ROLL CALL:
Jerry Hodgden, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
The Agenda was approved on a motion by Torsten Lyon, seconded by Emmy Dimitroff, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The Minutes of December 17, 2013 were approved on a motion by Pete Gotseff, seconded by Torsten Lyon, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None

WEST CLEAR CREEK TRAIL UPDATE:
Anne Beierle introduced herself as the Deputy Director of Public Works. She is responsible for the water plant, water delivery, waste collection and ancillary programs. She brought some photos of the ice flow in the December winter flood. What happened west of 6th Avenue was even more interesting. She said at the head gates where we divert water there
was a significant ice dam. Clear Creek left its banks and came down the trail we had just resurfaced last November. The trail is going to need extreme repair. As you head to the west the ice was spectacular. She showed several photos. The primary raw water intake line is now exposed due to this event. It’s exactly where it’s supposed to be but everything above it is washed away. What worries her long term are the new pathways for the creek to get back on the trail. It’s tough to resolve as it begins off our property above our property line. The damage to the trail is the entire length. The road sits on top of our water line so historically we have taken care of it. Jeffco Open Space would like the trail reopened. We have told them we want the line fixed first. The restoration of the trail is the least expensive item. This is not an insurance covered event. Longer term we will all have to think more about how we can protect the trail from higher waters.

The other location where pipe is exposed the pipe actually floated to the surface. This could be harder to fix. We are still getting water through this line, it is functional. Torsten asked if this was the only water source. Anne said we have a secondary point right at the pond. It is available to us as an alternative point of diversion between November and April because winter weather can cause trouble with this line. We have a project out to bid.

The next great challenge with this is everything is habitat for the endangered orchid. It also requires a fish and wildlife review. Signing off on these means we can only do work within the width of the trail itself. The logistics will be pretty unique. We will have to excavate and store. We plan to stage at the Community Gardens and around the raw water ponds. If we can get out by April 1st it shouldn’t bother the gardeners. We have limited choices. It will be a hard trail closure. We can’t let people walk around the construction site. The Park Rangers will hold it firm. When the trail is reopened it should look fantastic. The hope is the contract is signed and notices to proceed by mid February. Torsten asked about the piece of trail west of the raw water ponds. Anne said we will just be crossing there so her hope is we don’t have to close that piece. Emmy Dimitroff said the Terry Grant Trail was phase two opening in the Jefferson County Newsletter and said to occur in June. Anne said we are pushing it out as far as possible so that people can be happy if it opens early.

LIBRARY BANK STABILIZATION PROJECT:

At the end of 2012 Anne was asked to look at bank erosion and she hired a consultant to look over and complete an Environmental Assessment for Clear Creek. This assessment drove the 9,000 lineal feet of fencing you see throughout the corridor. People need more access points to the creek including some hard scape options. The Environmental Assessment recommended to install 10 access points, two of which are on the south side. The intent is to build them as soon as we can. We knew we couldn’t get them ready in 2013 with Core Permitting issues. We have a fantastic contractor and price which will lead funding for other Clear Creek projects. The hardscaping will go to Council on Thursday. Ideally they could get in with equipment sometime in February or March before spring run-off. These access areas are designed to look like what we have at the kayak course. Anne showed a map demonstrating these access areas.
We knew we needed to do something regarding access by the library. We decided to enhance the public experience. We have two areas by the library lot and the police parking lot. They went back and reviewed the Clear Creek Master Plan and there was a recognized need for urban terraces. This area would be a quiet contemplative space with an arbor and offshoot secondary trail with ADA access. Overall we are creating a plaza area with vertical space and a step down with lots of seating from the creek. The goal is to get close to the creek but not necessarily an access egress point. We will provide ramps as well to get people out adjacent to this feature.

Anne then showed options for separating from the parking lot including green screens, a wall or shrubbery. We discussed potentially creating medallions along the trail which could be tied into the library. They could have inscribed quotes from famous authors or books.

Rod Tarullo added the library has funding to renovate but these funds will likely be inside the library. This project lets us blend between library and trail users. Anne also asked the Board their opinion on the buffer between the trail and the parking lot. Options were also considered for the police parking lot area.

Jerry Hodgden said he liked the concept. He also liked the separation between the parking lot and the trail. He asked about the Board’s involvement and if this project was coming from a Parks and Recreation Budget.

Anne said we have a line item for Clear Creek in the budget. Anne said she is leading this project as the environmental steward but we are working on it as a joint effort between departments.

Torsten asked about the library’s concerns regarding providing another attraction to their parking lot. Rod said we have been talking with them specifically about this. They like this concept and also recognize that it could have some impact. Torsten said it is important not to have tables in this location. A few benches are good. Rod said Torsten makes a good point, it’s all about balance. This project achieves a lot of good things for the creek but we don’t want to make it too popular. Torsten said he isn’t interested in the green screen.

Emmy Dimitroff said we need to continue to have areas where you can go if you don’t want to avoid conflict on the trail. This might urbanize it further. Emmy also didn’t like the green fencing. Several people liked the seating wall. Pete made the comment that this is a nice balance between the built environment and the natural environment.

**WYOMING ST PROPERTY DISCUSSION:**

Rod Tarullo said you all know that city staff was approached by a neighbor who wanted to make a sizeable donation to the city for improvements of the 2A parcel. In exchange for the donation we would not sell the buildable lot. There is a draft agreement being prepared. The citizen would make a donation of about $120,000 to make a trailhead and parks and open space improvements. We would create a covenant on the land that it will not be used for
any other purpose for 35 years. They would like a bench in recognition of their donation within the park space. We will take this to City Council on February 13. We have done some preliminary work on this agreement and have prepared two rough concepts to show you what the property might look like. Both concepts show trail access on the west side. Both concepts show seventeen parking spaces, the current configuration only has 14 spaces. The new concepts also show more efficient use of space.

