Tuesday, July 20, 2010

PRESENT:    Meredith Campbell
             Stephanie Sung
             Jerry Hodgden
             Emmy Dimitroff
             Jenny Ricks
             Peter Gotseff

ABSENT:    Jeff Oxenford
             Dylan Grange

STAFF:    Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf
              Paul Burkholder, Parks, Forestry, Cemetery Manager
              Theresa Worsham, Sustainability Coordinator

PUBLIC:    None

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:
The agenda was approved upon a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Stephanie Sung, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
The minutes were approved upon a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Stephanie Sung, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None

PILOT PROGRAM FOR PARKS RECYCLING-THERESA WORSHAM:
Theresa Worsham came to discuss a potential partnership with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and to give a Sustainability Update. She said one of the Sustainability Board’s top priorities was to begin recycling downtown and in the parks system. They have been in effect for two years and need to check recycling in the parks off their list. They would like to ask for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to partner with them to test a recycling service in one or more parks in Golden. The ultimate goal would be offer recycling in all the
parks. The Sustainability Board has funding to supply the recycling bins. Funding is limited but probably enough to test one of the parks. Theresa said she is seeking input on potential locations. She passed around five parks to choose from based on discussions with staff regarding the greatest need. Parfet, Lions, Rooney, Grampsas and Ulysses were the parks chosen. She said the Sustainability Board completed an analysis of waste containers with the theory that there should be a recycling bin next to every trash can. They received quotes from EDS. Theresa said it is easier to deal with a known trash hauler. She is still awaiting a quote for service but she would like the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board’s input on their willingness and what they would like to see. She is curious about temporary or permanent containers.

Jerry Hodgden asked when we are going to have recycling with the new City trash hauling service so it won’t be necessary for residents to use the public recycling bins. Theresa said the best practice is to give people the opportunity to recycle at every bin. Meredith Campbell asked if staff currently picked up all trash from the bins. Paul said yes. She asked if staff could also pick up recycling. Theresa asked for EDS to pick up the recycling from every bin in the parks. She said we could also get a quote for both staff pick-up and EDS just picking up from the dumpster or for EDS to haul and pick up trash and recycling from every bin.

Paul Burkholder said trash pick-up is convoluted. Knowing what routes to take and what days of the week is important. He said the parks staff tries to be efficient. Paul said we have dumpsters throughout the city so that we can efficiently dump at convenient dumpsters near the park. Rod said the Sustainability Board is not trying to burden other staff just actually see if this test program with EDS picking it up would work.

Rod said in his previous position a problem in parks was co-mingling of trash and recycling. The biggest challenge was if a recycling bin is contaminated, do we make the effort to clean it out or just throw it all away. Theresa said whatever bin we would get would have a restricted access map on it. She said single-stream accepts most recyclables. She asked if the Board would want permanent nice looking containers. For example, Ulysses has concrete containers with rock on the sides that actually look very nice. Do we want nice recycling bins of a permanent nature or EDS could provide the rolling containers that the residents receive. Theresa asked EDS for quotes both ways. Jerry said if it rolls in the park it could be an issue.

Stephanie Sung asked if there is money to cover recycling only for this year. She said then we need to do a temporary solution in case we don’t renew it year to year. Theresa said the pilot park could become the responsibility of staff in the future. We wouldn’t want to commit staff to more parks. Meredith asked about the recycling system downtown. Theresa said it was put in as a sidewalk sign GURA initiative and within the signs in a single-stream recycling container. The trash isn’t right next to it so we hope it doesn’t get a lot of contamination. EDS is servicing each bin.

Paul said trash is a hard physical job for the staff. Many bins are not easily accessible. He said after a busy weekend the Parks staff fill a loader with trash and dump it. Jerry said we need to have one bin by every trash barrel. Stephanie said if it isn’t right there most people won’t use it. Jerry said not everyone will take trash to a remote location. If we can pick-up 75% of it, that
would be great. Emmy said if there isn’t a trash can for dog waste it is left along the trail. Stephanie said we need to do it right and put it right next to the trash can.

Theresa said other neighboring cities have had success and it may be a matter of getting used to change. Theresa asked the Board for preference for containers and where they would want to test the project. Theresa said the Sustainability Board would like to pay for it. Meredith said Lions Park. Jerry said the ball fields have the most drinking and eating. Paul said Parfet and Lions demonstrate to the public, but to gain the most impact of recyclables Rooney Road or Grampsas are good choices. Theresa said the Mayor suggested along Clear Creek. Pete asked who services the trash cans along the creek. Paul said the parks staff. Theresa asked about aesthetics. Stephanie said she would prefer more permanent bins. Paul said they have seasonal barrels as well. Pete said Parfet and Lions give the community the most awareness. Pete said it needs to go along the creek or Lions Park. Pete said surely this project has been worked out in other communities, i.e. how many bins are necessary per acre or park, etc. Paul said we could use the project as a teaching moment in neighborhood parks as well. Theresa asked the Board to pick a park. The Sustainability Board always goes for the goal of 25% reduction. We have measured it per capita. As we get new programs we can get more accurate measurements. Paul asked how we will measure in the park. Most of the parks have dumpsters. So we can measure any reduction in the dumpsters. We would require EDS to track volume for us. It is easier when there is a single trash hauler. Theresa said she will come back with quotes for service and we can try a pilot and see how it goes. Pete said he would love to hear how it works in other communities.

