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 Jerry Harcek, seconded by Torsten Lyon, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The Minutes of November 19, 2013 were approved on a motion by Laura Weinberg, seconded by Craig Middleton, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Jason Robertson came to thank the Board for the work completed at Norman D Park. His kids are very excited. He said there was a conversation about extending the park to the north end to give a welcoming opportunity to walk down to the creek and across.

Craig Middleton asked if funds weren’t available to make any further additions, can the neighborhood establish a volunteer project day or assist in some way. Rod Tarullo said that is certainly a possibility. Rod said he needs to talk to planning regarding access to the
creek. At one time we had talked about a single track making a loop around the creek. We also have to confirm with storm drainage that they don’t have any concerns about access to the creek. Jason also mentioned there is a fear of mountain lions along the drainage ways.

**GCC POOL SANITATION:**
Jerry Hodgden said a friend of his, Dr. Lou, is an avid swimmer at GCC. He is worried that there is something in the pool that is making him sick with sinus infections. He has swam his entire life. He said this doesn’t affect everyone but it is related to chlorine and can affect him. He has provided a thorough description as to how to treat the water in the pool.

Rod said we take water quality very seriously. One of the things he suggested to Jerry Hodgden was we have not received this concern or complaint. We would want to visit with Dr. Lou. We keep extensive records and would like to see any correlation. There are many ways to sterilize water; some people are more sensitive to certain chemicals than others. You can also develop sensitivity overtime. This could be your own personal health like getting an allergy to food. Jerry provided us some articles that highlight different sterilization options. We are familiar with all of them and would like to check in with this gentleman.

Chad Meinert asked when the symptoms began. Jerry Hodgden said about two weeks ago. Rod said we want to be sure there isn’t an issue here. The County comes in to do a health inspection once a month and we test the water multiple times per day. Chad said if you are in the pool first thing in the morning, the HVAC system kicks on and there may be more circulating in the air. We also haven’t changed chemical product or processes in many years.

**2014 PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT FUNDS DISCUSSION:**
Rod Tarullo asked the Board what they have decided. Emmy Dimitroff said she believes South Ridge is appropriate as the second option for playground improvements after Golden Heights. She feels this park is more frequented, is adjacent to an underserved area, although it is newer than some of our other parks. She said Heritage Dells is another good choice; the Bachman property is nearby and we have heard residents in the neighborhood would like a playground.

Jerry Harcek said go with the oldest playground and work our way up. Just for continuity and the sake of having replaceable parts. So that would be Beverly Heights.

Pete Gotseff said they all seem the same to him, mid 90’s structures. He feels if it’s time to replace them.

Torsten Lyon said he also likes the logical approach and he would say systematic replacement makes sense.

Laura Weinberg said she also believes we need to replace with age.
Craig Middleton said he agreed, he toured the playgrounds, and will agree with the rest of the board to replace the oldest first.

Jerry Hodgden said his recommendation is age and condition replacement. The oldest in the system would be Beverly Heights.

Laura said public process could determine what the park will look like; it doesn’t necessarily need to be another younger child playground.

Rod said he has recently felt we should plan the entire Beverly Heights Park prior to making any play structure replacements. He has come to the perspective now that it is the oldest in the system once we finish Golden Heights. We could do something with the play structure that wouldn’t be a throwaway and we could potentially just add to it in the future.

Jerry Hodgden said, like Norman D Park, we can utilize pocket areas of Beverly Heights. Rod said we have had a complaint from a resident that the new play area in Norman D Park is taking up too much space. We tried really hard to comply with what we heard and keep a large open space in Norman D.

Rod said he is hearing the park improvements for 2014 will be Golden Heights and Beverly Heights with funds remaining to be spread throughout the system. Emmy said she agreed with this, they travel to other playgrounds and it will be a good destination.

Jerry Hodgden said he would like to throw out Cressman Gulch once again. It wouldn’t hurt to put in a feature. Rod said we will come back to Cressman later in the meeting.

Craig wondered if workout stations would be nice along the gulch area.

Rod said Golden Heights is just beginning a neighborhood planning process, we are planning to tag team with the planning department to get the ball rolling quickly to get these new playgrounds in. Laura said that will be good, especially for Beverly Heights.

Laura suggested in 2015 we continue to chip away on playgrounds over 20 years old. We need to plan ahead in the coming years so we don’t have to worry about replacement parts. Rod said we have a new budget cycle this summer and we will identify our needs. We have a very thorough infrastructure book just to take care of what we have. It’s not that we are not keeping track, it’s just how the elected officials decide to divide the pie.

Emmy Dimitroff made a motion to make playground improvements to Golden Heights and Beverly Heights in 2014 with the playground improvements funds allocated. The motion was seconded by Torsten Lyon and carried unanimously.

**CLEAR CREEK SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE:**
Torsten said he has had continued discussions with Mrs. Bidwell, he hoped we could get an update from staff.
Rod said we met with a group from the neighborhood and we have had some internal staff discussions regarding the calendar items you brought last month. After the first of the year things will likely start to ramp up again with Clear Creek parking.

Rod said we have some funds to continue to work on the Clear Creek Corridor including the bank area behind the library. It is extremely eroded and one of the areas the ERC study suggested we hard scape. We intend to create some contemplative space and a viewing area which also provides some level of access. Public Works has hired a company to complete design work to armor the area and protect the bank. The focus area is Billy Drew Bridge east to the museum and perhaps extending behind the police parking lot. We would like to bring the preliminary design work to you in January. It will likely be the 21st.

