CITY OF GOLDEN
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Torsten Lyon
Pete Gotseff
Jerry Harcek
Stephanie Sung
Craig Middleton

ABSENT Emmy Dimitroff
Jerry Hodgden
Jerry Harcek

STAFF: Amber Thill, Parks and Recreation Analyst
Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf
Paul Burkholder, Parks, Forestry, Cemetery Manager
Chad Meinert, Recreation Manager

PUBLIC: None

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
The Agenda was approved on a motion by Stephanie Sung, seconded by Craig Middleton, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The Minutes of February 18, 2014 were approved on a motion by Stephanie Sung, seconded by Torsten Lyon, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None

CLEAR CREEK MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT:
Rod Tarullo said you received the Clear Creek Management Plan on Friday for your review.
Torsten Lyon said he had comments regarding the plan. He said some of the stakeholder’s descriptions mention the surrounding neighborhoods, but adjacent neighbors aren’t listed as a clear stakeholder. Rod said we are slowly rolling the plan out making tweaks and collecting feedback over the next few weeks. We will eventually have the Board approve it and then eventually seek adoption by City Council. Amber Thill said Torsten could submit his changes electronically and she will make the necessary updates and turn it back around for public comment.

**PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS UPDATE:**

Rod said we had a no show at the Golden Heights Playground public meeting and 30 at the Beverly Heights Playground public meeting. Many wanted to talk dog parks then quickly realized our funding is to replace the playground not the park. He said we have two very engaged nearby residents, one who likes the playground equipment to be replaced, and one who is looking for a more natural concept. March 31st is the redo Golden Heights Meeting at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds at 5pm. April 1st at 6:30pm will be the Beverly Heights second public meeting at the Community Center. This meeting will likely include some of the concepts we have shown with some semblance of nature play added. Based on what happened with Norman D Park, we got pretty far down the road with nature play and ultimately went to a new playground instead in the end. It is hard to get away from swings, slides, etc.

Stephanie Sung said she talked to a lot of people after the Beverly Heights meeting and anything we put in there will be new and cool and awesome. The citizen who is really excited about a nature theme would like to take some additional space in the park for some nature play. Rod said we can likely do some things outside the existing playground footprint, though we are then opening the door to much more and may not have a lot of funding to cover something completely different.

Torsten Lyon suggested a “real” rock boulder.

Craig Middleton asked how much funding was available for that park. Rod said we have about $200,000. The equipment will likely cost nearly $100,000. Craig said the fencing for the dog park at Beverly Heights only came in at about $15,000. Isn’t that pretty minimal?

Rod said there will be some level of maintenance for the dog park. The logical place for the dog park today is on the tank site at Beverly Heights. The Public Works Department continues to hit Rod with documentation from the state that the tank site is not appropriate for a dog park. Rod said when we get to a point that we have funding for park improvements we have the public process to determine what elements could or should be added. If we just need to find $15,000 we can do that, but the dog park has bigger implications than that and the neighborhood appears to be split about 50/50 as to whether they want a dog park.
2015-2016 BUDGET/CAPITAL PROJECTS:
Rod said we have a great new Council who had a retreat recently followed by a Management Team retreat. We budget every two years. 2015-2016 is our next budget cycle. That will begin in June or so. Some of the capital items may get lined up earlier than that. Mr. Bestor has asked for us to start compiling the list of big projects for that time period. We have a lot of data. Sometime in the next couple months we will need to produce a document of all our capital projects in the cue. Please review the list Amber provided for you tonight from your 2012 prioritization. We just want it on your radar screen and to get some idea as to whether you want to spend some time on this in future meetings or if the existing list is pretty close to where you want it to be.

Torsten said at a quick glance there seems to be several items that need to be checked off the list. Updating the list would be great if staff could remove completed items. He said he is pretty happy with what is on the top 30 or so items. Amber said she will update the list and resend it to the Board for review.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
Rod said we have funding to replace the basketball court at White Ash Mine Park. Most people wanted to replace the basketball court after we surveyed the neighborhood with a mailer. The court needed to be better than the court which preceded it. We will do Geotech to make sure what goes in there will stay for a long awhile as well as install better baskets.

