Tuesday, September 21, 2010

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

ABSENT: None

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

PUBLIC: Will Hageman, Golden Transcript
        Taylor Shull, Golden Bike Park Group
        Terry Breheny, Colorado Mountain Bike Association
        Nathan Fons, Golden Bike Park Group
        Jerry Harcek, Golden Bike Park Group

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:
The amended agenda was approved upon a motion by Jerry Hodgden, seconded by Emmy Dimitroff and carried unanimously

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Will Hageman, a reporter from the Golden Transcript, said he was present to observe the Golden Bike Park Update.
GOLDEN BIKE PARK GROUP UPDATE:
Taylor Schull from the Golden Bike Park Group brought pictures and a presentation for the Board on the status of the Golden Bike Park. He showed the original site plan and recapped the trails as approved. He described the features of the park. He also spoke to which trails had minor modifications. He then compared the new site plan to the initial site plan. The Golden Bike Park Group added a set of S curves as well as a set of jumps. The jumps are good for beginners and advanced riders.

He said several volunteers were out last weekend. The half pipe will likely not finish prior to the park opening but will be finished after input is received. The bio swale was moved. Jerry Hodgden asked if there were different levels to different trails. Taylor said there is a downhill only trail. You can make the trails as easy or hard as you like. There are several very mellow single track trails. The blue trail is a simple trail. There are also lines around the jumps for those who are intimidated. The green trail is a medium level. The skills area is what you make of it. The bi-directional trail is good for all levels.

Peter Gotseff asked about the access from Easley Road. Taylor said there is a gate and some parking. There is also a Jefferson County parking area just down the road. Taylor said the Golden Bike Park Group has been asked to put no parking signs on Easley Road which state “For Emergency Access Only.” The group is making signs to direct traffic from the Tony Grampsas Parking lot to the Golden Bike Park. They are 95% complete for a grand opening. Buzz has been positive from test riders.

* The blue trail is 60% complete. It needs to be cleaned up. They will continue to work on it after opening.
* The green trail 95% complete. Rake, water and tamp trail remains
* The orange trail is 98% complete. The Golden Bike Park Group is leaving the half pipe area alone for the opening. It just needs to be racked.
* The red trail has bi-directional access. Trails will be named for the Emergency Plan. It is ready to go just needs weed and raking.
* Skills area is 90% complete. The back berm needs to be tamped and general cleaning of the area. The Golden Bike Park Group has had very positive feedback on the skills area. There are pipes and other technical features including rocks and table jumps. There is a rubble pile that will be removed tomorrow.
* General site. The bio swale seeding is ordered and ground matting is to be installed. The trees were removed and weeds are being handled. The water tank is installed, tool box is built, signage is in progress and the Emergency Plan has been initiated.

Regarding opening logistics, Taylor said the Golden Bike Park needs to signoff on the park as well as COMBA and the City of Golden. An opening date needs to be scheduled. Meredith Campbell suggested a Halloween opening. She said October 31st is a Sunday. Rod Tarullo said the City needs three weeks to get the dedication plaque ready and installed.

Terry Breheny said they have discussed having a private viewing for the neighbors as well.

Taylor showed the COMBA website, Facebook, email and other news sites promoting the new park. The Golden Bike Park also threw together a shirt sale to make some additional revenue.
Taylor also showed pictures and a video of the park in use. Rod said we can shoot for October 30th as the Grand Opening and start preparing the dedication plaque in the next week. The Golden Bike Park Group agreed that they could get the park ready for that date. Rod said a master sign for the park and some safety signage is probably necessary for the opening. Terry said that should be reasonable. Rod said if we can’t hit the end of October we may want to wait until spring. Jeff Oxenford said people are already using the park so the sooner the better. Pete asked what the Golden sign-off means. Rod said Joe Puhr and Tracy Pond from Public Works need to be okay with erosion control, etc. Terry said the local residents really seem to be enjoying it. Taylor said the Golden Bike Park Group also wants to instill a sense of ownership at the park.

