Tuesday, June 15, 2010

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

ABSENT: Stephanie Sung
Dylan Grange

STAFF: Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf
Paul Burkholder, Parks, Forestry, Cemetery Manager
Steve Glueck, Director of Planning and Development

PUBLIC: Esther Kettering
Robert Meyer

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:
The agenda was approved as amended upon a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Jenny Ricks, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Robert Meyer introduced himself as a Golden resident who was interested in the development of open space in town and was in attendance to listen.

TRICERATOPS TRAIL FUNDING REQUEST–Joe Tempel–Joe Tempel from Friends of Dinosaur Ridge said they have been working for years on various cover incantations to protect
the trace fossils at Triceratops Trail. He passed out drawings of the covering for Triceratops Wall. The goal is to build a 10ft cover over the trace fossils after which Fossil Trace Golf Club is named. It contains fossils of dinosaur’s, birds and mammals. They are subject to erosion and Joe said it is critical to protect the site. He said they can get away with a low-tech fiberglass design.

Joe stated Friends of Dinosaur Ridge is seeking $5,000 from the City of Golden to assist in the construction of two separate shelters over fossilized flora/fauna prints along Triceratops Trail. The structures consist of two cantilevered roofs (one 40’ the other 70’) with column supports. The total cost of the project is estimated to be $103,000.

Thus far $39,000 in funding has been raised. The rest of the money will likely be funded from various local charities. Joe said he is very hopeful that the full amount will be raised very soon. Jeff Oxenford asked if the structures were visible. Joe responded that the roofs started at the top of the walls and sloped downward and were thus not visible from 6th Avenue. Golfers would see the structures in the course of play.

Rod pointed out this proposal was brought forward approximately two years ago and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has changed membership. Rod said the City’s supporting funds ($5,000) would come out of the 2010 CIP budget if the Board approves.

Jerry Hodgden stated this project needs to be done as soon as possible to prevent further deterioration. He said as a geologist he feels this is very sensitive and keeping hands off and weather off is very important. Once the fossils are gone they can never come back. Joe said we haven’t had any vandalism. Jerry said there was a problem at Dinosaur Ridge. Joe said someone with a hammer was digging away at fossils. He was caught and given a restraining order.

Meredith Campbell asked if there has been any deterioration up to this point. Joe said there is not much damage at this time.

Jerry Hodgden made a motion to approve the funding of $5,000 towards the protective structure for Triceratops Wall. Jeff Oxenford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OPEN SPACE PRIORITIZATION UPDATE -Steve Glueck
Steve Glueck, City of Golden Planning and Development Director, updated the Board on the status of the four properties the City could potentially purchase with open space funds. He said only Jeff and Jerry were on the Board in 2006 when the Board last completed an Open Space Prioritization. Most of the properties the Board are currently familiar with. The two active potential acquisitions are the Delong Property and the Bachman Property.

1. Bachman – Heritage road and 4th Avenue
Steve said in 2009 Council authorized an application to Jefferson County Open Space for participation in the acquisition of most or all of the Bachman family parcel east of Heritage Road. Jefferson County recommended a 25% participation in the acquisition. There was discussion that is still unresolved about a neighborhood contribution of up to 25%. Following completion of an appraisal, an offer was made to the family in December. He said three of the
four family members wish to sell the property. The price of the property has dropped by half in
the last year. There is debate over the inclusion of Lena Gulch in the division of the property
owner percentages as the Gulch has no value but is a large portion of the property site. Steve
said it is important for the City to own Lena Gulch for storm water and bike trail access
regardless of the outcome of the acquisition.

2. Delong – 23rd and Welch Ditch
Steve said staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board have long been interested in the
DeLong family property. He said much of the property is City Right-of-Way. Mr. and Mrs.
Delong wish to stay in the home on the site for the remainder of their lives therefore a life
estate could be an option. The appraisal for the property at this time was very low due to
economic conditions. The lot is large enough for four homes but a developer would need to
finish Vernon Drive, making the development value prohibitive in the current real estate
market.

3. Parfet Property – Near Golf Course and 19th Street.
Steve said the Parfet property was not previously prioritized by the Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board for acquisition. It is approximately 6.3 acres that was created by the Parfet
family contribution to the golf course project. It currently contains some of the dinosaur fossils
and the access. Recently staff and the owner have discussed a purchase at a relatively low per
acre cost.

4. Eagle Ridge Center – Located at U.S. 6 and Heritage Road
Steve said the Eagle Ridge “Hogback” parcel has been the subject of many acquisition
discussions over the years. The City has always felt there was open space value to the property,
but the price has been an issue for Council in the past. Recreational use being very limited has
ranked the property low on previous priority lists. Recently the owners submitted a larger
parcel of about 14 acres directly to Jefferson County for purchase consideration. The County
referred the proposal to the City for comment, based upon their policy not to react to proposals
within cities without an indication of the level of city support.

