PRESENT: Torsten Lyon  
Pete Gotseff  
Stephanie Sung  
Jerry Hodgden  

ABSENT: Casey Brown  
Emmy Dimitroff  
Craig Middleton  
Jerry Harcek  

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

PUBLIC: Mary Jane Hale  

ROLL CALL: Torsten Lyon, 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 Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Stephanie Sung, and carried unanimously.  

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of June 15, 2014 were approved on a motion by Pete Gotseff, seconded by Jerry Hodgden, and carried unanimously.  

PUBLIC COMMENT: None  

LUBAHN TRAIL DISCUSSION: Mary Jane Hale introduced herself and would like to talk to the Board about the condition of Lubahn Trail. She provided a power point presentation with illustrations. She said the Lubahn Trail is on S. Table Mountain and is significant with a lot of traffic. It represents South Table Mountain. South Table is iconic to the City of Golden. The Trail is a historic trail that was built by Professor Jack Lubahn. In recent years it has had a significant increase in
foot traffic and is in need of maintenance. She said some of the condition issues include the increasing foot traffic. Trail maintenance cannot keep up with increasing trail traffic. There is habitat destruction and excessive erosion. There is litter, dog droppings and dilapidated/non-existent signage.

Mary Jane suggested starting the effort by recruiting 10-15 core volunteers and get city approved training from respected trail building organizations such as VOC and CFI. These trained core volunteers along with other neighborhood volunteers would select, with input from the city, and perform work on 3-4 sites for the initial project sessions focused on trail closure using natural barriers, drainage correction, and corridor clearing. She would then recommend we continue this effort through the season. She also provided a photo of areas that are in need of repair.

She said the Boy Scouts have recently done some work up there including log rails, signage and a trash can. Every time she is up there she sees people misusing the trail. There should be more education. Volunteers of Outdoor Colorado (VOC) suggested recruiting 10-15 volunteers. They would select and perform work on 3-4 sites for the initial project sessions focused on trail closure using natural barriers, drainage correction, and corridor clearing. She would then recommend we continue this effort through the season. She also provided a photo of areas that are in need of repair.

Jerry Hodgden said it is a great idea and he hopes this could work out. Mary Jane Hale said she had a group in mind including several of her neighbors. Save the Mesas could be one organization. Jerry suggested they continue to use the Boy Scouts. Jerry said we did have quite a group there at one time.

Initially she would suggest we enlist the VOC, then a neighborhood effort. She said it is very important to Golden. It doesn’t reflect well on Golden to have the popular trail in disrepair.

Torsten Lyon asked Rod for an update. Rod said we get requests a lot from Eagle Scouts. We had work done up there in June and there will be more in the near future. We get requests for opportunities for volunteers on a regular basis. It can be Community Service, Corporate Work Day, etc. Mary Jane Hale said she is concerned untrained groups up there would harm the trail. She would suggest a core group that these volunteers could provide their efforts to.

Rod said we have worked with VOC in the past; Paul Burkholder would be our expert and take the lead on any volunteer efforts. VOC could help, and we would welcome citizen support.

Pete Gotseff said we are trying to build support within the neighborhood and Golden to go out with a core group. This would encourage stewardship over Golden Trails. Torsten added ultimately the City is responsible.
Torsten said he is hearing a coordinated effort between citizens and Golden staff to come to a common goal and start to take action.

Mary Jane Hale said the neighborhood has come together with a solution for a problem that we have been trying to solve for awhile. This is in the best interest of the trail and minimizes the efforts of the city. It could keep momentum going and ownership of the trail. The idea is a grassroots effort. They want the effort to be done responsibly and to give it longevity.

Torsten asked what the best way to proceed is. Rod said he would suggest the Board take action to have it proceed. He said Paul and Mary Jane should get together so that Paul can understand vision and vise versa. Rod said one piece that comes to mind is the city’s requirements of volunteers on city property from a liability standpoint.

Mary Jane Hale said she doesn’t want to lose steam, Rod said it is just a meeting with Paul the intent isn’t to take the steam out of the idea. If anything it will push the process forward. We are excited to have citizens excited about helping us.

Torsten added that budgetary requirements will eventually come up and we will need to plan for and determine how to meet the needs.

Jerry Hodgden said the city could perhaps provide signage as well. Mary Jane said there used to be signage there and it has disappeared. Interpretive signage needs to be replaced as well.

