CITY OF GOLDEN
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2014
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Casey Brown
           Jerry Hodgden
           Pete Gotseff
           Jerry Harcek
           Emmy Dimitroff

ABSENT: Craig Middleton
         Stephanie Sung
         Torsten Lyon

STAFF: Amber Thill, Parks and Recreation Analyst
       Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf
       Paul Burkholder, Parks, Forestry, Cemetery Manager
       Dan Hartman, Director of Public Works
       Anne Beierle, Deputy Director/Utilities and Environmental Services

PUBLIC: Jeff Oxenford
        John Putnam
        Bart Pinkham
        Paul Kuhn, MIG

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
The amended Agenda was approved on a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Casey Brown, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The Minutes of October 21, 2014 were approved on a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Casey Brown, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Jeff Oxenford, Bart Pinkham, and John Putnam visited the board to talk about the kayak/whitewater course. We need to get dredging and rock moving in the upper course. Rod and Paul have come up with ideas as to how to address it.

Jeff Oxenford said they would like to propose ideas as to how to restore the Whitewater Park to its former glory. In 1998 two canoers worked with the Parks Board and City Council
to build the park as a slalom course. It was a tough sell to Council. They had an economic study completed showing the value to the community.

The park has hosted Junior Olympics, National Championships, Front Range Paddling Association races and more. In 2002, we added some additional drop structures. We have done some basic maintenance but the course itself has lost its identity. Slalom boaters, play boaters, Emmy’s rock, etc., have different ideas as to how to maintain the structure. Jeff said we need to have a long-term vision to determine how we do that.

Jeff brought a map from the Clear Creek Master Plan. There are two different uses of the river, play course and slalom course shown. If someone uses on feature in the middle and people are trying to come down the course there is conflict. There is only one good hole at the moment. Jeff said we need to have a longer conversation, take a look at the master plan vision, and get a strategy in place to implement it. We should have a public input process. We are still using 1998 structures; we have great stakeholders around that could give good design advice. Jeff said he is a little concerned about budgets. Our every other year maintenance budget is used for emergencies and doesn’t cover dredging and new structures. We need to budget beyond basic maintenance. In the master plan we have a moveable structure under the Washington Bridge and it would be great to revisit that project.

John Putmum said he is Vice President of Team Colorado Whitewater Racing. They promote whitewater racing, with a goal to get kids and families involved in the sport. They have 6 kids whom will be going to Brazil to complete in the spring. They train here in Golden. John even brought his son to World Championships last year. They are moving out of Boulder and trying to attract more kids from Jeffco and Denver. There are only two places to hold slalom places, Golden and Lyons. Golden for now is it. It is hard to hold a race in Golden because the eddies are full of gravel, it isn’t the course that it once was. Golden is a great place to bring kids, get your gear, and enjoy the water. Team Colorado trains around the country and have seen a lot of great courses. Durango has just redone their whitewater course and is attracting great boaters. Golden can do the same. They would love to give back, stripping out garbage and debris, etc. They would love to provide perspective and technical advice. He also wanted to say thank you for holding the high school race last year with Lyons being in disarray.

Bart Pinkham owns Golden River Sports up the road. He wanted to thank the city for the work done thus far on the course. He is also looking to lend advice and expertise on the course and how to make it a regional and world class course. As part of the other events and races that come into town, there is good economic impact which we would also see attracting more boaters to Golden. The Clear Creek Management Plan has been very helpful, this last summer was much better. Without repairs and maintenance he hears from the boating community that people are going elsewhere to enjoy kayaking. The features are not necessarily working great at all water levels. We don’t have good features for low water...
levels; he is very in favor of the adjustable kayak structures like the one in Vail. A drought year makes our course very difficult to use. Dredging is very important.

Jeff closed asking for a place on the agenda next month. He said he likes Gary Lacy’s designs and we could come up with even more unique designs with public input. Let’s tap into the expertise of the community.

Jerry Hodgden said he has been on the Board for many years and was on the Board when the course was conceived. He said what made the course good was having Jeff on the Board to keep representation of the course users. It’s the users that know where the problems are. Jerry said we spend $50,000 every other year on the course. Jerry suggested one of the boater stakeholders join the board when there is a vacancy next spring.

Jeff would like approval of the Board to have their group of stakeholders involved in reviewing future plans, funding needs, etc a few times per year. The Board agreed.

6th & 19th INTERCHANGE:
Dan Hartman and Anne Beierle came to talk about the 6th and 19th Interchange. Dan said we have had public input through a couple meetings and have discussed this concept with City Council. We are to a point where we need to determine the look of the park space on top of the lid. It can affect the structural design. They brought several maps and concepts for the Board to view.

