



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes
April 15, 2009

Meeting Summary

The Committee welcomed one new member. A representative from Musco Lighting attended to provide information about athletic venue lighting systems. Several issues pertaining to parks and recreation were discussed.

Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) was called to order by Chair Wynn Eberhard at 6:35 p.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2009, in the Aspen Conference Room at the Paul Derda Recreation Center (PDRC).

Present: Jini Bates, Doug Malcolm, Wynn Eberhard, Jaci Gould, Sarah Davenport

Absent: Kathy Dolan, Dick Miller

Others in Attendance: Brian Kenyon, ex officio
Randy Ahrens, Alternate ex officio
Brian Wallace, Musco Lighting Co.
Nancy Harrold, Facilities Manager
John Ferraro, Director of Recreation Services
Ellen Cancino, Recording Secretary

Agenda Minutes

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No citizens were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 18, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Member introductions. Two new members were appointed to the Committee in March, Sarah Davenport and Richard (Dick) Miller. Dick was unable to attend the meeting. All attendees introduced themselves and provided brief backgrounds.

Election of officers. As there were two members absent, it was decided to hold election of officers at the next meeting.

Presentation by Musco Lighting representative. Brian Wallace, a former Broomfield employee, attended as a representative of Musco Lighting. The company manufactures athletic venue lighting.

John noted that there are many misconceptions regarding ball field lighting. Newer lights do not shine into adjacent neighborhoods as older models did.

Brian W. asked what types of resistance could be expected from citizens if lighting the championship field at the Broomfield County Commons (BCC) would be proposed. The following are comments:

Doug: Many of the houses in Red Leaf are very close to the site.

John: There would need to be a change to the original development plan, which is very difficult to accomplish. If the field was lit, however, there would be much more usage, which could help programming issues.

Randy: The "green" aspect must be considered.

Jaci: Light pollution in general is a problem. The lights could affect the view of the night sky. Enabling night usage of the field would also create additional traffic to the Red Leaf community.

Brian K.: The affect on coyotes/wildlife would need to be considered.

Brian W. provided an overview of Musco, saying that they had been in business since 1976. The company uses green technologies; their lights are energy-efficient. An area can be lit with 40% less fixtures using Musco lighting. He added that replacement bulbs cost the same as others, but use less energy so there is a cost savings.

He also pointed out that normal fixtures only put 25 to 35% of the available light on the field. Musco lights have fully adjustable louvers around them, reducing spill into adjacent areas. The systems are auto controlled.

2010 fees. John said that staff is beginning to prepare the 2010 budget. He asked if PRAC members felt fees should be increased, noting that fees for PDRC had not been changed in five years. He provided a spreadsheet that outlined fees for surrounding communities. The comparison confirmed that Broomfield's rates are well within the same range as others.

Brian K. and Sarah said that they appreciated the resident/non-resident distinction (residents pay lower fees). The general feeling of PRAC was that this was a bad time to consider raising fees. PRAC said that they will review the comparison, and the issue will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Future meeting time. Wynn asked if 6:30 p.m. was a convenient time for the committee to meet. All agreed it was. Future meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Guidelines for park signage. Broomfield currently has a wide range of styles for park signage. Wynn asked PRAC if they would want to pursue development of a recommendation to present to City Council for a standardized design.

John said that most park signage is purchased from outside vendors. A recent quote for a 3-foot sign with 4-inch letters was \$1,200.

John posed the question that if a developer proposes to pay for and install a very attractive sign, should they be denied if it does not match the standard.

Additional comments included:

Sarah: All park signs should be the same.

Wynn: I would like for parks to be easily identified.

Doug: If signs were uniform, it would help to identify parks. Going forward, signage should be the same.

Jini: Can the city ask developers to make a sign that meets standards?

Jaci: The city could provide standards, guidelines to developers.

Wynn: Something that would provide visual identity for Broomfield would be desirable.

John: Will get some additional pricing and report at next meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

Jim Clapper field dedication. City Council approved naming Field One at BIP in honor of Jim Clapper. A dedication is planned for a Thursday evening in June (tentatively June 4). Mr. Clapper's great-grandson plays in a baseball league that evening.

2009 recreation brochure distribution. With budget cuts occurring in printing and postage, staff is researching alternative ways to distribute the recreation brochure. One way is to have citizens sign up and they will be emailed a link to the brochure. This will be done via a system that will also be used by other departments to notify citizens of road closures, emergency situations, etc.

2009 budget update. John provided some handouts showing year-to-date revenue for programming, PDRC, and the Broomfield Community Center (BCC). He noted that program revenue is up over 2008 levels, PDRC revenue is down, and BCC is up slightly. Overall, recreation department revenue has increased 3.5% over 2008 levels.

Boards and commission volunteer appreciation dinner. The City Manager's Office provides a dinner each year for boards and commissions volunteers. This year's event will be on Saturday, April 25. PRAC is encouraged to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

PROJECT UPDATES

Sheridan Apartments This is in the area that is being developed by the McWhinney Corp. near the Anthem community, at Sheridan Parkway and Highway 7. Currently, 500 units are planned.

John does not see anything in the plans as far a public land dedication. Because the 500 units would very easily support 1,000 residents or more, the Open Space, Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan would require that there be 16 acres of open lands included. This issue must be addressed with the developer.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Doug requested an update on the Broomfield Business Park plans. This area, near Interlocken, had been discussed at previous meetings with regards to the developer wanting to locate a park. John said that the developer had made modifications to his plan based on concerns that staff and PRAC had, and the changes were acceptable.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: DATE/AGENDA ITEMS

Date. The next meeting of the PRAC will be on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Aspen Conference Room at the Paul Derda Recreation Center.

Agenda Items.

- Project updates
- Fee changes
- Signage pricing
- Election of chair/vice-chair

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Approved:

Chair

Date