Rod said at our last meeting Jerry Hodgden had asked about meeting with the Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Rod spoke to their Director who said they went to Arvada’s Board recently. It was a sharing time for Board and city accomplishments. Rod is happy to facilitate this if the Board is interested.

Pete Gotseff asked how personalities on a Board affect the ability of staff to get work done. Rod said it depends on the requests of citizens and the project itself. Pete said he would be interested in how other Boards get projects finished. Rod said he could look for Boards and Commissions Training opportunities. There is an Annual Conference put on by the Colorado Municipal League that is typically in June. He will follow up.

Craig suggested just one Board member with a mission visit another Board rather than the entire Board to make it more productive. The Board agreed that could be a good idea.

Rod said we submitted a GOCO Grant for the W 44th Avenue Trail connection. It is a very expensive trail, but a critical piece. It comes in at about $900,000. We have partnered with Jefferson County and will hopefully be awarded the GOCO funds to make it a reality. Award announcements are in June.

Public Works is building a sound berm from the driveway of the trail head at North Table Mountain back to the edge of Golden development.
Rod reminded the Board last year we took a field trip to see the mine on the north hogback. The State had some funds to close it but the neighbors didn't like their options. We dropped the project but will likely need to start some neighborhood meetings to try to find a reasonable solution in the near future.

The water line is under repair now along Clear Creek. The trail is closed and we understand it is frustrating, but they are moving along quickly and we will try to get it open as soon as we can.

Additionally, Rod said the City Council has approved a project to add access points and the library hardscape project which we showed you a couple months ago to the Clear Creek Corridor. They are mobilizing for all of this on March 17th. We don't have costs back on the landscaping element of the project. We showed you several concepts for the hardscaping division between the trail and the library parking lot. They have decided to go with just the landscaping rather than a fence or retaining wall. They will also make improvements just beyond the Police Station.

Council has been interested in the latest and greatest food truck craze. They have asked staff to contemplate locations for a food truck. Rod said he personally has reservations about introducing additional elements to the Clear Creek Corridor. Rod said we are working towards the Museums hosting the food trucks on the west side of the museum rather than in the congested kayak lot. The rotating food trucks would replace the existing museum food vendor and would take a few parking spaces allocated to the museums now.

Rod said there will be a permit fee for truck vendors, who will also have to meet insurance requirements. They must also have a Sales Tax License and a Business License.

**BOARD MEMBER’S COMMENTS:**
Torsten asked about the body found in the Clear Creek Corridor. Rod said it was a resident of Golden, a male in his 60s. He was found behind City Hall, it was midday, in an area by the water hole. The water in the area he was found was not deep enough to have drifted him there. It appears he probably came off the trail and landed in that spot. Speculation was a heart attack but we have not received any toxicology reports yet.

Torsten said Mike Bestor will be talking at Golden Beer Talks at the Windy Saddle next week.

Rod said he will also be giving his State of the City Address on March 21st.

Craig asked if there was any movement on the Clear Creek Trail to the west through the Canyon. Rod said the County has been working on the 5 mile segment, most of which is in Gilpin County.
Stephanie commented that the Beverly Heights Playground meeting was well attended and a lot of conversation was generated on INeighbors. In her opinion the neighborhood generally wants to see a traditional playground.

Peter asked if Discovery Park was a dud. Rod said it isn’t the most active because of its size. Stephanie said it’s so hot on the play area. Torston said his son liked it in his younger years.

Peter said we need to make sure we add shade where needed.

Pete also added we should add a sledding hill. Rods said we don’t have a designated hill but there are plenty of social hills around town.

Rod said the Astor House is structurally not good. The foundation is not solid; there is some cobble and wood in the foundation. There are a couple different flaws, sagging, and poor support. The proposal is to put steel beams inside to support it and a concrete foundation. The bill would be approximately $450,000. Nathan Richie, our Museum Manager, is working hard to try to find funding to help with the project. Nathan is also investigating the potential to use it as a National Boarding House Museum.

**ADJOURN:**
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Torsten Lyon, seconded by Craig Middleton, and carried unanimously.