Tuesday, May 17, 2011

PRESENT: Meredith Campbell  
          Dylan Grange  
          Jerry Hodgden  
          Emmy Dimitroff  
          Jenny Ricks  
          Peter Gotseff  
          Jeff Oxenford

ABSENT: Stephanie Sung

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

ROLL CALL:  
Meredith Campbell, 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 Hodgden, seconded by Dylan Grange, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
The amended Minutes of April 5, 2011 were approved on a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Dylan Grange, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:  
Brian Quarnstrom said, as a resident of Golden, he wanted to thank the Parks and Recreation Department for everything they have done in the community. The sand volleyball courts have gone into disrepair in Lions Park. It is now a gravel pit. He has a lot of friends who have made comments that it needs to be refilled with sand or grass. He went out and got a quote from Pioneer and a rough estimate for sand is $26 per ton. So that would cost about $2,600 to $3,600. It could also increase pavilion rentals.

Jerry Hodgden said we have been working on the Clear Creek Corridor. He said he spoke with Brian and they also discussed outdoor exercise equipment. It would be a nice compliment to Golden along the creek. He said he knows there is currently exercise equipment but we may want to replace it with newer technology. Meredith Campbell said there will also be an area where the tennis court was when it is taken out per the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan which could be another potential location.

Rod Tarullo said he has seen a lot of product lately which is definitely next generation. They might be fuller functioning pieces of equipment.

Jerry said during our discussions of the Clear Creek Corridor, we will keep in mind Brian's good suggestions.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:  
Meredith thanked the Board and staff for all their help the last two years that she served as Chair. Jerry said it
has been a pleasure to be her Vice Chair as she rarely misses a meeting. Meredith said we will elect new officers tonight. Emmy, Stephanie, Jenny, Peter and Jerry are eligible for Chair or Vice Chair. Emmy and Jenny have expressed reluctance. That leaves Peter and Jerry. She said she will support whomever. Meredith nominated Peter for Chair and Jerry for Vice Chair. Peter said he would gladly serve as Vice Chair. Meredith made a motion to nominate Jerry Hodgden as Chair and Peter Gotseff as Vice Chair, Emmy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

SMOKING IN THE PARKS:
Meredith said Andy Schmidt sent letters to the Board and even volunteered to help contribute to signage reading no smoking in the parks. Meredith invited him to come to this meeting. He couldn’t make it this evening; however, Susan Westoff, Jefferson County Public Health, is here to talk to us about signage. She will also bring back the discussion regarding Jefferson County grant funding which needs to be utilized as it will expire shortly.

Susan said she had six responses to the survey she distributed to the Board regarding signage. She met with Andy and he is very passionate about no smoking due to the loss of a friend to lung cancer. She said she read through the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes from last week. She said the nice thing about Golden’s no smoking ordinance is a statement protecting the health and safety of the children.

She said Emmy provided an email combining a few different ordinances on one sign. No alcohol, smoking, pick up after your dogs, etc. Susan also brought some signage examples based on discussions with the Board and City of Golden Police Department. She has $7,000 in grant funding for signage which expires in June. Meredith said if we said tonight we want one sign at every playground in town what would that cost? Paul Burkholder guessed approximately $50 per sign. The funding could also be used for other education in addition to signage. The funding is from the State Health Department. Rod asked if we put signage up and they are vandalized down the road, will we be required to replace them. Susan said there is nothing like that in the ordinance. The State Health Department also doesn’t have any strings attached. Susan said the funding could also go towards a potential “Be Courteous” week. The signs need to be understandable, clear, and the message respectful. The ordinance says that a violator could be ticketed and fined up to $999 dollars. They would be ticketed and the judge would determine the fine. Positive signs are more effective and we want to show the purpose. She passed around examples. She said the white examples she drafted herself.

Meredith said she liked the “welcome” example. Susan said there currently is no law regarding smoke free parks. Just within 25 feet of the playground. The ordinance has been passed. You don’t have to post signs, it is up to you. Signage is powerful for self policing. It is meant to protect health. Multiple Golden Police Officers showed interest in signage as it assists them with their job.

Jerry said this is just a playground issue. We should just focus on the playground ordinance. He said he liked the simple signage. Susan said she could organize the “Be Courteous” event for staff. Susan said the event could focus on more than just no smoking in playgrounds. She said there are many benefits to signage and when a law is passed it is a great thing. Whether or not smoking in the playground was an issue, it is a great thing. Jerry said we need signage and he would recommend something simple.

