

## PRAB Agenda

Monday, November 9, 2009

7:00 pm

7 South Sunset,

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes from the October 2009 meeting
- IV. Public Invited to be heard
- V. Old Business
  - a. Action Item: Open Space Boston Ave ROW
  - b. Information Item: Council Retreat Topics
- VI. New Business
  - a. Action Item: Designate PRAB Member to Participate in PRAB Candidate Interviews
  - b. Discussion Item: Update of Wildlife Preservation Ordinance
- VII. On-Going Business
  - a. Information Item: Open Space Acquisition Update
  - b. Information Item: PRAB Calendar
  - c. Discussion Item: On-going Marketing Efforts
- VIII. Items from Staff
- IX. Items from Board
- X. Public Invited to be Heard
- XI. Adjournment

If you need special assistance to participate in a Park & Recreation Advisory Board meeting, please contact Cathy Diesing, Board Secretary, 303-774-4756, in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

MINUTES  
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
October 12, 2009

The October meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Rick Accountius at 7:04pm at the Parks Maintenance Building.

I. Roll Call

Cathy Diesing, Board Secretary called the roll call. Those present were committee members; Rick Accountius, Sharon O'Leary, Ruby Bowman, Karen Hill and Council Liaison Gabe Santos. Jim Wardell arrived late. Member Heather Ogle and Doug Gollhofer were absent.

Staff Present: Don Bessler, Jeff Friesner, Dan Wolford and Cathy Diesing

II. Approve Agenda

A motion by Ms. O'Leary to approve the agenda was seconded by Mr. Accountius, the Motion passed 4-0. Member Wardell had not arrived yet.

III. Approval of minutes from the September 14, 2009 meeting. Ms. O'Leary made a motion to approve the minutes this was seconded by Mr. Accountius. The Motion passed 4-0. Member Wardell had not arrived yet. .

IV. Public Invited to be Heard- None

V. Old Business

a. Action Item – Disposal of Open Space. Mr. Bessler reviewed with the Board previous discussions on disposal of Open Space and the processes currently used by the city. Each process was discussed by the board with each member identifying what was most important about Open Space to them. The following is the Boards recommendation regarding the current process.

1. Current Process: Disposal of Open Space should be for a public purpose as determined by City Council.

PRAB Consensus Recommendation: *Disposal of Open Space should be for a public purpose; examples include r.o.w. and easements for city roads, utilities and life essential infrastructure not intending to site occupiable facilities or private uses.*

*The disposal should be sensitive to the integrity of the property features and sensitive habitat and generally should not adversely affect the balance of the property. Property not addressing the defined Open*

*Space Criteria identified in the charter can be disposed of as necessary, ie. residential farm houses.*

2. Current Process: Before final action, Council shall be advised by appropriate Advisory Boards.

PRAB Consensus Recommendation: Before final action, Council shall be advised by appropriate Advisory Boards. *The City Council shall require staff to initiate a 60 day public comment period the results of which will be shared with the appropriate advisory boards prior to their deliberations.*

3. Current Process: Action will require approval by Super majority vote of City Council. Section 13.2 of the Charter requires an administrative ordinance approved by a 2/3 vote, or 5 votes. This action will be by Ordinance

PRAB Majority Recommendation: *PRAB agrees with current process.*

4. Current Process: Reimbursement to the Open Space Fund will be based on Fair Market value as determined by the City Council.

PRAB Consensus Recommendation: Reimbursement to the Open Space Fund will be based on Fair Market value as determined by the City Council. *However, at no time will the Fair Market Value be determined to be less than the original purchase price with an additional 3% annual inflationary adjustment.*

A letter will be drafted, approved by the Board Members, and then sent to the City Council.

b. Information Item- Park Maintenance Fee Update. Mr. Bessler discussed the Park Maintenance Fee. The \$1.00 fee approved by Council will not go into a Parks Account, but will go directly into the General Fund as a revenue source. The new fee will sunset in three years.

c. Information Item- 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program Grant. Mr. Friesner informed the Board that Recreation Services was submitting a grant on Friday to assist with After School Programming over the next five years. Recreation will work in partnership with the School District at Heritage and Longs Peak Middle Schools. This grant would include funding after school homework clubs, equipment, teacher wages for homework assistance, recreation and leisure programming and to provide parents access to computers during the evenings. This supplements the after school program recreation already has in place. It

is the staffs' goal to ultimately offer after school programming at each of the middle schools. Ms. O'Leary would like to receive information on the grant.