Theresa also left information on sustainability initiatives including a community agriculture operation to grow vegetables with a local firm to sell to local restaurants. She said the Sustainability Board is currently looking for properties. They would also like to partner with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on the Clear Creek Corridor to work on restoration of natural areas perhaps in conjunction with the Clear Creek Master Plan.

PUBLIC RESTROOMS DISCUSSION:
Rod Tarullo said the public restroom in question is the Public Works Restroom you can see from the windows. Rod shared the history of the restroom. Rod said we don’t put paper towels or soap in outdoor restrooms due to maintenance and vandalism issues. We have hand dryers in other restrooms which work. Rod said this restroom is not anywhere close to acceptable. It was built a long time ago and does not meet ADA standards. The roof leaks, the stalls are not accessible, and the sinks are not a standard size. Rod said we have three choices. We can continue status quo, close it down and destroy it, or invest to build something that meets today’s standards.

Rod said his experience is it isn’t used a lot. When it is used it is typically for a minor emergency. We do have a nice restroom at Lions Park and in the Golden Community Center which is typically open. There are two facilities within 200 yards. Rod asked the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to give guidance to staff. Meredith said when we have a plan for the creek we may want a restroom in that area. Paul said the location of this restroom is not currently convenient. Several board members said staff should remove the restroom. Jerry said it may be unsafe. Emmy said that restroom has been there since she was a child. She suggested
if there was a demand we provide a portable in its place. Rod said he is hearing that the Board is fine with the Department closing the bathroom. Jerry Hodgden made a motion close the restrooms indefinitely, Stephanie Sung seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Jerry said we may be able to select more appropriate places during the master planning process.

**GOLD MEDAL PRESENTATION:**

Rod Tarullo said the next item is the Gold Medal Video viewing. Rod said staff had to submit this video as a finalist for the NRPA Gold Medal Award. The requirements ask us to illustrate the overall scope and philosophy of our Department, to incorporate growth, provide visual evidence of our application, and show how we are moving forward. Last year’s video was not of the quality we were looking for and we felt very fortunate to be a finalist for the second year. Karlyn Tilley, the City’s Communications Manager has great onscreen presence. Bob Pearce was our videographer and editor; he comes from Channel 4 and 9. Diane Tiberi and Amber worked on the script. It has been a super project. The Board then viewed the 12 minute video.

Rod said we have enough tape to extend the video up to 20 minutes. We will put it on Utube and the City’s website. We are pretty excited and Amber says we are going to win. Rod said it captures what makes Golden, Golden. We are competing with Green River, Wyoming, Fairfax, Virginia, and Colman, Alabama. Rod said they are impressive, they have a park in a canyon and they do mountain biking, rock climbing, etc. It is pretty unique for Alabama. We have submitted everything for review and will find out who receives the grand award on October 27th. We had to submit a copy of our Master Plan as well.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

Rod said we have attached the ADA Audit report and several ADA documents for the Board to review. We will whittle away on them over time. We did just pour a pad in the play area outside the Golden Community Center to make it more accessible.

Last night we had a meeting at Golden Heights Park with Councilor Marcia Claxton and the residents were very happy with the park and Paul’s improvement suggestions. There were approximately 18 people present.

Rod said we submitted the Clear Creek Whitewater Course for the Colorado Lottery Starburst Award for Excellence in use of Lottery Funds. We submitted our application and received a call from Matt Robbins, Communications Manager at the Colorado Lottery. They wanted to visit Golden and film a Colorado Getaways show of Golden Whitewater for CBS 4. They were looking for someone from the city staff and a boater. They met with Jeff Oxenford and he was so good they didn’t need city staff. They completed filming on Saturday. The episode will air at 5:30p.m. on Saturday on CBS 4 within the next two weeks. When we know for sure we will notify you. We are optimistic we will also receive the Starburst Award.

Council took action to recommend Jefferson County spend their money for the Eagle Ridge Hogback Property to preserve it for open space. The City of Golden could contribute up to 10% of the purchase price.
The Museums are now within the Parks and Recreation Department. Our new Manager, Nathan Richie, begins on Monday. He is from Chicago but grew up in Colorado. He is well respected in the professional museum world. He is currently the Chairman of EDCOMM from the American Association of Museums. On a national level he is very engaged and respected. Council decided to only drug-screen police and fire volunteers but no longer other city volunteers. They will continue to do background checks on all volunteers.

Rod said the first Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Study Session in August is the same day as the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan Advisory Committee. The Board agreed to not have the study session.

BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS:
Meredith Campbell said she spoke with the Pedal Pushers Owner today and they expect to open the bike skills park in September or October. Meredith said she felt it should be done and not partially done prior to any opening celebration. She urged him to wait for a dedication. She said they are making good progress. She said they have had several volunteer weekends but have been often foiled by the weather. She asked Rod what was happening with communications with the neighbors. Rod said Taylor Schull said when the groups gets close to opening we would have a pre-grand opening event with the neighbors and Rod said he thought it was a great idea. There are several very supportive neighbors. Rod said our elected officials and partners in the Colorado Mountain Biking Association (COMBA) and the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) will want to celebrate.

ADJOURN:
The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Peter Gotseff, seconded by Emmy Dimitroff, and carried unanimously.