

MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
April 11, 2011

The April meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Ruby Bowman at 7:05pm at the Parks Maintenance Building.

1. Roll Call

Cathy Diesing, Board Secretary called the roll call. Those present were committee members; Ruby Bowman, Jim Wardell, Sharon O'Leary, Jim Krick, Doug Gollhofer, Greg Braun, Kelly Dirks and Councilman McCoy.

Staff Present: Mr. Friesner, Mr. Rademacher, Mr. Wolford, Mr. Ransweiler and Ms. Diesing

2. Approval of Agenda.

A motion by Ms. Bowman to move Old Business C; to Old Business A. This was seconded by Mr. Gollhofer, the motion passed 7-0.

3. Approval of Previous Months Minutes

A motion by Mr. Braun to approve the March 14, 2011 minutes was seconded by Mr. Wardell. The motion passed 6-1. Mr. Gollhofer abstained as he was absent.

4. Public Invited to be Heard. None

Ed Velie, 1262 Atwood St., Longmont, Co. 80501. 303-685-2911. Lives in the Meadows Town homes development and is the President of the Townhome Association. He would like to remind the City that a Memo of Agreement was signed in 1995 on a bike path not going through the development.

Melinda Yale, 1211 Baker St., Longmont, Co. 80501. 303-651-2217. Lives in the Meadows Town homes development and is part of the same association. She said a bike path should not go through the development. She also felt that all of the Open Space property being purchased by the City and County has increased property values that citizens cannot afford land now, and that Citizens are asked to supplement the affordable housing being offered. The City should be warned they may not have enough land for growth in the future.

Jim Russell, 160 11th Ave, Longmont, Co. 80501. 720-323-1349. Lives in the Kiteley Neighborhood. The path the children use to walk to and from school and parks is dangerous as it follows up and over the railroad tracks. He supports a trail connection but not a path through the Meadows Division.

Dale Peterson, 1103 Collyer St, Longmont. 303-684-0031. Lives by the

Community Gardens and sees traffic going over the railroad tracks including kids going to school. He supports a trail connection along Mt. View.

Brian Hansen, c/o 350 Kimark St., Longmont. Lives in the Kiteley Neighborhood and feels the kids are walking a dangerous way to school. A fence needs to be put up and a safer passage under the tracks.

David Harold, 926 Emery St., Longmont. Co. Lives in the Kiteley Neighborhood and feels that everyone would benefit from a path through the neighborhood and under the railroad track. He also travels to and from Seagate and it would be nice if the bike path was completed at Airport Road so you would not be on the road with cars.

5. Old Business

A. Trail Missing Link Connections. Mr. Ransweiler gave a power point presentation on Trail Connections. The CIP Projects T-105 and PR-83 Trail Connection 2010-14 Cost Breakdown spread sheet listed the trail connections in order of needs of repair or completion. The list phased in repairs and completion of trails in one year increments up to the year 2014. The Board made a suggestion that trails near schools should be a priority. Mr. Ransweiler will come back to the Board in 2012 to update the Board on connections that have been completed and to review on-going priorities. After discussion a motion by Ms. Bowman to accept the prioritized plan as presented by staff on missing trail links and sidewalks, this was seconded by Mr. Gollhofer, the motion passed 7-0.

B. Capital Improvements Projects.

a) Discuss any New CIP Projects. Jeff Friesner said he had not received any new project requests from the Board other than the request for a parking lot at Spangler School. The Board had decided they did not want just Spangler on a CIP, as other parks need attention. Mr. Rademacher said he would develop a CIP project that would provide for Master Planning for all parks. The Board discussed having the same process as was used to develop the trail system priorities. Revitalization meetings are being held by Jon Clark, for neighborhood parks. Information could be collected at the meetings for the Master Planning of the parks. Mr. Rademacher added this Master Plan would also help identify sustainability levels for the park system.

b) Establish Board CIP Priorities - Dotocracy. Each Board member was given 6 dots to vote for their favorite projects. The Board selected from projects categorized as Facility Enhancement Projects and Expanded Systems. Staff will bring the voting results to the May Board meeting.