VI. New Business

a. Discussion Item: Council Retreat Topics. Mr. Friesner said that Council will be discussing retreat topics in the next few weeks. He asked that the Board send their suggestions to him and he will submit them for review. Mr. Bessler noted that the Council indicated at the October 6, 2009 meeting that they wanted the PRAB to attend the retreat to discuss Open Space Priorities. Other retreat suggestions were the CIP Expansion of the Longmont Recreation Center, the Recreation Center at the Dry Creek Area and the Ice Rink at Quail..

VII. On-Going Business:

a. Information Item: Open Space Acquisition Update. Mr. Wolford said the Adrian Property was going to Council on October 13, 2009. A joint acquisition with the Water Department purchasing 22 acres, Storm Drainage purchasing 65 acres and Open Space with 101 acres will be a little over 8 million dollars for the overall purchase. Mr. Wolford did note that there was a possibility that GOCO may support the acquisition with some funds.

Mr. Wolford reminded the Board that the Joint Boulder County Open Space meeting will be held Saturday, October 17. Please RSVP by October 14, 2009. He has also added a new book "The Guide for Local Government Land Acquisition" as a loaner book for Board members to read.

b. Information Item: PRAB Calendar. Mr. Wolford said members should be receiving their invitation to the dedication of the St.Vrain Greenway Ribbon Cutting scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> at Sandstone Ranch District Park. He also mentioned that Sandstone will be having a Harvest Home Holiday Event on November 14. More details will be provided later. This event replaces the Holiday theme from 2008.

c. Discussion Item: On-going Marketing Efforts- None

VIII. Items from Staff

1. Jeff Friesner discussed the City budget. A proposal from Council to review raising fees for adult sports to 100% or greater or drop those sports. At this time Athletic cost recovery is at 106% recovery so if they were cut, there would be no impact to the general fund budget. Also proposed by the City Council was increasing cost recovery from 82.3% to 90%. This requires Recreation Services to generate an additional

\$290,000 during 2010. Mr. Friesner said we could achieve this, however; this may begin to limit access for some people to use our facilities and services. Cost recovery could be added as a proposed retreat topic.

Events for Recreation include the Pumpkin Dunk on October 24, the Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 31 at 9:30am. The Safe Halloween Night will begin at 6:00pm at the Longmont Recreation Center. In 2008, there was over 1500 people attending the Safe Halloween event, and they are expecting more participants as Halloween is on a Saturday, this year. Future events include the Longmont Lights from December 4 – 12.

Ms. O'Leary noted that Board members need to write letters to the editor, guest editorial, and web page updates explaining how Recreation affects the quality of life in Longmont. You need an outlet when times are tough, and Recreation provides that outlet.

2. Mr. Wolford discussed the sustainable maintenance program for the turf areas along greenways. Instead of maintaining it like park turf, it will be watered and mowed less often, reducing maintenance costs. The hours at Union Reservoir will be changing in November. They plan on having visitors not drive into the area, but park and walk in to the reservoir area.

The city was contacted by the original "Kinetics" group to discuss the possibility of having an event at Union Reservoir. This would be a smaller event in mid summer.

#### IX. Items from the Board

1. Ms. O'Leary asked why there was an initiative by Boulder County Open Space to extend the tax when it does not expire until 2019. Mr. Wolford noted that County wants to purchase more land..

2. Mr. Wardell asked for an update on the future events for sporting tournaments in Longmont. Mr. Bessler said that both he and Mr. Friesner have been promoting City facilities and amenities to several different organizations. They will continue to promote the City and hope that they are successful in attracting multi-day events that will generate hospitality business.

3. Mr. Accountius reminded the Board about the upcoming "Tamales and Talk" on October 14, 2009 this is for those people thinking about being on a Board. On October 28, the Joint meeting with the PRAB and BEA boards will be held. The location and time will be announced later. On November 12, 2009 the second meeting on the Integrated

Environment Plan, IEP will be held. Mr. Accountius will send the Board the link to the packet, so they may review what is being presented.

X. Public to Be Heard - None

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, it was moved by Ms. O'Leary to adjourn the meeting at 9:49pm and was seconded by Mr. Accountius. The Motion passed 5-0.