Jerry Hodgden suggested Mary Jane contact the Councilor from Ward 3.

Peter said this is a model that exists. Some of our VOC friends want to operate without the VOC. It is currently being done in Fort Collins. They work directly with staff, don’t have a web presence. The present their ideas to staff and they can access the tools and do the repairs while keeping the City informed. In VOC there is a waiver and another layer to work through. It would be nice if Golden could have this core of people who love this area and are volunteering. He could see this entity gaining traction.

Jerry Hodgden made a motion to support Mary Jane Hale’s Citizen Group to meet with Paul Burkholder to lead a stewardship effort to improve Lubahn Trail, seconded by Pete Gotseff, and carried unanimously.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

Rod said the playgrounds at Golden Heights and Beverly Heights are moving forward to hit their target date of August 1. We will want to have a celebration for each playground when they are finished and a ribbon cutting.

Rod said we also have White Ash Mine Basketball Court replacement. It has been a challenge. That is getting underway now.
The City Council is going to discuss next Thursday night an initiative called Go Golden. It is being proposed to take place in the month of September. What this is contemplated to be would kick off with the Wellness Clinic as a part of the USA Pro Challenge at the end of August. It would last the following month and conclude Oct 2nd. The idea is not a weight loss challenge but a get moving challenge. It could include Councilor led walks, recreation programs outdoors and private sector fitness opportunities outside. These programs would be free for anyone who wants to join. Then one event on each of the weeks will be an evening out where recreation staff will do family activities such as parachutes, etc. Participants would receive wooden nickels and at the end of the month they could be exchanged for trinkets.

Torsten suggested keeping the ribbon cuttings for the playgrounds separate at both of those parks. If they are on schedule for August 1 let’s not let that get lost.

Rod said your efforts at your last meeting on the native grasses topic was great. There will likely be a tour proposed for your next Board meeting which would be August 19th. The groups who would attend include City Council, the Sustainability Advisory Board and this Board. Staff has taken a preliminary tour of these native grass areas and what conditions they are in. It was very enlightening. This tour would start at six and likely take two hours with another hour of discussion.

Torsten Lyon suggested the Parks Board talk to Jerry Harcek and see if they can do the Golden Bike Park Update on August 12th and hold their regular monthly meeting. Tour of native grasses on would then be the 19th. Motion was made by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Stephanie Sung and carried unanimously.

Rod said the Fees and Charges Policy was discussed at Council’s Study Session. One of the Councilors asked for more detail and some additional documentation. We will likely be taking that back to Council for adoption. The Cemetery hasn’t covered its cost the last few years as required by the policy. We got off the raw water system and water is a big deal at the Cemetery. Our water consumption and costs are greatly reduced this year.

Rod said staff will be preparing our budget between now and September. We also have a capital projects meeting next week. If any of you have any strong feelings about anything different than what you have told us in the past please send it my way. We will potentially be adding additional staff for parks to handle increased maintenance responsibilities. We will also be reviewing fees through the budget cycle.

The Museum Collections Policy will be up for discussion next week. Rod doesn’t foresee any problems with that. Next week at Council is the HVAC rezoning for this building. If Council chooses not to go through with the rezoning our capital budget will be hit for $500,000.

We will be working with the School District and a private contractor to do after school programs at the middle school this fall.
Amber Thill will be responsible for the RV Park starting August 1.

Next week is our accreditation visit. You have been invited to a meet and greet on Wednesday at Fossil Trace. The purpose is to meet the folks from out of town; it will be a fun informal event.

Last Friday at Splash we pulled a 20 month baby out of the pool. Our staff administered rescue breathing and CPR. Our staff acted immediately and did a great job. It was very traumatic for staff as well as many bystanders. Our staff had him responsive by the time paramedics got there. He is released from the hospital and the parents brought him back to thank the staff. We are really proud.

We have received quite a few emails and phone calls commending the staff for doing a great job.

Jerry Hodgden made a motion the Parks Board express their appreciation and pride in the actions of City Aquatics staff. Seconded by Stephanie Sung and carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS:
Pete said he appreciated Mary Jane’s efforts tonight and felt many citizens would like to take stewardship over trails.

Jerry Hodgden suggested looking through the lockers in the men’s room to make sure they all have hooks.

ADJOURN:
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Stephanie Sung, and carried unanimously.