OPEN SPACE PARCEL DISCUSSION:
Rod Tarullo said a memo from Council regarding metrics was provided to the Board. Council wants us to define acres of targeted open space acquired on an annual basis. We need a targeted open space list from which to acquire. Steve Glueck has started a list for us which we have provided to you tonight. We may or may not want to identify items on this list as targeted. Rod said he also received a letter from Jefferson County Opens Space regarding their bond funds. They borrow money to buy open space properties. They are getting to the end of their bucket and need to understand the needs of cities for acquisition. All cities and park districts need to provide an updated list including projects by priority, funding, location map and the master plan of how the acquisition meets the community goals. Rod said there could be other things to put on the list. One piece you need to understand is the Parfet Parcel will close in two days and the Bachman property will close in the next week or two. Those two parcels can be removed from the list as already acquired. Rod also provided a packet from 2008 showing location maps of the properties.

* The Hall Property is above Eagle Ridge. It is unlikely to be developed but is a chunk of the back drop of Lookout Mountain.
* The Brunel Property is on Highway 93 above Canyon Point.
* The O’Connell is at 16th at South Table Mountain
* The Eagle Ridge Hogback everyone is familiar with near Heritage Road
* The CSM Para glider landing area
* The Hillen Property is below Golden Cliffs going down to 58th
* The Golden Terrace could be a long-term lease for a neighborhood park
* The CSM Survey Fields are integral for a trail connection and connecting open space
* The Bradley property is on South Table Mountain
* The Delong property is a great property for a neighborhood park in an identified underserved area.

Rod asked if all the listed properties needed to be on the target list and if so, which order of priority.

Meredith Campbell said the Bradley property would likely be a Jefferson County Open Space acquisition.

Jeff Oxenford said the Eagle Ridge Hogback has always been a low priority. He also said
Golden Terrace does not need to be on the priority list. Jerry Hodgden said the Hall property might also be a county affair. They own everything around it. It should not be a priority for us. Rod said the target list should serve two functions to have an on-going list and also to give Council advice on priority of acquisition. Jeff said the Bradley and Hall properties should be on the list but perhaps low priority for the City and high for the County. The Board agreed to keep everything on the list. The Board then prioritized the properties as High, Medium and Low.

The Delong Property was priority number 1, CSM Para gliding landing area 2, CSM Surveying Fields 3, O’Connell 4, Brunel 5, Bradley 6, Hillen 7, Hall 8, and Eagle Ridge Hogback 9.

**SUSTAINABILITY PARK RECYCLING DISCUSSION:**
Rod said the Sustainability Committee wants to use their funds of $600 for recycling at Rooney Road. They have provided three options for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to choose from. EDS would use City carts on wheels and empty once a week, purchase permanent containers and local kids would remove the liners, or purchase permanent containers and commit City staff to change the liners. They can do it on a trial basis. The Board agreed they liked option two. Stephanie Sung made a motion to recommend option number two, seconded by Emmy Dimitroff, and carried unanimously.

**EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS DISCUSSION:**
Paul Burkholder brought Capital Improvements Program (CIP) project options with estimates. At the top of the page he shows available funding for park improvements.

Paul said one of the projects is a new roof for the Parfet Bathrooms. A metal roof is consistent with the Astor House and Lions Restrooms. There are no gutters.

* The tennis court improvements begin on Friday.
* Concrete improvements have been completed at Grampsas for ADA.
* Furniture replacement is also on the list at $150,000.
* The Golden Heights Shelter is $20,000 to $30,000 and could include a noise barrier.
* Whitewater improvements were completed at $25,000.
* Native grass signage is going to be installed to educate on native grass areas that will be let grown.
* Cemetery Office construction bids go out this week
* Irrigation improvements and holiday light replacement were also on the list.
* The Dinosaur Ridge cover structure is $5,000 is also already committed.

Paul said he needs to check the memorial of each bench in the parks system before he can start to replace them. Emmy Dimitroff said at least four of the plaques are missing from benches. Emmy said there also needs to be a bench replacement fund. How long should we allow benches to be in place, etc. Paul said at the Cemetery they are also having problems with theft.

