st</sup> – Ron Ilgen, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle, Approved, Unanimous

**Bancroft Park Master Plan** (Presented by David Deitemeyer, Park Planner)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: overview; planning team; what is an action plan; neighborhood park; Bancroft Park service radius; Bancroft Park history; band shell fire; existing conditions; Bancroft Park action plan process - what has happened: Bancroft Park action plan - guiding principles; online survey results; community meeting #1; Bancroft Park action plan project goals; community meeting #2; alternative 1; alternative 2; alternative 3; design concept board; proposed action plan ; proposed action plan achieving project goals; proposed action plan feedback – comments in support and comments of concern; timeline; and next steps.

- On January 27, 2017 a fire occurred in the band shell structure located at Bancroft Park, 2408 W. Colorado Avenue, in Old Colorado City.
- With support from City Council, City Parks staff has initiated a public process to gauge the community’s interest in reconstructing the band shell and enhancing both it and the park. The action plan’s goals (1) seek to modify Bancroft Park to fit the existing and historic character of Old Colorado City and be respectful to the neighborhood context, (2) provide a balance between the protection of the historic elements of the park and surrounding community with the renovation of the park, (3) provide for both active and passive recreational needs within the community, to address everyday use as well as special events, and (4) create an action plan that is affordable and can be implemented.
- Three alternatives were presented and a consensus from the meeting was to select option 1: a plan that moved the restrooms from the band shell into a separate building adjacent to Colorado Avenue, expand the activity plaza space, remove the existing picnic pavilion, secure the band shell when not in use from special events (in addition to the repair of the building), and restrict vehicular access to Colbrunn Court during special events (otherwise to remain open to travel with parking).
- A Bancroft Park Action Plan update was provided at the April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Park staff revised the selected alternative to create a proposed action plan.
- A \$25,000 deductible is required by the City insurance policy for the fire damaged band shell. On March 28, 2017, City Council approved a supplemental appropriation in the

amount of \$250,000 to go toward reconstruction of the band shell and park enhancements. The Parks Department will be requesting \$225,000 from the TOPS Parks category in the 2018 budget to also go toward this project with additional fundraising efforts to continue as well.

- Board member Ron Ilgen asked David Deitemeyer if he had addressed a citizen's concern regarding accurate historical information. David replied he has made the corrections.
- Board member Hank Scarangella asked about the rationale behind removing the restrooms from the bandshell. David Deitemeyer replied it was a safety concern and by putting the restrooms near Colorado Avenue it created more visibility and ADA access is better. Kurt Schroeder stated the restrooms will be open as much as possible and staff is considering timers and motion sensors; however, they will be locked overnight.
- Three documents were distributed to the board that included: a map of the proposed action plan, emails received and the online survey results.
- Board member Scot Hume stated he liked the concept; however, was concerned about the homeless using the restrooms as well as using outlets to plug in their cellphones. Kurt Schroeder replied it is difficult to limit outlets; however, if a special event occurs their will be electrical access; otherwise access will not be available.
- Board member Charles Castle inquired if local businesses near the park were involved in the process. David Deitemeyer stated they had a meeting with them this morning as well as all businesses within 1000 feet of the park were asked to participate in the community meetings.
- Board member Gary Bostrom asked if the lighting will be adjustable for public safety as well as the irrigation footprint be reduced. David Deitemeyer responded that staff will consider this element when designing the electrical service. There is some reduction in the turf area but it's not substantial. The irrigation system was redone three years ago and only a small modification is needed.
- Board member Carol Beckman stated it was a good idea to remove the pavilion and fees for events. David Deitemeyer stated that fees for special events will still be considered and are based on the number of participants for the special event. These fees will continue to help cover the park's costs. Kim King stated pavilion rentals do help but do not cover all costs.
- Board member Carol Beckman inquired about what the Parks Department can do about the transients in the Park. David Deitemeyer stated the more the community uses the area the less likely this will be an issue.

David Hughes, citizen, stated there is a timecapsule in the pavilion in Bancroft Park and he wants to make sure that contractors save it when they start construction. He requested that it be given to the Old Colorado City Society which is across the street from the park. In addition, please take into account that the public will use the restroom a lot if it is placed very close to Colorado Avenue.

Jim Thompson, Organization of the Westside Neighbors (OWN) President, stated with the upcoming improvements to the park there will be a lot of activities so he anticipates the homeless problem going away. He thanked the Parks Department for moving on this project



quickly and hopes to continue the conversation and transparency. OWN will be having a summer picnic at Bancroft Park on Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, with the proceeds to support rebuilding Bancroft Park through the Old Colorado City Foundation.