Rod would suggest we have a meeting on the 7th, if preliminary design isn't ready we will have the regular meeting on the 21st.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
Rod said we had a fun couple of nights with Clear Creek. You have probably seen the article about our winter flood. The creek froze in a manner the water wasn’t flowing under the ice. You would have a flow of water on the surface that would freeze. It was changing every hour. We had floods and ice over the ball fields, backing up from the storm sewers. We watched it for several hours. We have rows of RVs along the edge of the creek. Water would come in to the trail. There wasn’t any eminent danger, if we get several inches you might be frozen in your RV in a certain spot. Rod said staff went door to door as we didn’t know what would happen. Tuesday we had the ice damn break just below Idaho Springs. We got the warning then cleared the RV Park. We have not let anyone go back in the spots along the creek. When the water came down it was hung up around Tunnel One and the force then began to diminish. Rod said we still are not totally out of the woods. There could be a point that ice collapses and flows again it could damn up and flood.

Rod said Great Outdoors Colorado has a grant cycle specifically for flood ravaged places from the September floods. Our winter flood would not be eligible. We had virtually no damage from that flood with the exception of Apex Park. We own a small piece of that trail. Jeffco has applied for funds to improve the trails that were washed away. Rod said some of the areas are eligible for FEMA. These GOCO funds are to assist the communities to meet the FEMA match.

We have $50,000 budgeted at White Ash Mine to replace the basketball court. What we are doing is asking the HOA to gather resident input on whether to replace the court, remove it, or other ideas. With $50,000 there are not many other ideas we can fund. We are doing our communication with the neighborhood and we will only spend the funds there if they want it replaced. Laura and Jerry suggested we mail the information out as well. Rod agreed. Emmy also suggested a sign on the property like Norman D Park. Amber said she could work on that.
Rod said May 8th is your placeholder for your update meeting with Council.

Rod then brought up 2A and 2B. 2B is the Ridge Road property. There have not been any formal proposals to the city for that land. There has been word there may be some small access and the ability to solve the drainage issue but not necessarily purchase the entire property. The rest of the property in this case would be maintained by the city and business as usual.

Torsten said that would not reduce our maintenance, Rod said that is true, and we have heard a lot from the neighbors that the park is actually being used.

Laura asked if the piece of land could go through a public process so that we have an awareness of how it is being used or how it should be used. We could open that up to see what people would like to see there. Staff agreed.

Jerry Hodgden asked if we should have a public meeting and invite the neighbors.

Pete said I thought we were trying to get rid of this parcel. The citizens voted to allow the city to sell it.

Rod said the neighbors have now expressed interest in it, as well as many residents who use it. Rod said he would suggest we give it some time and see what comes out of it. In visiting with the neighbors we have met with over 30 people on the property.

2A is the parking lot on Wyoming Circle. There has been some talk to keep the western portion for trail access while selling the eastern portion for a buildable lot. The city thinks the lot price would likely be $120,000. The property that would be retained would accommodate about 6 parking spaces and provide access to N. Table.

Jason Robertson asked if Jeffco might be interested in purchasing the lot as it has been full lately for overflow.

Torsten said he is still unclear what our goal is, whether to make money or remove maintenance. Rod said we needed the vote of the people to allow those conversations to happen. He feels what we need to determine is the best use of the property. Torsten said the current use of the property is not bad. Rod said it isn't, but could be more efficient.

Rod said there are no significant HVAC decisions, we are still collecting data. Hopefully we have all our data on what it would cost to remove it or modify it in the next month. We now have radiant heat hooked up to provide heat around the perimeter of the aquatics area.

BOARD MEMBER’S COMMENTS:
Jerry Hodgden asked about the Golden Cemetery. There was some discussion about the Cemetery at City Council.
Rod said Finance reported we would not recover our operational expenses this year at the Cemetery. We go up and down out there. It is a really interesting business model to make a cemetery cover its cost. Private sector has a lot of up sale; we don't really do that out there. We have completed a lot of research to try to figure out how to break even. The water cost seems to be a huge variable. We put a pipe line in a few years ago to use creek water. The City's water fund paid for the capital. We have to pay treated water prices until we have repaid that cost. We are 6 or more years out. If we didn't have that burden we would break even in our operational costs. We have looked at lots of ideas from a marketing standpoint. We have had internet sales, are likely moving towards adding green burials, and installed a memory wall for those who have been cremated. There would be a record of the individual at the city clerk's office.

Torsten said he was talking to a friend at Vanover Park and they asked about parks closer to North Table.

Laura asked about any news regarding the Park Rangers. Rod said he had a meeting with police last week and we talked about prioritizations as to what they would enforce and how far they could reach. They are focusing primarily on Clear Creek, Rod expressed he would like to see them expand into the neighborhoods. They also discussed the possibility of visiting other less frequented areas without adjacent residents such as Tony Grampsas.

Rod said staff met with COMBA and volunteers and we feel comfortable that things at the Golden Bike Park are at a point where the insurance company should leave us alone. We will be sure we are filling the requests of the agreement on both sides.

Jerry Hodgden said the locker rooms at GCC need some attention. Soap dispensers are empty, lockers are broken. There was also ice by the doors to the entrance of this place that need to be maintained better.

Jerry Hodgden also talked about the south side Clear Creek Trail and a grand opening. Emmy said we need to continue to strive for balance and we don’t need to draw more attention to Clear Creek. Emmy said she believes we need to continue to focus on the overpopulation of the creek. Jerry said that trail is made for walking and it is appropriate to let people know it is open. Emmy said people already know the trail is open and are using it.

Laura said thank you for the indoor track rule change. Now the rules on the track allow kids under 16 to use the track to a certain age, with even younger children able to use it with adult supervision.

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