Meredith encouraged the Board for comments. Torsten Lyon and Peter Gotseff agreed to signage at each playground. Emmy said her sign just encouraged several ordinances on one sign. Meredith said this sign is just for a playground. Emmy said if we are not using all the funding it would be great to have an education component or event. Susan said we could have a Healthy Cook Out at Lions Park as another option. Jerry made a motion to install one sign at each playground. Peter seconded. Torsten opposed. Torsten suggested two signs at a playground such as Lions where size might warrant it. Susan suggested extra signage should also be ordered should we have vandalism. Dylan suggested it should depend upon the size of the playground how many signs are installed. Jerry said as we advise the people that there is no smoking we have met our needs. Meredith suggested we have extra signage and if we see a need for additional to be installed we do so at that time. Susan said no citations have been written; however, we have not been educating so the police have not begun enforcing. Rod said we will bring citations issued a year from now to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for review. Paul said he will need to place the signage so we need to know if the ordinance is 25 feet from edge of the playground or center. Meredith said we could have additional signs and maybe some parks need more than one. Susan said there are 14 playgrounds and we could make 25 signs. Torsten Lyon made a motion to create 25 no smoking signs for use in Golden parks, seconded by Emmy Dimitroff, and carried unanimously.

CULTURAL SERVICES AND MUSEUMS ADVISORY BOARD:
Liz Cook, Chair of the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board, said the City took over management of the museums almost a year ago as part of the agreement between the City and the non-profit Golden History Museums. This Board was initially a way to provide advisement to the City as the expertise of the non-profit members could assist staff in the best interests of the museums. She said the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board met four times in the last year and it became clear things were going smoothly and the transfer was successful. She said the Board feels it is important to have a venue for citizens to provide feedback regarding the museums. She said they felt the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board might be the best Board for this. Meredith Campbell clarified the Friends of the Golden History Museums would remain in place as a non-profit in terms of fundraising. Liz said the non-profit would continue to assist with the museums and the focus is primarily fundraising and includes the same people currently on the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board.

Rod Tarullo said when the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Committee was originally created by Council they had a clause to perpetuate or dissolve in January 2011. Several current members are not residents of the City of Golden and all other Boards in the City have a residency requirement. The Council will be looking to the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to make recommendations. We should take this opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of this potential transition. Rod said the non-profit would remain an independent group. Sometimes requests may arise on the museum side and it would be good to have a citizen’s board to hear requests or suggestions.

Meredith asked if we need to make a motion now. Rod said if the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board are amiable we will take it to Council as a recommendation. Council may choose to take the recommendation or not.

Bill McKee said the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board is scheduled to meet with Council this year. Rod said the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is scheduled to meet with Council August 4th. We could put meetings for the museum or parks earlier than August if needed. Bill said the Golden Landmarks Association used to operate the Museums and in 1997 the Friends of Golden History Museums was formed. They had a contract with the City to operate the museums. At the time the Historic Preservation Board provided oversight. Bill said he spoke with that Board and we haven’t heard back from them. The museums are now a division of the Parks and Recreation Department so the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board seem to be the way to go. The Friends would continue to work with the City.

Jerry said in this situation if the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board find ourselves without a particular expert on the Board we can always form a subcommittee and gather support from the community in museum related issues. Jerry said we did this in the past with the band shell by opening a subcommittee. We are not museum people but we can also work with Nathan, the Museum Director, when needed.

Emmy Dimitroff said she works closely with the Clear Creek History Park. She said it is very important to have continued advice from the Friends group. She said there is a greater depth of knowledge that we would want to tap into. Bill said he has discussed this with several museum experts in the community. There isn’t any sentiment to keep the Board going. Bill said perhaps even this Board could evolve to include arts and the culture of the community.

Peter Gotseff said it seems all the tools are there. The non-profit entity Friends exists and if someone isn’t happy or has a request they can come to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and we can direct staff or Council. Peter said at some point he doesn’t know how Cultural Services was included in the Board title. Rod said he thinks it was specifically put in to help qualify for funding for grants. Bill said the SCFD also wanted the Board to include a specific name. Nathan said he will follow up with SCFD. Nathan said we have been prequalified for SCFD and are able to apply as local government. They are very aware of our situation. Just having the Friends non-profit arm is enough to appease them. Bill said most City museums have a non-profit. Rod said it is important to recognize, just as in any other area, you will be asked to be advocates for the museums. Meredith asked if any Museum Board member would want to join the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Liz suggested Friends could also visit the Board regularly.

Emmy Dimitroff made a motion to recommend oversight of the Golden History Museums as stated in the Ordinance #1872 is transferred by official document to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board upon which the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board would absolve. The motion was seconded by Torsten Lyon, and carried unanimously.
Nathan Richie said the opening of the Turn it Up Exhibit is June 3rd and everyone is invited.

