CITY OF GOLDEN
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Torsten Lyon
Laura Weinberg
Jerry Hodgden
Emmy Dimitroff
Stephanie Sung
Craig Middleton
Jerry Harcek
Pete Gotseff

ABSENT: Stephanie Sung

STAFF: Amber Thill, Parks and Recreation Analyst
Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf

PUBLIC: None

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 Laura Weinberg, seconded by Torsten Lyon, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The Minutes of January 15, 2013 were approved on a motion by Emmy Dimitroff, seconded by Torsten Lyon, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None

APEX TRAIL PROJECT:
Rod Tarullo said this morning we received a packet of information from Jefferson County Parks regarding Apex Trail. They are proposing to make improvements to the Apex Trailhead in the Heritage Square parking lot. Thursday night they have a Community Open House. Tuesday, April 2nd they will have another Open House. Tonight I wanted to provide the Parks Board information prior to release to the public. A little over 3 acres of City property is used for this improvement.
On the map that you have in front of you, the yellow area you see shows an odd shaped section which indicates City property. It includes an area of the upper parking lot of Heritage Square. They are proposing to add a restroom and improve the topography of the trail to make it more user friendly by removing the 20 percent slopes and adding a bottle filling and pet fountain. Jeffco is also planning a more pronounced entrance at the far northeast corner of the lot.

Feedback they are looking for is whether there is desire for a shelter in the area and whether or not there is interest in a small mountain bike skills area. In general the City is supportive. You have the opportunity to be involved in their public process and we can give any input on your behalf.

Jerry Hodgden said we eventually could be making a trail connection under the culvert to the east. Jerry also added the accessibility to a restroom is nice. Rod said the next closest public restroom is at Heritage Dells Park.

Torsten Lyon mentioned the sale of City lands which Mr. Glueck discussed with the Board several months ago. He said he is much more excited about these improvements rather than selling this piece of land. He asked if there was room for discussion to open up more City land for the bike skills area. Rod said this area is the Magic Mountain archeological site and there are lots of Indian artifacts there. We are not likely to disturb this site. Rod said the topography slopes to the east.

Laura Weinberg asked where the Jeffco Open Space boundary is. Rod said basically everything west of the proposed site.

Craig Middleton said when you drive out there to park and are waiting for a ride it is nice to have a place for shelter. He also said he agrees with Torsten that once you cross that bridge there has been disrepair.

Pete Gotseff asked if Scot Grossman is the Project Manager for the Quaker Street Trail Improvements and adding crusher fine. He is curious what the status of the area is.

**Bowling Alley Discussion:**

Rod said the bowling alley discussion was brought to our attention by a resident, Gabe Luchetta, who has written letters to the Mayor expressing interest in the City getting into the bowling business. He is interested in the City building and operating a facility. Rod provided a copy of the email Gabe had sent. Rod said it appears to staff that our needs and the Parks Board priorities far outreach the funding we have available today.

Rod said he did a little research about bowling projects that have been completed recently and he wasn’t encouraged.

Jerry Hodgden said there is a bowling alley on West Colfax in Lakewood and another on Kipling so there are places within 15 minutes of Golden. He wouldn’t preclude any of our
priorities. Jerry said there has been significant bowling alleys built but he would assume bowling might not be as fashionable as it once was.

Emmy Dimitroff said having grown up at the bowling alley to a degree, it is something within walking distance in town. She said there is significance that it is the last of those types of places. It is a place for teens to gather on their own. She said she thinks it brings up more of a question as to whether we are providing enough places for youth to go. Maybe we need to address this more than actually having a bowling alley. She said she suggested to City Council a youth area in the Community Center for teens like the Front Porch. She said she knows in Denver there are lots of places for kids to shoot baskets, etc. We are missing locations for kids that they don't have to share with adults.

Laura also said we don’t have anything indoors for kids. Jerry Hodgden asked if we would be better off with a family oriented place or a youth oriented place. Laura said for family activities we have that already with the gym, climbing wall and pool. We don't have a specific youth space for teens. She said from a space perspective a home that was within a park near downtown could be converted to a youth center.

Torsten agreed with Laura and said we are all looking for more places for teens. He said the bowling alley is an experience. He said the City may not be operating a bowling alley but maybe we are missing something.

Jerry Harcek said indoor volleyball facilities are also very popular. Jerry Hodgden added we have talked about volleyball at Splash. Jerry Harcek said there are many great ideas for amenities for teens.