Welling Clark, Organization of the Westside Neighbors (OWN) past President, thanked the Parks Department and specifically David Deitemeyer, Kurt Schroeder and Karen Palus. He is pleased with the “phased” approach. Concerns include: that parking is limited, closing the bandshell when it is not in use; and considering installing two cameras for security and safety.

Susan Davies, TOSC Executive Director, stated she likes the playground and bike racks and maybe this could be a bikeshare location. The tables are ADA accessible and it would be great if people could walk around the park perimeter to make it age friendly.

Motion: A motion recommending the approval of the Bancroft Park Action Plan, amending the Bancroft Park Master Plan.

1<sup>st</sup> – Charles Castle, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jason Rupinski, Approved, Unanimous

### **Presentation**

**Larry Ochs Sports Complex** (Presented by Sarah Bryarly, Interim Design and Development Manager)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: project team; process; givens; meeting ground rules; sports complex location; need for fields; who is Larry Ochs and Scott Hall; formation of the Scott Hall Field of Dreams Foundation; Scott Hall Field of Dreams Board of Directors; community need for facility; program details; design and consideration; operation plan; planning process; sports complex relocation process; design; aerial map with both site locations; Victory Ridge; sports complex lighting; small group work; and next steps.

### **Action Items**

**2018 Fees & Charges** (Presented by Kim King, Recreation and Administration Manager)

[Link to Exhibits](#)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: fees and charges process; and proposed fees.

- The policy requires an annual evaluation of program costs in addition to the determination of fees and charges. Staff has performed this annual update and has proposed 2018 fees and charges to meet the projected revenue required as part of the Department’s 2018 budget submittal.

- The City also has a new Revenue Policy and User Fee Policy (Exhibit B) which the Department is utilizing as a guide in determining its fee structure. An analysis of the demand for services, as well as a periodic comparison within the local market is made by staff to determine pricing levels.
- An effort has been made to recover between 25% and 30% of direct costs for the therapeutic recreation and community center programs.
- The goal is to recover between 90% and 100% of direct costs for youth and adult sports, Sertich Ice Center, and the City Auditorium.
- The Parks Department staff, as well as staff from the Fiscal and Strategic Planning Office, have analyzed and reviewed selected fees of other comparable cities and the proposed fees for Colorado Springs are competitive.
- A revenue increase of approximately \$73,160 and a capital improvement fund increase of \$14,500 are anticipated through the proposed revisions. The proposed fees and charges for 2018 are included in Exhibit A. Revised fees are highlighted in yellow.
- Board member Carol Beckman inquired about the cost needed to be recovered for South Slope. Kim King replied it is the cost of seasonal staff to include: checking parking lots; emptying trash; and monitoring hourly staff. Jon Carlson stated it is also for vehicle maintenance, gas, equipment for the area and supplies.

Motion: A motion recommending approval of the 2018 fees and charges as shown on Exhibit A.

1<sup>st</sup> – Scot Hume, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle, Approved, Unanimous

**2018 Cemetery Fees & Charges** (Presented by Kim King, Recreation and Administration Manager)

[Link to Exhibits](#)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: fees and charges process; proposed fees; and market data.

- The City of Colorado Springs owns two cemeteries, Evergreen and Fairview, that are enterprise operations which must adjust fees and charges to continue to be self-sufficient. It is imperative that the cemeteries not only cover the costs of their operations, but additionally it is important to make money in order to fund a growing list of capital needs.
- The City has a new Revenue Policy and User Fee Policy (Exhibit B) which the Department is also utilizing as a guide in determining its fee structure. An analysis of the demand for services, as well as a periodic comparison within the local market is made by staff to determine pricing levels. By definition, an enterprise operation has as a goal to recover 100% or more of its operational costs.
- The proposed fee schedule will generate an estimated \$123,565 in fee revenue. If the Cemetery Enterprise does not periodically increase fees and charges to cover increased

operating expenses, draws from the Cemetery Fund Balance and/or capital improvement reductions will be necessary.

- Board member Charles Castle inquired about the past RFI process that was conducted for cemeteries. Kim King responded that they looked into partnership and management opportunities with Shrine of Remembrance and what could work best for both operations. The Department is currently working on a commercial and doing advertising with KOAA and developing a possible mobile application that can provide information regarding the cemetery.
- Board member Carol Beckman inquired if some charges can be increased to help meet capital needs. Kim King replied the Department looked at market information and felt the increase proposed was appropriate and they are moving along as fast as possible to keep up with the market and costs.

**Motion:** A motion recommending that City Council approve the proposed fee increases for the Cemetery Enterprise effective January 1, 2018 as shown on Exhibit A.