Signature for approving Minutes of the Park & Recreation Board meeting.

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Committee Chair/ Vice Chair

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Cathy Diesing  
Board Secretary

# DRAFT

# prab info item

## **SUBJECT/AGENDA TITLE: Disposition of Open Space**

### **BACKGROUND AND ISSUE ANALYSIS:**

The current Martin Street project necessitated the transfer of 2.57 acres of land from the "Pavlakis Open Space Parcel" to the Street Fund to accommodate the extension. At the July 28, 2009 meeting Council was apprised of this action which required the Street fund to reimburse the Open space fund the original purchase price of the acreage plus an additional 3% annual carry cost. This was the same methodology used when the Open Space Fund acquired the parcel from the Water fund in 20XX. This item became of interest to the PRAB whose responsibility includes the preservation and care of Open Space. Staff from both Public Works Engineering and the City Attorney's Office discussed this item with the board and shared the existing city process that guides staffs actions. In more detail those working processes are described as:

- Disposal of Open Space should be for a public purpose as determined by City Council.
- Before final action, Council shall be advised by appropriate Advisory Boards.
- Action will require approval by Super majority vote of City Council. Section 13.2 of the Charter requires an administrative ordinance approved by a 2/3 vote, or 5 votes.
- This action will be by Ordinance.
- Reimbursement to the Open Space Fund will be based on Fair Market value as determined by the City Council.
- Acquired Open Space intended for District Park purposes will be designated by the City Council and reflected on the LACP as existing District Park.

At their October 2009 meeting the PRAB discussed this item in great detail and ultimately achieved agreement on the following recommendations that they are forwarding to City Council for your consideration.

Current city process: Disposal of Open Space should be for a public purpose as determined by City Council.

PRAB consensus recommendation for proposed changes:

Disposal of Open Space should be for a public purpose; *examples include r.o.w. and easements for city roads, utilities and life essential infrastructure not intending to site occupiable facilities or private uses. The disposal should be sensitive to the integrity of the property features and sensitive habitat and generally should not adversely affect the balance of the property.*

*Property not addressing the defined "Open Space Criteria" identified in the charter can be disposed of as necessary, ie. residential farm houses.*

Current city process: Before final action, Council shall be advised by appropriate advisory boards.

PRAB consensus recommendation for proposed changes: Before final action, Council shall be advised by appropriate advisory boards. *The City Council shall require staff to initiate a 60 day public comment period the results of which will be shared with the appropriate advisory boards prior to their deliberations.*

Current city process: Action will require approval by Super majority vote of City Council. Section 13.2 of the Charter requires an administrative ordinance approved by a 2/3 vote, or 5 votes. This action will be by Ordinance.

PRAB majority recommendation for proposed changes: *PRAB agrees with current process.*

Current city process: Reimbursement to the Open Space Fund will be based on Fair Market value as determined by the City Council.

PRAB consensus recommendation for proposed changes: Reimbursement to the Open Space Fund will be based on Fair Market value as determined by the City Council. *However, at no time will the "Fair Market Value" be determined to be less than the original purchase price with an additional 3% annual inflationary adjustment.*

If desired by Council staff should be prepared to return with a draft ordinance at your November 24, 2009 meeting.

Suggested Council Retreat Topics

From the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Open Space Discussion:

- Confirm priorities for use of Open Space Funds
  - Greenway & Trail Connections
  - District Parks
  - Land Acquisition
  - Small Capital and Maintenance
- Explore policies for the disposal of Open Space

Determine priorities for future bond-funded facilities:

- Community Ice Rink – Quail Campus
- Expansion of the Longmont Recreation Center
- Recreation Center – Dry Creek Park

Determine how to address new park and/or trail development when operating and maintenance funds are limited or diminishing.

Examine Current and Future Fee Philosophies:

- Comprehensively examine the City's philosophy of charging fees for recreation programs, events and activities, as well as charging fees for park and open space usage. Should fees be charged to non-residents for the use of open space trails, district parks, facilities and open space areas?
- Examine current cost recovery policies for recreation programs. Should there be a different percentage of cost recovery for youth programs and activities?

Determine the role of the Parks Division and Recreation Division in supporting economic development efforts (e.g. sports tourism, large scale concerts, etc.)