Rod said in general the Community Center does a good job providing activities for families. The former game room is used more now than it was when it was a game room. His opinion would be that we shouldn’t be in the bowling business. A potential youth center is often thought the fix for teens and in his experience you get a very small number of youth that use it. It becomes a programming issue and serves very few. Other youth tend to feel excluded. Rod said there are a clergy and some service groups in town and one of the suggestions they have come up with is a youth center. Rod said one of the things that has impressed him about Golden is non-traditional activities teens are doing including climbing, biking, using the trails, etc.

Jerry Hodgden suggested we bring the teens in to discuss what they are looking for in town.

Laura wondered if we could call out programs appropriate for teens in the ReCreate Guide and provide them with their own section. Rod and Amber agreed.

Craig said he has a 15 year old at home; teens want to hang out with their friends. Golden may have a need to give teens a place to go. If it’s a small area it’s awkward, it almost needs to be a huge area with no need to program or register to participate.
Jerry Hodgden said let’s put it on an Agenda for the next meeting. Amber said the next regular meeting is April 16th to discuss Norman D Park Improvements. We may need to push it back to a later date.

**COUNCIL UPDATE REVIEW:**
Peter Gotseff recapped the meeting. He said the Board figured out our priorities and there was a good turn out that gave us good standing with Council. One of our main points was continuing to chip away at our priorities list. The Clear Creek Management Plan was a big topic of discussion. Peter said Torsten directly told Council we would like to be more involved in the Clear Creek Management Plan process. Last night many people from the Board were in attendance and it went well.

Torsten said when we were going throughout priorities for the year and tying that into the challenges of Clear Creek, Council was very receptive to expanding Clear Creek to the east to help ease the congestion with a new trail on the north side to Vanover.

Peter said we provided a cut sheet to Council following the meeting detailing our suggestions to extend the trail to Vanover Park on the north side and that improving East Clear Creek will help ease the congestion.

Rod said Mr. Glueck and I have been looking at the north side trail and Mr. Hartman has contacted the property owners. Jerry Hodgden said he has spoken to the Golden Mill and he is not opposed to the trail going through to Vanover.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**
Rod said Paul Burkholder is not with us tonight but he is beginning some of the work on Vanover Park including some seating walls, trail adjustments, concrete, etc. He will be working this throughout the summer.

Last night’s Clear Creek Workshop was great with about 70 attendees. With regard to the 2013 Management Strategies and projects we did take some Lion’s ball field fencing down, and have started to install some of the new split rail fencing. The trail will be widened on the north side between Billy Drew Bridge and the RV Park. Lastly, the Police Department is currently interviewing candidates for the Clear Creek Ranger position.

Rod also wanted to review the calendar with the Board. Tuesday April 2nd we have our next Clear Creek Workshop from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

Friday, April 5th is Party for Parks. Amber gave a brief description and the Board is welcome to let us know if they are interested in attending.

We are putting together a survey to gain feedback on Norman D Park Playground Improvements. We will take the data to develop concepts which will be presented during your meeting on April 16th. The purpose of the meeting is to generate discussion. On
Tuesday, May 7\textsuperscript{th} we will have a refined concept. It will be a public meeting to gain feedback on a plan. You as a Board would then have a chance to approve the final concept at your meeting on May 21\textsuperscript{st}.

**BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS:**

Peter asked Craig to share his position as a Golden resident and Board Member. Peter said when he joined he wanted to see connector trails improved, etc.

Craig said he was a student at Mines as a young adult. His position is to give something back to Golden. He is a big cyclist so trails are important and well as activities for young kids. Craig said he doesn’t have a specific agenda.

Laura said she saw that the Planning Commission had approved the new climbing facility by Panorama. She added Clear Creek Workshop #1 went well and Joy Lujan from the National Parks Service did a great job. She said she talked to some folks who use Norman D Park frequently and what they want is an outdoor pool on the north side of town.

Jerry Harcek said he wondered if there was any more news regarding the use of the City’s audit funds. Rod said Mr. Bestor presented options to Council on March 7\textsuperscript{th}. He proposed that they take $400,000 off the top and work on two projects, one on the North and one on the South. The first is a trail along Highway 93 to Pine Ridge Road and the second along Colfax up to Zeta. Mr. Bestor suggested to Council the other 3 million could be from seven different packages which included paying off debt, a municipal complex, a couple parks and recreation packages including playgrounds, GCC aquatics improvements, a functional fitness room, and replacing Ulysses Skate Park. Council reviewed the packages and didn’t come to much consensus. From what Rod has heard he would guess that our packages will have a lot of weight. We don’t know when they will decide how the funds will be used.

Laura said the schools are very excited and supportive. She said the City including school playgrounds in the playground upgrades package was great.

Emmy said she agreed the Clear Creek process and last night’s meeting was great.

Torsten said congrats to the Board Members who were reappointed and welcome to Craig.

Craig said he is excited to be here.

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