1<sup>st</sup> – Charles Castle, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gary Bostrom, Approved, Unanimous

### **Staff Reports**

**2018 Budget Overview** (Presented by Kelly Rajab, Parks Financial Analyst)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

[Link to Historical Funding PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: budget development and timeline; 2018 general fund budget; and 2017 budget – key dates.

- Board member Hank Scarangella asked Christi Mehew, Administrative Technician, to email the historical spreadsheet from 2007 – 2017.

### **Action Items**

**2018 Capital Improvement Project Recommendations (CIP)** (Presented by Sarah Bryarly, Interim Design, Development and TOPS Manager)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: budget process and timeline; funding CIP sources; informing the budget process; estimated 2018 revenue listed by fund; TOPS Trails category recommendations; TOPS Parks category recommendations; TOPS Open Space category recommendations; TOPS fund summary 2017 estimated fund balance; Conservation Trust Fund recommended projects; Parkland Dedication fund recommended projects; Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority recommended projects; additional unfunded priority projects – CIP needs; and additional unfunded priority projects – Facilities needs.

- Citizens and visitors have consistently commented that the Colorado Springs trails are fantastic; however, the wayfinding signage is terrible. The signs tell users what trail they

are on but not how to get to another trail or area. This is a complex issue which will take time, energy and money. The goal is for new signage to be implemented on all TOPS Open Space properties.

- Hank Scarangella inquired if the results of the study will benefit all parks. Sarah Bryarly replied it will primarily benefit Open Space areas. The Legacy Loop signage package was developed specifically for the Legacy loop; however, certain aspects are being used for other trails and parks. This study would be similar.
- Carol Beckman inquired if there will be a standardized design for signage. Sarah Bryarly replied that the signage package for the Legacy Loop includes multiple signage designs. These designs were distributed to the Board to see what the package could potentially look like. Sarah Bryarly stated the signage package will be slowly implemented as funding becomes available.
- The Chamberlain Trail has been moved out of the Open Space category and into the Trails category, to be funded through the fund balance.
- Some members of the TOPS Working Committee during their April meeting expressed concern regarding a heavy touch used in Stratton Open Space for forest mitigation. Due to these concerns the Parks Department increased the resource management category to \$680,000 to implement a lighter touch. The cost increase is due to the cost of manpower as well as purchasing a new grinder.
- Scot Hume stated he wrote a proposal for the board to consider and discuss after the comments that were stated at the May TOPS Working Committee meeting and the City Council/Parks Board meeting. He distributed the proposed motion to the board.

[Link to Scot Hume's proposal](#)

- Karen Palus stated the TOPS Working Committee's April meeting consisted of an hour conversation regarding forest mitigation in Stratton Open Space. She had a followup meeting with City Council President Richard Skorman who appreciated the Department for adjusting the budget for forest mitigation.
- Carol Beckman asked why the Bancroft Park Master Plan implementation has a larger dollar amount budgeted than the North Cheyenne Canon Master Plan. Sarah Bryarly responded that it is a different plan and Bancroft Park has hard infrastructure versus North Cheyenne Canon which has more soft infrastructure. The North Cheyenne Canon Master Plan can be coupled with grants and donations from Friends groups. Implementation of North Cheyenne Canon can occur over several years, where Bancroft needs to be implemented at one time.

Bob Falcone recommended to the Board to not defer the money that is in the proposed budget for the North Cheyenne Canon Master Plan and to begin this process in the Spring of 2018. He stated 500,000 people visit this area a year and the master plan budget dollars can be stretched with grants and donations as Sarah Bryarly mentioned.

Susan Davies stated the TOSC Advocacy Committee met this week and recommended that the Chamberlain Trail be moved out of the Open Space category and into the Trails category and

the Stewardship fund not be increased in 2018. The TOSC Advocacy Committee also encourages the Board to ask for more money out of the general fund for the Parks Department.

Kent Obee complimented Sarah Bryarly for reconsidering putting the Chamberlain Trail funding under the Trails category. When TOPS passed twenty years ago 2% was allocated for maintenance, in 2003 it was increased to 3%. In 2017, 50% of the TOPS budget was allocated on non-acquisition purposes which is too much of a stretch. He encouraged the Board not to increase the stewardship funding and keep it at the same amount of \$738,900.

- Board member Scot Hume proposed a motion that include #2, #4, and #6 of his proposed motion handout.

Motion: To approve the 2018 Capital Improvement Project Recommendations with the following amendments:

- 2) Keep Open Space Stewardship at the April presentation amount of \$738,900.
- 4) Add \$125,000 for Garden of the Gods transportation plan and restroom facility implementation from the Parks category within the Fund Balance.
- 6) Reduce the \$125,000 signage study to \$25,000.