Steve said the planning position is that much of the property has unique geologic and view
shed attributes that would support preservation and be impacted by development. He said
Jefferson County requires local communities to contribute an amount in aggregate that is equal
to 25% of purchases made by the County with bond funds in the city limits. Based upon
several 100% City purchases and the proposed 75% Bachman share, Golden is ahead on the
minimum required amount. Steve said if the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Council
agree that the Hogback would be nice to own, but that we cannot afford to contribute
significantly to its purchase, the City’s response could be that it is desirable, of medium
importance, and that our contribution could be 10% or some other modest amount of the
purchase price.

Esther Kettering asked to make a few comments on behalf of the owner. She stated the
property had unique views of Golden and would preserve views of the foothills. It could be a
Gateway to the City. Ms. Kettering stressed the property owner needs to sell the property and
the owner has a strong Golden identity and would like to leave a legacy. She said there are
35,000 cars per day that go by the site. The property provides a nice visual backdrop and a gateway to Golden on the west side of the property. She said the property could be developed although the architecture would need to be unique. The property could provide a hiking trail and overlook. She said there are long-term bike and pedestrian connection opportunities on the west side of 6th Avenue. This would give Golden the ability to exercise stewardship.

Ms. Kettering stressed the owner’s situation has changed and is more willing to work with the City now than in previous years, but the economy is changing for the better so now is the time for the City to recommend to the County that the property be purchased if there is a desire for ownership. The owner will consider a reasonable negotiated offer.

She provided a map and extended an invitation from the owner to walk the site. She encouraged the Board to take a look at the property; there are horses from time to time. The fences don’t follow the property line so there is no correlation to the map. She said she is also happy to guide a tour.

Steve said the east acquisition could be costly in the Delong property. Steve said we are not obligated until we come to terms. The County will complete due diligence and negotiate the deal. We can provide our feedback to City Council on July 8th. If they agree, then we will send our recommendation on to the County. Steve said it is a really cool property it is just that we have neighborhood park priorities and that’s were our passions lie.
Jeff Oxenford stated the property was “backdrop property” and was not valuable for recreation. Meredith Campbell agreed with Jeff’s statement

Jerry Hodgden felt the Delong property was also a high priority after Bachman.

Peter Gotseff stated he felt it was important to preserve the views.

**CEMETERY OFFICE REMODEL CONCEPTS:**
Rod Tarullo said the Cemetery Office had very sustainable designs although after bringing those to Council, staff went back to the architect for a new design that was very simple and protects the current historic nature of the building structure. Rod said the first page he had available to show the Board is the building as it sits today. It is followed by A, B and C as alternatives. A is least expensive, and then B followed by C. The three schematics were presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with comments from the Historic Preservation Board and Cemetery Staff. Rod said Option C puts an addition on the structure. Most of the Cemetery staff and the Historic Preservation Board preferred option A or B. Rod said the basement is basically storage. Rod said they have moved the stairway in Option B.

Jerry Hodgden made a motion to approve Schematic B, Jeff Oxenford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**
Rod Tarullo said Dan Hartman, Public Works Director, has spearheaded the ADA audit for the City as the appointed ADA Coordinator. His committee will present their findings to staff on July 6th. Rod will review the report with staff and provide it to the Board at the July meeting.
In addition, Jefferson County has requested an additional two years of operation of the recycling site at Rooney Road. Rod said with the Board’s approval, he will take the lease renewal to City Council on July 1st. Jerry said a dog park at Rooney is too far away from the heart of Golden. Rod said he was in a Director’s meeting last week in the County and many dog parks in the area have been backed off of recently. Beverly Heights Park is an unofficial dog park and there have been several complaints by the neighbors. So there is controversy at the moment.

Rod said the museum operation will transfer to the City as of July 1st. Interviewing and hiring of the Museum Manager is currently ongoing. Mark Dodge has been serving as the Interim Director.

Rod stated there is renewed interest from City Council regarding the pursuit of a universally accessible playground adjacent to the Splash Aquatic Park. Staff offered to take Council and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on a tour of the Fort Collins universally accessible playground if a date could be worked out this summer. Meredith said it is a great park, a very expensive park that has everything. It also has adjacent dog and bike parks. It has everything. Rod said we will continue to use our budget for existing park improvements and will seek grants and other sources of funding for the playground. Jenny asked what we need to match for the grant already received from Jefferson County Open Space. Rod said we have a 50% match much of which can also come from other sources outside of the City. Rod then asked the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for dates and times that a trip to Fort Collins might work. He would like to provide a couple dates to Council.

Jerry Hodgden updated the Board on the Advisory Committee Meeting for the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan. There is potential for modifications to 10th Street and access from 8th to the Community Center. Jerry said there was comment about coming up 9th Street which the Advisory Committee said was likely not feasible. Rod said August 24th will be the next Public Meeting with an Advisory Committee Meeting on August 3rd to review the new draft concepts to be presented at the Public Meeting. Rod reminded the Board to continue to review comments at www.clearcreekplan.net. Rod also said the Project Manager, Jesse Clark, left Wenk Associates and Nicole Horst is the new Project Manager who has attended the last few meetings. Rod said Bill Wenk has also attended several meetings and we are probably getting more of his time than was originally projected.

**ADJOURN:**
The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Peter Gotseff, and carried unanimously.