



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.

WebEx Meeting

MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Shannon Crouthers, Chair, Bobbie McClure, Vice-Chair, Rick Eriksen, Marty Tessmer, Danielle Lammon, Nick Kinney, Angela Zbikowski, Mike Ely, Steve Sundberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space; Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation; Tracy Young, Manager of Parks, Planning, Design & Construction; Jan Hamburg, Superintendent of Youth Programs; Jill Emery, Recreation Specialist; Donna Weatherwax, Preschool Recreation Specialist; Cameron Ackley, Youth Supervisor and Suzie Jaquith, Recording Secretary.

OTHERS ABSENT: Nancy Freed, Deputy City Manager

I. CALL TO ORDER: By Parks & Recreation Board Chair Crouthers at 5:08 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS: None

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: The Agenda for the February 3, 2021 meeting was approved after a motion was made by Member Lammon and seconded by Member Eriksen.

IV. ADOPTION OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES –
The January 6, 2021 meeting Minutes were approved after a motion was made by Member Ely and seconded by Member Lammon.

V. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS/REMINDERS

- A. 2021 Capital Projects - Tracy Young, Manager of Parks, Planning, Design & Construction gave an overview of the capital projects process. Every project must go through the following steps: Project identification, prioritization, funding, stakeholder check-in, community involvement, master plan approval process, design and engineering, bidding/construction and closeout. She shared with the board the 2021 PROS Capital Project list and highlighted some of the projects. Canterbury park - Inclusive ADA compliant playground and converting to native grass that does not need irrigation. Fulton park - Renovating the playground and possibly converting tennis courts into two pickleball courts. Havana Heights park - Renovation of playground and possibly a new re-use of basketball court. Hoffman park - Renovation of playground and basketball courts and replacing walk along the west side of park with concrete. Peoria Hills park - Replacing playground and possibly adding some concrete walks. Red-Tailed Hawk park – Expansion of parking lots. Median Projects - Seven locations throughout the city all designed to be drought tolerant. Continuation of Piney Creek Trail, Turf conversion projects at Alameda/1-225 interchange and the Airport/I-70. Plains conservation Center – Prairie Meander –

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



- Grading and surface drainage improvements. High Line Canal Colfax – Continuation of trail from Colfax to across or under I-70.
- B. School Age Programs - Jan Hamburg, Superintendent of Youth Programs, introduced recreation staff presenting on the different youth programs offered through the Recreation Division.
- Donna Weatherwax, Recreation Specialist gave an overview of the preschool programs. There are five locations serving over 200 children. Programs include: Parent/Tot (18-30 mos.), Toddling Tots (2 ½-3 yrs.), Tiny Tots (3-4 yrs.), Kinderkids (4-5 yrs.) and Summer Camps (3-12 yrs.). All locations offer early childhood programs licensed by the State of Colorado and partnering with Aurora Public Schools. During the pandemic, some in-person learning was still able to be provided while following health orders as well as online learning.
 - Cameron Ackley, Recreation Youth Supervisor, gave an overview of the Remote Learning Centers. The Recreation Youth Program partnered with Aurora Public Schools to provide a free place for parents to bring their children to remote learn on the days when they are not attending in-person classes. The program is offered 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday and offers free breakfast, lunch and a snack. Locations include Central, Meadowood and Moorhead Recreation Centers and soon to include Beck Recreation Center. Student age ranges from 5 yrs. to 14 yrs., averaging 20 children a day across all three centers with capacity to eventually serve 300 children. There are 8 program directors and 16 program leaders that operate the program.
 - Jill Emery, Recreation Specialist, gave an overview of the COMPASS program. COMPASS stands for Community of Many Providing After School Success. The program partners with Aurora Public Schools and is fully grant funded and open to all students at the school sites at no cost. The goal of the program is to encourage, teach and grow students in an all-around, holistic manner and to positively challenge them mentally, physically and emotionally through different activities. There are currently 5 elementary school sites and 1 middle school site. COMPASS has been virtual since March of 2020 due to the pandemic, providing a full online program. Some activities include painting/drawing, dancing, nature and science, sports, skateboarding, creative writing and martial arts.
- C. Greeting and PROS Update – Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department, complimented staff on their presentations and all they have accomplished during these challenging times in providing programming for the community. She also recognized the city's IT department, stating how instrumental they were in the success of virtual programming. She announced the online park shelter reservation system will open starting March 1st for the season which begins on April 1st. She shared she had learned in meeting with Tri-County Health, that larger outdoor gatherings are most likely to occur later in the year; August/September start up. It will depend on Covid cases declining and more of the community getting the



vaccinated. New park and trail maps are now available. The new design features a smaller, convenient, “fit in your pocket” size and that is made of a durable, water resistant material. Each board member will be mailed a map.

VI. BOARD MEMBERS REMARKS

A. Comments from Board Members

- Member Ericksen asked if the NRPA Magazine is mailed to board member’s homes. Joe answered yes, it may take a couple months before the first magazine is delivered.
- Member Crouthers asked with the Colorado State Lotteries Funds being so high, does the PROS Department receive more funds. Director Bell answered yes, there is a lift in the revenues received from the Colorado State Conservation Trust Fund. The increase in revenue is usually seen the next quarter following a large increase in lottery funds.
- Member McClure remarked Triangle park is a well-kept secret with large sidewalks around it and many benches. She shared there was a nice article in the Aurora Sentinel about Tollgate Crossing park offering recreation activities geared towards adults to enjoy outdoor space. She recommended a free app called All Trails to the board members.
- Member Ericksen remarked he visited Horseshoe park and was impressed with the walking and biking opportunities there.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

A. Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – Virtual meeting – Webex

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Member Lammon made a motion to adjourn and Member Zbikowski seconded. The motion passed at 6:53 p.m.

Shannon Crouthers

Shannon Crouthers, Chair;
Parks & Recreation Board

Suzie Jaquith

Suzie Jaquith, Recording Secretary

ADOPTED _____

Signature: 
Shannon Crouthers (Apr 12, 2021 11:35 PDT)

Email: shancrouthers@gmail.com


PRAB February 3 2021 Minutes_Final

Final Audit Report

2021-04-12

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By:	Suzie Gilroy Jaquith (sjaquith@auroragov.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAADogUdjylj21lZbTojkQge_mheuMldqc-

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