1<sup>st</sup> – Scot Hume, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle

- Board chair Mina Liebert inquired if a signage study can be implemented with \$25,000.
- Board member, Scot Hume stated he will amend the proposal and remove #6 and therefore keep the signage study budget at \$125,000.
- Board member Carol Beckman stated if the Board chooses to reduce stewardship is everyone okay with the forest mitigation process. Sarah Bryarly stated each property is evaluated on a case by case basis. Dennis Will, Staff Forester, will look at the budget and create a prescription which may mean the Forestry Department mitigates less acreage per year.
- Board member Hank Scarangella stated concerns about the increase in stewardship dollars which is substantial and marked for one issue, forest mitigation.
- Board member Gary Feffer expressed concern that forest management is the sacrifice. He is hesitant to play with these numbers if the TOPS tax goes for a vote again in two years. Karen Palus stated TOPS dollars are being used exactly how it is stated in the ordinance and properties need to be taken care of that is purchased.
- Board member Ron Ilgen stated if the stewardship fund stays the same, is the Board concerned about setting a precedent.
- Board member Jason Rupinski stated it is not an issue of not supporting forestry, it's a matter of not increasing the dollars. The Department did their due diligence based on the reaction to the concerns of the TOPS Working Committee. The board does care; however, they do not want the stewardship fund to increase to a large amount.
- Board member Hank Scarangella stated he was conflicted about the Garden of the Gods amendment since staff did not recommend this change originally and if this is a wise use of funds.

- Board Chair Mina Liebert stated there will always be priorities that rise to the top based on need and opportunity. This was a discussion that occurred with City Council and this is a start to move something forward that has already been in the works.

Motion: To approve the 2018 Proposed TOPS CIP Budget with the following amendments:

- 2) Keep Open Space Stewardship at the April presentation amount of \$738,900.
- 4) Add \$125,000 for Garden of the Gods transportation plan and restroom facility implementation from the Parks category from the Fund Balance.

1<sup>st</sup> – Scot Hume, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle, Approved, Unanimous

### **Presentations**

**SIMD Update** (Presented by Jon Carlson, SIMD Unit Administrator)

- This was not presented due to time constraints and will be presented at the June meeting.

**Golf Fee Increases** (Presented by Pat Gentile, Golf Course Superintendent)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: mission statement; fee maintenance history; non-potable water increases; percentage of overall budget; minimum wage increase; course comparisons with increase; exhibit “A” golf fees and charges; revenue versus expenses for Patty Jewett 2009-2020; revenue versus expenses for Valley Hi; invest in both facilities; looking ahead; and the public process.

\*The Board recessed to attend the Legacy Loop Groundbreaking Ceremony.

[Link to handouts distributed during meeting](#)

### **Board Business**

Jason Rupinski – TOPS Working Committee meeting in May was very productive and the board today has addressed all topics.

Ron Ilgen – The Arts Commission will be having upcoming events that are related to downtown Colorado Springs. The Gazette has an article in today’s paper regarding the Summit House.

Gary Feffer stated the Olympic Museum groundbreaking ceremony is on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Charles Castle inquired about the progress of the City Auditorium RFI process, the status of the Numismatic building and Meadows Park Community Center security system. Kim King replied the RFI deadline is June 2<sup>nd</sup> and she will email him the City Auditorium RFI response. The security system at Meadows Park Community Center should have their last inspection by next

week. Karen Palus stated that the Parks Department owns the Numismatic building but the inside is not usable.

Gary Bostrom stated the trees that were planted in the Nevada Street medians are great.

Mina Liebert

- 56 applications were submitted to the Lodgers Automobile Rental Tax Advisory Committee and they plan to review them in June or early July.
- The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board openings in July will be posted tomorrow and offered to the public to apply. City Council President, Richard Skorman, City Council member Jill Gaebler and myself will be conducting interviews to fill these positions.

Karen Palus recognized board member Gary Bostrom as the 2017 recipient of the Bob Appel “Friend of the Arkansas” award.

**Adjournment**

Motion: Move to adjourn at 1:52 p.m.

1<sup>st</sup> – Charels Castle, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gary Bostrom, Approved, Unanimous

**Closed Executive Session**

*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.*

Motion: To move into a Closed Executive Session.

1<sup>st</sup> – Carol Beckman, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle , Approved, Unanimous

Motion: To move to adjourn from the Closed Executive Session

1<sup>st</sup> – Gary Bostrom, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Charles Castle, Approved, Unanimous