C. Submitting Parks and Recreation Proclamation. A discussion occurred on what proclamations could be presented to Council from the Park & Recreation Advisory Board. The Board would like staff to create the proclamations and start with the concerts officered in the City, include swim lessons, day camp and end with the Rhythm on the River. This would end with a proclamation for July being Parks & Recreation month, offering all citizens music, art and festivals. Jeff Friesner will bring back the proclamations to the May meeting.

6. New Business.

A. Disposition of Open Space

a) Review Proposal – 78 Acres of the Sherwood OS. Dan Wolford discussed the two separate IGA's (Inter governmental agreements) for land swaps and conservation easement with the Schlager Property, Boulder County and the City of Longmont.

The following steps occurred:

Step 1 – Finalized Purchase

Step 2 – City conveyed easement to Boulder County

Step 3 – Boulder County negotiated with the Schlager family for 300 acres of conservation easement.

Step 4 – The City transfers the fee to the Schlager Family

Step 5 – Schlager family transfers the 213 acres conservation easement to the City of Longmont. The land remains a buffer for Open Space.

Step 6 - The City transfers 78 acres to the Schlager family, will be taken to the Council on the 26th. The City has spent no money on these transactions because of the partnership with Boulder County.

Dan Wolford noted the ordinance specifies that notifications be printed in the paper and posted on the web site. He would like the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board to make a motion on the disposition.

b) Public Hearing. Ms. Bowman opened for public comment on the Review proposal on Open Space. No public were present, the meeting was closed without comment from the public

A motion by Doug Gollhofer that the Park & Recreation Advisory Board supports and approves the disposal of Open Space on the Sherwood Property as presented, this was seconded by Jim Wardell, the motion passed 7-0.

7. Items from Staff

A. Cathy Diesing reminded the Board that summer registration begins on Tuesday for the summer programs.

B. Dale Rademacher said that the City was still looking for a Natural Resource Manager. He is working with Human Resources on whether to repost the position and what options are available.

C. Jeff Friesner said the Sunset Bathhouse was scheduled to open on June 13. Staff has planned to hold all seven downtown concerts on Friday evenings. The four Roosevelt Park concerts will be held on Tuesday evenings. In July, three Free Movies in the Park will be held at Thompson Park. The Longmont Recreation Center leisure pool is closed and has been closed on and off the last three months due to a water leak. A notice is posted at the Recreation Center giving details of the closure to the public.

C. Dan Wolford explained the Customer Survey form that was in the packet. Due to the Safe Water Drinking Act, Public Works is required to conduct an annual survey to better understand citizens' needs and concerns. Cal Youngberg added two questions on Dan Wolford's request. On the survey questions number 5) Do you visit or use any of the following water-related parks or facilities, and 6) While at these sites, please check the activities that you participate in. Results will be given to the Board. The results are random and it has good participation.

8. Items from Board

A. Sharon O'Leary hopes the Director position is filled quickly, as other employees need to cover those job duties.

It was asked how often a public person should be allowed to speak during a presentation. She requested that a clear standard be adhered to, so no one can cry foul and everyone is treated equally. This was also echoed by Doug Gollhofer. It was added by staff that once they are heard, public should listen and not continue to converse back and forth with what is being presented to the Board. The Chair should dialog that the public invited to be heard is over.

In response to the request to limit discussions by citizens during presentations, Ruby Bowman reflected on the three minute time allowance for Public to be Heard at City Council meetings. She felt it was not enough time for citizens to discuss their concerns. She does speak at Council meetings and feels she is cut off in the middle of her conversations, by the time limit.. She would like those attending Park Board meetings to participate in the discussions and presentations fully. Doug Gollhofer also agreed with establishing a standard, and feels the Public to be heard at both the beginning of the meeting and at the end of the meeting should be used. Citizens should not be part of the discussion during a presentation. Citizens may feel slighted if they are not allowed to talk more than another person depending on the subject matter. A meeting will be held with Ruby Bowman with staff on this Board request.

B. Doug Gollither really enjoys the Itty Bitty City at the Memorial Building.

9. Public Invited to Be Heard.(none)

10. 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 9:35pm and was seconded by Mr. Braun the motion passed 7-0.

Chair Signature

Board Secretary