

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
Wednesday, August 7, 2019 – 5:01 p.m.
AMC, SAND CREEK ROOM, 4TH FLOOR, 80012

MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Shannon Crouthers, Chair; Bobbie McClure, Vice-Chair; Mark Burry, Steve Sundberg, Kellen Schull, Jessie Van Gundel, Pamela Akiri.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Danielle Lammon (Excused), Terry Todd (Excused).

OPEN SPACE BOARD MEMBERS: Victoria Samuel, Chair; Suzy Cress, Vice-Chair; Wayne Gallagher, Lee Lindholm, Brad Stratton, Tom Isaacson, Susan Bruce, Bob Hunchberger.

OTHERS PRESENT: Brooke Bell, Interim PROS Director; John Wesolowski, Manager of Parks and Forestry; Pat Schuler, Manager of Open Space & Natural Resources; Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation; Michelle Teller, Planning Design Recreation & Open Space; Sarah Maier, Management Assistant; Melvin Wardlow, Recording Secretary; Tina Bishop, Mundus Bishop; and Julie Blue of Denver Botanical Gardens.

OTHERS ABSENT: None.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** By Parks & Recreation Board Chair, Shannon Crouthers at 5:03p.m.
- II. **INTRODUCTIONS** – *None*
- III. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** The Agenda for the August 7, 2019 meeting were approved after a motion was made by Member Burry and seconded by Member Sundberg.
- IV. **ADOPTION OF PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES:** The Minutes for the July 3, 2019 meeting were approved after a motion was made by Member Lammon and seconded by Member Sundberg.
- V. **PUBLIC MEETING:** Plains Conservation Center Master Plan Amendment.
Approval of master plan. Pat Schuler, Manager of Open Space & Natural Resources explained the city has owned the Plains Conservation Center since the mid 1990's and a non-profit group managed the site. The city has recently taken over the management of the site and discovered there is a lot of maintenance needed. A new master plan was needed to address the maintenance needs and educational programing and use of the site. Tina Bishop with Mundus Bishop, explained that they are the consultants that have been working on the site master plan since January of this year. Education and conservation were the main driving forces and Mundus Bishop held pop-up events and public

meetings for the communities input on site. Tina Bishop shared the design drawings and the layout of the master plan site.

Board Questions

- How much will the project cost? The project cost is estimated to cost between \$30 to \$40 million dollars (2019 costs) and will be dependent available funding; and will most likely require public-private partnerships and grants to complete.
- Do the local residents have a problem with rattle snakes coming into their yard? Usually local residents do not have a problem with rattle snakes coming into their yards.
- Depending on what you build, what is the time line for completion? Approximately five to ten years and will be dependent on available funding.
- Will the event area be a new building? The building would be designed to blend into the area landscape and to be unobtrusive to area neighbors. The building provides space for indoor-outdoor programming and small events.
- What is the status of the prairie dogs? There was an anomaly causing the prairie dog population to dip but the population is coming back this year.
- They have had sheep and donkeys on the PCC. Will they continue to have them there? Yes, the practice of having sheep and donkeys at the Plains Conservation Center will continue.
- Is there any issue with the ground water? No, there is not an issue with the ground water at the Plains Conservation Center.
- Is there a plan for an animal crossover? No, Buckley Airforce Base will not allow it.

Public Comments – Residents really love the Plains Conservations Center. Chair Crouthers motioned to approve Plains Conservation Center Master Plan as is. Vice Chair McClure seconded the motion. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board approved the Master Plan.

VII. **PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

a. Interim Director Bell updated board on the following items:

- The application period for the PROS Director position has closed. The tentative timeline is to fill the position by the end of September or earlier October.
- Tollgate Trail Expansion Phase 2 is out to bid.
- Red-tailed Hawk Park inclusive playground grand opening is scheduled for Saturday, August 24th and will begin at 9:00 am.
- Moorhead Park playground construction will be completed in time for the Go Wild event on Saturday, September 7th.
- Triple Creek Trail Head is now open, located at Colfax and Tower.
- City council approved the new Aurora Youth Commission Ordinance allowing Non-Aurora students that attend Aurora High Schools to be a part of the Aurora Youth Commission.

VIII. **BOARD ISSUES**

a. Goals and Objectives 1st & 2nd Quarter 2019 Tracking Sheets due to Manager Sack.

b. Revising Manager Monthly Report Revision - TBD

c. Future Meeting Topics:

- i. MEET A PROS - Pat Schuler, Manager of Open Space & Natural Resources, Buckley Buffer Project Update
- ii. MEET A PROS - John Wesolowski, Manager of Manager of Parks, Forestry and O&M Update
- iii. MEET A PROS - Brooke Bell, Interim Director of PROS, 2020 Budget Overview

IX. **CHAIR'S/MEMBERS' REMARKS**

a. Neighborhood Comments - None.

b. Other - Chair Crouthers added a new segment to board meetings, having board members give a presentation on a park or recreation center they have visited. Member Akiri volunteered to do the first presentation.

X. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

XI. **OTHER:** None.


XII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

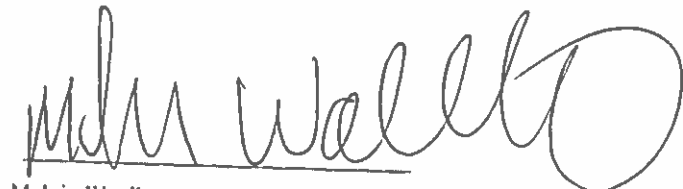
a. Go Wild West - Moorhead Park, 2390 Havana St. Aurora Colorado: 9/7/2019

b. Punkin Chunkin - Arapahoe Park Race Track, 26000 E Quincy Ave. 9/21/2019-9/22/2019

c. Veterans Salute - 7711 E. Academy Blvd. Denver Colorado 11/6/2019

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** Member Schull made a motion to adjourn and Member Burry seconded. The motion passed at 6:45 p.m.


Shannon Crouthers, Chair
Parks & Recreation Board


Melvin Wardlow, Recording Secretary

ADOPTED 9/6/19

NOTE: By simple majority vote, Board may re-establish Agenda under. Quorum is reached with five members.