Dan said staff needs some feedback on the park space tonight including as trails and any structure elements that might affect soil depth. If you look at the 11x17 concept page, anything directly above 6th Avenue is on the lid is of concern. The other areas we can design as we please. We need to plan structurally for the weight on the lid.

Dan said there is a Lariat Loop concept option with design elements which mimic the towers on 19th. The more passive park concept which staff labeled “Mountain Park” is what came out of the public process and was Council’s direction. The reality is we need a public process led by the Parks Board to design the park in the future. It will be a couple years before the park is built on top of that lid, but soon we need to know how impactful it might be structurally to the lid.

Anne discussed the public meetings and the concepts Public Works presented to the community. It ended up being a horrible way to collect information; the items that were most popular were also the least popular. They have decided to focus on general themes, hence the mountain park concept.

Paul Kuhn said we have learned the bridge structure over the roadway has a membrane that needs to be as waterproof as possible. Then we have to build up with various layers of foam insulation and other materials to separate the soil. We will build a sub grade and then add the soil. There will be very different soils for different uses.
Casey Brown asked if the lid is flat, is their risk of drainage? Dan said there is some ability to drain water. Anne said it is similar to a green roof on a building.

Jerry Hodgden asked about the berm. Dan said is used to mitigate sound. Paul Kuhn said the noise we are mitigating is from the highway, one of the berms is also specifically for the adjacent neighborhood.

Paul Kuhn commented that traditional play elements, a shelter, etc., will not affect the load on the lid and is not of concern.

Dan said the actual park design we won’t need set for 18 months or so. The load is the only thing urgent at this time.

Anne said we assume we will provide taps and water for use either for establishment of grasses and shrubs or long term use.

Jerry Harcek said the concepts are great, he would like to see it tied into Chimney Gulch Trail if possible.

Rod said we can put these concepts on the December Agenda as well. Casey felt that would be good as several board members were missing tonight.

**CAPITAL PRIORITIES LIST:**

Casey Brown said he felt it was good we clarified a few points on the priorities list.

Emmy Dimitroff wondered why the band shell got moved so low. Emmy said it needs to be moved back up. She is concerned because the proposed master plan for the history park includes an event area; it is her perspective to spread things out along the corridor. If we put the band shell in the history park we are now overloading one end of the corridor. If the band shell is at least a placeholder on our priorities list it could be a replacement for the event stage in the history park. It used to be part of east Clear Creek Corridor.

Pete Gotseff said the kayak inflatable structure should remain a high priority; do we need to add something here for maintenance for the kayak course? Pete said staff needs to guide us here. Paul Burkholder said we have a purchase order in place for dredging but we couldn’t beat the ice, timing can be an issue. Rod added it would be great to have a whitewater stakeholder group as there are many perspectives on direction. Pete said play boating is a huge attraction.

Jerry Hodgden asked about the Aquatics Refresh and Expansion line item on the priorities list. Rod said it is a wish list item and could include new features, slides, and possibly pushing out walls and raising roofs to provide new water features.

Jerry Harcek said #2 should be Building new Skate parks with and “s” and $1 million as is currently budgeted.
Rod asked if we should add this to the December agenda too. The Board agreed.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

Rod said we will add the Annual Work Plan to your December agenda also. Council would like your plan by February 15; Torsten suggested it be on the December agenda. Amber will send out the code on the Parks Board to frame why we meet and what we are supposed to accomplish.

We had a request from Mr. Glueck to provide a member to be on a task team for the Parfet Transit task force. Casey Brown has kindly volunteered. If anyone else is interested, let us know.

Torsten spoke briefly about the Bachman property last month and the potential to do a social trail there. It has become contentious; there has been some discussion to hold a public meeting to gain feedback. Now there is even a group against having a public meeting. There are people that believe the property was purchased for open space and that wasn’t necessarily the understanding of the Board and Council at the time of purchase. We had plans for the playground at the very minimum.

Casey asked if we would Master Plan the property. Rod said we purchased the land to meet a recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan as this is an underserved park area in town.

Jerry Hodgden suggested we add the Bachman name to our priorities list. Casey agreed at least a master plan placeholder for the future of the space would be helpful.

Rod said we talked to the City Manager and Finance Director and our parks staff will take over maintenance of the bike park and will have increased funding to do so next year.

We will keep our regular December 16th meeting if you guys would like that. The Board agreed. Everyone also agreed to an informal holiday party.

**BOARD MEMBER’S COMMENTS:**

None

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