

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 – 5:00 p.m. WebEx Meeting MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Shannon Crouthers, Chair; Bobbie McClure, Vice-Chair; Rick Eriksen, Marty Tessmer, Angela Zbikowski, Mike Ely, Sydney Futrell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryan Taylor, Andre Hickman

OTHERS PRESENT: Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department; Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation Services; Curt Bish, Planning Supervisor, Parks, Planning, Design & Construction; Kelli Arnold, Project Manager, Public Works Department; John Perkins, Project Manager, Public Works Department; Suzie Jaquith, Administrative Supervisor

- I. CALL TO ORDER: By Parks & Recreation Board Chair Crouthers at 5:05 p.m.
- II. INTRODUCTIONS: None.
- **III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** The Agenda for the April 6, 2022 meeting was approved after a motion was made by Member Zbikowski and seconded by Member Ely.
- IV. ADOPTION OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES The March 2, 2022 meeting Minutes were approved after a motion was made by Member Tessmer and seconded by Member McClure.

V. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS/REMINDERS

- A. Kellie Arnold and John Perkins, Project Managers, Public Works Department, gave an update on the progress of Southeast Recreation Center and Fieldhouse construction project.
 - Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation Services, announced the Southeast Recreation Center has been officially named the Southeast Recreation Center and Fieldhouse
 - Slide show presentation included: Vicinity Map, Site Plan, Mountain Views, Building Renderings, Project Summary, Project Milestones, Progress Photos, and Media Coverage.
 - Vicinity Map shows the recreation center located to the E-470, south of Quincy Avenue, at the corner of Harvest Road and East Alexander Drive.
 - Mountain view photos were of the western exposure of the recreation center showcasing the view of the entire mountain range.
 - Architural renderings and construction progress photos of exterior and interior of the building were shown.
 - Project Summary:
 - The Southeast Recreation Center and Fieldhouse is located at 25400 East Alexander Drive



- Square Footage:
 - o Currently Permitted 74,042 sq. ft.
 - Fieldhouse Addition 2,750 sq. ft.
 - o Total 76,792 sq. ft.
- Key Features:
 - o Indoor Pool, Lazy River, Water Slide
 - o Gymnasium
 - Indoor Running Track
 - o Fieldhouse
 - Multipurpose Rooms
- The building will have a "canyon" area that runs through the middle of the building to include a lobby with front desk and lounge area.
- The lower level on the south side of the building will have a gymnasium, multipurpose rooms, group exercise rooms, child watch area and restrooms.
- The lower level on the north side of the building will have an indoor pool, lazy river and hot tub, men's, women's and family locker rooms and fieldhouse.
- The upper level will house the indoor running track
- Upcoming Project Milestones:
 - May 2022 Building Dry-In (skin), Fieldhouse Structure, Conditioned Space
 - October 2022 Finalize Interior Finishes
 - Final completion scheduled for 4th quarter of 2022
 - Grand opening scheduled for 1st quarter of 2023
- Media Coverage:
 - Aurora TV segment on the process of construction aired February 16, 2022.
 - Fox 31 News segment of the progress of construction aired February 11, 2022.
- Ouestions and Comments from board members:
 - Member Tessmer asked if radical changes or departures from the approved design/plan had to be made. Kelli Arnold answered the only change order done was to include an additional 25 feet to the fieldhouse to allow regulation adult league soccer play. The funds for the addition were already accounted for in the overall project budget.
 - Member Tessmer suggested adding signs to the property to depict the
 mountain peaks along the front range. John Perkins followed up stating
 the mural on the west windows of the gymnasium will include artwork
 of the front range with each mountain peak identified.
 - Member McClure asked who created the artwork for the building and how was it selected. John Perkins answered the city's Art in Public Places Committee and Recreation staff interviewed artists throughout the country and commissioned an artist out of Indiana.



- Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation Services, thanked the presenters and mentioned another construction project update will be scheduled prior to opening as well as a tour of the building.
- B. Curt Bish, Planning Supervisor, Parks, Planning, Design & Construction Division, gave a presentation on the naming of Neighborhood Park in Green Valley Ranch East.
 - Green Valley Ranch East Neighborhood is located in the north eastern part of the city just west of E-470 tollway and north of I-70; east of Piccadilly Road, between 38th Avenue and 52nd Avenue.
 - The developer, Oakwood Homes, will be turning over ownership of a new 5.7 neighborhood park located in Green Valley Ranch East Neighborhood to the City of Aurora Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department.
 - Park construction is scheduled to start in May or June. Due to the timeline of
 construction, a park name needs to be chosen prior to construction so the
 developer can fabricate and install park identification signage.
 - PROS staff and the developer agreed to pursue a park name based on geographic/location. The name "Windy Plumes" was suggested based on inspiration taken from public art that will be installed at the park. The art is a sculpture depicting large plumes of grass blown by the wind.
 - Staff is respectfully asking for the board's consideration and recommendation to forward "Windy Plumes" as the park name to the City Manager's Office for City Council's consideration.
 - Chair Crouthers made a motion to move forward the park name "Windy Plumes" and motioned passed unanimously.
- C. Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation Services Division, gave an update on PRAB members and officer status.
 - Interviews for two openings on the board were conducted on March 15, 2022. The board recommended Bobbie McClure be considered by city council for reappointment to a 3rd term and Robert Armstrong be considered by city council for appointment to a 1st term.
 - Chair and Vice-Chair Election is scheduled for the May meeting, per bylaws.
 Members interested in running for either seat were asked to submit their interest to staff liaison, Suzie Jaquith, by April 22, 2022. A list of candidates will be included in the May meeting packet and voting will take place at the May meeting.
- D. Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department, gave a PROS Update
 - Brooke recognized and thanked Shannon for her leadership and many valuable contributions made during her 9 years of service on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. A plaque was given to Shannon in honor of her years of service.
 - PROS Department and city-wide is experiencing a staff shortage. Full-time staff are down 20%. Seasonal staff are down significantly, as well. Staff are



working closely with Human Resources to streamline the hiring process for seasonal staff. Starting seasonal staff wages have been increased to be more competitive in the job market, however, other metropolitan businesses and government agencies have also increased starting wages.

- Member McClure asked at what point does staff start making plans for community events and activities for the summer. Brooke replied special events and pop-up events are required to be reviewed by the city council policy committee scheduled in April and then by city council. Once approved, the event schedule will be shared with the board. Punkin Chunkin event will not be returning, primarily due to the location of the new Southeast Recreation Center and Fieldhouse.
- Member Tessmer asked if there was an open house planned for public to give input on a new park planned next to Central Recreation Center. Brooke replied yes, there is a public open house scheduled as part of the park master plan process. There are funds budgeted in 2023 to construct a 12-acre neighborhood park at that location. The date of the open house is April 21, 2022 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at Central Recreation Center. Member Tessmer encouraged all board members to attend.

VI. BOARD MEMBERS REMARKS

- A. Comments from Board Members
 - Member Ely asked if the new construction of the Piccadilly warehouse along Steve Hogan Parkway will allow for a setback against the Sand Creek Open Space. Curt Bish replied the master plan for the project has already been approved and is advancing to construction to be completed in different phases. Immediately adjacent to the Steve Hogan Parkway there will be access points for the warehouse distribution facility use. There will not be additional open space set aside for a generous buffer between the road and the industrial use. Curt offered to obtain a copy of the plan and share it.
 - Member McClure thanked John Wesolowski, Manager of Parks & Forestry
 Division, for sending a list of licensed tree companies to her. She requested a
 presentation from Arts in Public Places Committee be scheduled for a future board
 meeting with emphasis on how art connects with parks.
 - Member McClure asked staff if trash receptables and seating will be installed near the basketball courts at Hoffman Heights Park. Brooke replied there was a specific budget staff had to stay within and seating was not included. She will inquire with staff on additional trash receptacles.
 - Member McClure recommended articles in the National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) magazine, April 2022 edition, that addresses topics of the climate change, threat to racial equity and Earth Day.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

A. Wednesday, May 4, 2022 - Virtual meeting – WebEx





VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Member McClure made a motion to adjourn and Member Tessmer seconded. The motion passed at 6:14 p.m.

Shannon E. Crouthers Shannon E. Crouthers (May 6, 2022 12:52 MDT) May 6, 2022	Suzie Jaquith
Shannon Crouthers, Chair; Parks & Recreation Board	Suzie Jaquith Suzie Jaquith, Administrative Supervisor
ADOPTED	

PRAB Minutes April 6,2022_final_js_bb

Final Audit Report 2022-05-06

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