Rod said there has been some discussion that if this went through and there was funding left we might want to put the money into Cressman Gulch to build the playground. If we proceed we will likely have another neighborhood meeting.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS NEW STRUCTURE:
Amber Thill brought to the Board the new Boards and Commissions Structure Proposal recently approved by City Council. She wanted to make the board aware of some significant changes which would affect this Board. The first was Council will be streamlining the Boards and Commissions interview process requesting volunteers to apply for three different boards listed in order of preference. In February of each year the Informer Newsletter will give instructions for applying to serve on a city Board or Commission as well as a notice when interviews will take place. City Council will likely interview in March of each year with appointments to Boards taking place in April.

Another significant change is the Board’s Work Plan will be due to City Council ideally around February 15th. This allows Council the opportunity to take into consideration the Board’s plans and needs prior to appointing new members.

Lastly Board members will be term limited. Members will be eligible to serve two consecutive terms then encouraged to serve on a different Board or Commission. We have a few members on our Board which this would affect though not until 2015 when your current term limit expires.

FEES & CHARGES POLICY UPDATE:
Rod said we would like to ask City Council to adopt a few updates to our Fees and Charges Policy originally approved in 2005. This will occur within the next six months. In general terms this policy continues to work well for use because its scope is in percentages. The big reason we want to update it is because when it was originally adopted we didn’t have the museums within our department.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
Rod Tarullo said we have funds for a multitude of projects this year. It is important to expedite the process of getting these construction projects finished. We have organized a Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Meeting including timelines. We have Golden Heights and Beverly Heights set for replacement of playgrounds. We will have two public meetings for each and take that and design a play structure that meets the needs and desires of the residents. We will also have a survey which is available online now.
We would like to have the first meeting for each completed by the end of February. In the past we have geared meetings towards Parks Board meetings or study session dates. The first Golden Heights meeting would be February 18th. Beverly Heights would be Feb 24th. The follow up meeting for Golden Heights is March 26th at the Fairgrounds in conjunction with the Planning Department’s neighborhood meeting. Then April 1st will be the follow up meeting for Beverly Heights likely at the Golden Community Center. The intent is to replace the playground rather than redesigned the entire park. We don’t have the time or money and need to manage the citizen’s expectations. If we can stay on track we might have something in the ground and open this summer.

We hope the fence will come down this week though with the weather it will likely be open early next week.

For White Ash Mine we have money to replace the basketball court. We wanted to make sure people wanted a basketball court there. We had 180 responses to a survey sent to neighboring residents. The results were interesting, we had some stuffing of the ballot. In the end we heard the neighborhood wanted a basketball court. The second highest request was a tennis court combined with a basketball court. We are researching the possibility of a combined tennis/basketball court. We are pretty confident it will likely be replaced to a basketball court. They asked for back stops, single rims and better nets.

At the Astor House we had completed a bunch of engineering and have a $450,000 structural repair. We have made a grant request to the Colorado Historical Society for up to $200,000. We have a meeting with Council coming up to determine how to address the structural issues.

We had discussed with the Lions Club regarding building a garage at Tony Grampas or replacing the fitness equipment along Clear Creek. We would likely look for funding to pay for a portion of the shed, they are mostly interested is supplying labor for the garage.

We had a meeting last Friday with the Clear Creek Neighborhood Parking Subcommittee. What happened in that meeting was the day before one of the residents on the east side of 9th Street sent a letter to Council specifically related to Mountain Toad. They are requesting specific action by the city to relieve their concerns with Mountain Toad. The residents in the middle and west end of the block didn’t like the separation between issues along 9th Street. They are concerned it could be confusing to Council. Beth Bidwell gave us a list of recommendations that staff felt were very reasonable. We would put these in the Clear Creek Management Plan and they would be instituted if approved by Council. In addition, the city is going to ask a consultant to complete a parking plan city wide. The RFPS are due shortly and Mr. Glueck is hoping all of this can be addressed through the Master Golden Parking Plan. The west and middle 9th Street residents are planning to submit their requests to Council this week so that Council can view both parking requests at the same time.
We will be reaccredited this year. The visit will be in late July. We have been assigned three
visitors. There will be some type of Meet and Greet like the last time.

We have the results back from an independent engineer; they have concluded the
Community Center HVAC could be moved to a lower level roof or the ground. The cost
could be up to $200,000. It can still produce the air quality it needs to. The air quality tests
are outstanding compared to what we had in the past. The City Attorney is working on
whether or not we should sue the designer on the height restriction. We would rather the
zoning changes but we will see what Council decides. Technically it doesn’t meet code by
10 feet or so.

BOARD MEMBER’S COMMENTS:
Emmy Dimitroff asked about White Ash Mine. She asked if the kids could take the survey
from Mitchell. Rod said yes. She asked if funding that Mitchell received for the playground
could also be given to Bell. Rod said technically it is Xcels money. It’s about $80,000 for
playground improvements. Jerry Harcek said there needs to be a trail from the front of the
school to the back.

Pete Gotseff said Vanover Park right up against the bridge has a pile of red rock. Pete said
the color was odd but he was just curious. Paul Burkholder said he appreciated the
feedback.

Jerry Hodgden thanked everyone for the kind words and for coming to see him.

ADJOURN:
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jerry Harcek, seconded by Pete Gotseff, and
carried unanimously.