Jeff Oxenford asked if there were funds for the Whitewater Park in 2011. Paul said no, it’s available for the Whitewater Park every two years. A lump sum allocation is not available for next year. We can do small tweaks from other funds. Paul said we will likely have $110,000
for park improvements for next year which could be used for small whitewater repairs. We are very lean for CIP funds for parks and recreation improvements. Most of the funds are going towards street improvements.

Meredith commented a tobacco free initiative was presented by Councilor Karen Oxman at the last Council meeting. Meredith said banning smoking in playground areas or all parks and trails in Golden were two options discussed. Meredith said they haven’t asked for a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommendation yet but it will likely come in the near future. The Mayor asked Meredith to bring it to the Board. Meredith said she is opposed to banning smoking in all parks, due to enforcement issues. She is in favor of banning smoking on playgrounds. She said there are several parents of children who smoke and she would prefer a cigarette in the park with their kids rather than in the home. She said she likes the option to not have it in the playgrounds. She mentioned Joe Behm was concerned about the golf course being included.

She said we need to make a recommendation so that Council can eventually write an Ordinance. Stephanie Sung said it is difficult to enforce in all parks. As a parent in a playground you could self-police and take ownership. Meredith said there are cities that have banned smoking even on private terraces. Avon and Steamboat had the most dramatic enforcement. Rod said he emailed out the summary on Friday and a link so Board members could watch the Council meeting. The initiative is a youth-driven initiative to protect youth from smoke. After Council discussion it seemed Council was very supportive of banning smoking on playgrounds. It was also suggested to get a smoking permit. Jerry Hodgden made a motion to recommend to Council the option to ban smoking on playgrounds, it was seconded by Stephanie Sung, and carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
Rod showed a photograph of a tree in Lions Park that needs to be removed in November. It is rotting from the inside out and will fall eventually. There are very good signs that show the condition of a tree. If we met earlier we could have shown you outside before it got dark. The City Forester’s role is to remove hazardous trees. Paul said this particular tree has two major branches which make it very weak. Then you see if it has bacteria, if it stays wet its okay, but if it’s dry it cracks easily. There is also a lot a weight on one side that will cause it to give way at some point. Jerry said the tree doesn’t have the historic significance as did the Vanover hanging tree. Paul said it is also crowding out some of the smaller trees around it. Jerry said Golden Landmarks is still trying to raise the money to do the history of the Vanover Tree and a pavilion in Vanover Park and a design will eventually be brought to the Board for approval. Rod said we had the second public meeting for the Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan. The crux of the debate was local versus regional emphasis. The Mayor put an emphasis on local. His analysis was due to the tremendous growth in the metro area. He said if we limit ourselves locally we will exceed regionally more than we ever expected. This was the direction provided to Wenk Associates and what they will as they narrow from two concepts to one.

BOARD MEMBER’S COMMENTS:
* Stephanie Sung commented the trail from 19th to the creek is great and being used. Rod said we are still awaiting School of Mines clean up of the superfund site so we can start the trail on
the south side of the creek.
* Jenny Ricks asked who owns the property between the Rocky Mountain School for Boys and the golf course. Rod said it is owned by the State.
* Pete asked about spinning classes. He said many spinners come in with clip-on shoes and there are not enough. A bunch of students brought in their own pedals. He asked if we could invest money to buy more double-sided pedals suitable for both regular shoes and clips.
* Jenny Ricks asked if a registered class cancels such as Wednesday night Pilates could it be a different day of the week.
* Meredith Campbell was at Ulysses and chatted with dog park users who said the light isn’t bright enough. They would also like access from another side to avoid a muddy area in the spring. Paul said they are putting concrete in to take care of the muddy areas. Meredith said they also wanted water for the dogs. They would also like to have a liquor license for a season for the park. There were two people who decided the dog park was a day care area while they went to a game. Self-policing of the park is difficult.

ADJOURN:
Motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Oxenford, seconded by Jenny Ricks, and carried unanimously.