CLEAR CREEK MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:
Rod Tarullo said we have mentioned previously a Parks and Recreation Department Infrastructure Inventory Report for the whole department which covers all our assets and replacement times, etc. It includes the useful life of a playground, land costs, etc. In addition, we have all of these potential future capital recommendations from our original Department Master Plan and the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan. The Board has already begun prioritizing from the Department Master Plan. In front of you is a list of items in the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan. Give careful thought and consideration to how you want to prioritize these elements. Rod recommended the Board make some prioritization that we can start to whittle away on. Rod said he would suggest ADA and the tennis court type items first. You need to figure out how important filling in the pond is to you.

Council has been mildly directing staff to look at the pond first. Rod said Paul and Public Works has worked on planning it. We want to do it all at once. Having fill dirt is really important and we think we have most of the dirt needed at the Cemetery right now after the remodel. Rod has asked Paul to work on irrigation for that area. We see the earliest as this fall. We will also want a public process. Rod suggested the Board dedicate one of the future meetings to have public process regarding filling in the pond. Staff would give a brief explanation and get feedback from citizens.

Jerry said before we do a public process wouldn’t it be good to know what the future of the area will be. Torsten said if we fill in the pond now when we put in the realignment of 10th we would then be putting concrete over it. Rod said he doesn’t see the money in our near future for the realignment so it would likely be a throw away.

Meredith asked about the South Side Trail of Clear Creek which is planned and budgeted already. Rod said that will happen as soon as the Colorado School of Mines gives us the clearance. Meredith said there are several areas referencing trails in the document before them. Rod said the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan is on the website and each recommendation is given a number to reference the improvement. We will have www.clearceekplan.net through December. Meredith and Jerry requested a hard copy of the Master Plan.

Torsten suggested addressing user conflict first. Rod suggested we get the Board hard copies with the map then you can take your time and prioritize. We will put it on the agenda for your next meeting. There isn’t anything very time sensitive unless you want to address the pond right away and host a public meeting this summer.

Peter said we should find out what the public feels about the pond. Rod said during the master plan public process it was close. It could ultimately be the pond needs to be filled to start the rest of the plan. Your role is to hear the citizens. Emmy asked if we could dredge it to get rid of the gunk. Rod said it is a closed system. Without movement or flow it will still be a bathtub. Rod said you wouldn’t want to put much into it as far as investment as we have a Master Plan to follow.

Rod said we would like to fill in the pond in September right after the bike race. The public meeting needs to happen in July. Rod said you could have a June Study Session and discuss the pond and other priorities. The public meeting could be the 5th or 19th of July.

Meredith said we could also discuss the Community Gardens Agreement during the Study Session.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
Rod said we have the Cemetery Office Reopening this Saturday at 9 a.m. and everyone is invited. Rod said the office was built in the 1930s and is now very nice. Jerry, Meredith and Emmy said they will attend.

Rod said Lynda Doyle has contracted with Robert Tully to put a piece of art in Norman D Park. It is three stones from North Table Mountain that the artist has polished and on the lower inside a tribute to the father and son. They went in last week. Meredith sent a thank you to the family. They are designed for kids to play on adding another element to the park.

North Table Mountain Trail Head is going in at Wyoming Street and we are close to having a connection with Jefferson County Open Space. We will be cutting off the social trails.

We had a request from a citizen from New Loveland Mine Park who wanted us to remove the BBQ. For ADA purposes, Paul had poured concrete around the grill to make it accessible. The citizen said they had support
from the HOA and other residents. We pulled the old grill and haven’t put the new one in to see if anyone requests it. We don’t have strong feelings but this may be brought by citizens to the Board.

**BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS:**
Emmy said everyone likes the bench in New Loveland Mine Park.

Rod said the Police Department is increasing enforcement this summer along the creek. They will have a plain clothes officer and an officer on duty over the weekend. Peter said he stopped and told some people that they cannot drink in the park. He said everything is connected by concrete in the City. Every time we lay down concrete we should be adding crusher fine trail next to it. A good example is Kinney Run. The bikers are riding down the paths very fast and it would be nice to walk along that path. Peter said we need to have an alternative on the side. He said this is why he joined this Board. We could prevent some of the walking/biking conflicts. Rod said we need to look at that within our system. We have it in the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan and we should retro to look everywhere. Paul said he agrees with what Peter is saying but unfortunately we have elevation changes and it takes a great deal of maintenance which is costly.

Dylan said he will not be here during the June and July meetings. Rod said we will keep you informed.

Meredith thanked staff for the picnic tables and benches. She has heard many compliments.

Meredith asked what the status of the Vanover Tree Memorial is. Jerry said he was told that City Council has requested the Historic Preservation Board participate.

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