



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes
January 21, 2009

Meeting Summary

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 6:10 p.m., Wednesday, January 21, 2009, in the Aspen Conference Room at the Paul Derda Recreation Center (PDRC).

Present: Jini Bates, Doug Malcolm, Kathy Dolan, Wynn Eberhard

Absent: Jaci Gould

Others in Attendance: Randy Ahrens, Alternate ex officio
Nancy Harrold, Facility 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 November 19, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Request to name a ball field after a longtime Lions' Club member. Randy received an email from a son of Jim Clapper's requesting that Broomfield consider naming a ball field after his father. Mr. Clapper is a long-time resident and was extremely instrumental in the founding and development of youth baseball in Broomfield in the 1950's, when the program was managed by the Lions' Club. The Lions' Club continued to manage the program until the late 1980's.

Discussion followed; Doug noted that naming the ball field would be a good way to recognize the Clappers for their community involvement. After Kathy moved and Doug seconded, the motion to propose to council that Field 1 at Broomfield Industrial Park be named "Jim Clapper Field" was unanimously approved. Staff will prepare a council memo to that effect.

Replacing committee members – request to appoint alternates. Two members of the Committee resigned in 2008. Being two members short causes some difficulties in reaching a quorum to

officially conduct business. The suggestion had been made to ask City Council to appoint one or two alternate members during the upcoming recruitment cycle. This change to the Committee structure would require a change to the Municipal Code.

Two replacement members will be appointed and begin serving in April. Because it is too late to accomplish adding alternates this year, it was decided that the Committee would wait to see if the new members attend regularly and if a quorum can consistently be met. If not, the Committee at that time would consider moving forward to add alternates to the membership.

Designee for Sustainable Broomfield Task Force. If approved by Council at their January 27 meeting, there will be a task force formed to meet once per month over the next year to update the Comprehensive Plan with regard to sustainability. Staff has requested a volunteer from PRAC, as well as other citizen boards, serve on the task force. The Committee decided to wait on further discussion until after Council makes their decision.

STAFF REPORTS

Park amenities inventory. John had earlier provided a spreadsheet detailing the amenities in city parks. For analysis purposes, he had divided Broomfield into 11 geographical areas. Since last meeting, he added population numbers to each of the areas in an effort to determine if there are areas lacking in amenities. Additionally, the existing amenity quantities were compared to the standards set by the Open Space, Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan.

Discussion followed, including:

Doug: There could be further division of the geographical areas.

Wynn: The division should not depart too far from the neighborhood concept.

Jini: The comparisons really show where there are deficiencies.

Doug: Areas too small for additional amenities should be identified.

John: Maybe Areas 3 and 10 should be further divided.

BCC pool boiler replacement. The aging pool boiler at BCC has had many operational problems over the last year, especially in the last two months. Due to its age, parts are difficult to acquire. When a contractor was performing repairs recently, a problem with the heat exchanger was discovered.

Plans are now to build a small building on the east side of BCC and install a new boiler(s) above ground. (Currently, the equipment is in the basement of the building.) Staff is preparing the RFP. Completion of the project is anticipated to be late spring.

Front Range Community College (FRCC) pool usage. John had mentioned at the November 2008 meeting that FRCC was considering closing their pool. The Broomfield Barracudas swim team practices there. FRCC has decided to keep the pool open until June. There was earlier discussion with staff about Broomfield assuming management of the pool but FRCC is no longer considering that option.

Bronco Park. Staff received a request from a Westlake resident to add tennis courts, a basketball court, bleachers, and a shade structure, and replace the shelter/tables and the park sign. Kathy noted that the park is quite small and could not accommodate all of these things. The Committee did not feel that adding the amenities was a viable option.

John said that he would request that the sign be replaced. He added that there are plans to replace the shelters eventually and perhaps move them further north.

Virginia Graham Baker Act. This is a federal act that changes the requirement for drain covers in pools and hot tubs. It was developed as a result of a small girl getting sucked into a hot tub drain and drowning. Pools must now have certified entrapment-free drain covers. Staff has hired a company to handle possible cover replacements on Broomfield's pools. The cost could be as high as \$25,000.

OLD BUSINESS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

Broomfield Business Park. This is an area to the north of FlatIron Crossing/Interlocken. The developers of an apartment community had said that they wish to improve/dedicate a piece of property that already belonged to Broomfield. After the developer's initial plans were not favorably received, revisions were made, and presented to PRAC at the November meeting. The revision incorporated some open areas within the development. The Committee agreed that considering there is an open culvert and steep slopes to a detention pond—both of which would be near a proposed playground—the plans were not acceptable. The developer has further revised the plans and proposed a new park site, which is very small and would include a clubhouse and apartment building. John noted that the project is in early planning stages and may not proceed. Further revisions would be brought back to the Committee.

Broomfield MXD (McWhinney). This is the area that is being developed by the McWhinney Corp. in the Anthem community. The project is moving forward. Ultimately, the developer would be required to dedicate 119 acres of land. In calculating the amount of open land, the developer is including the buffer that runs along Preble Creek. The developer is also counting several non-active "parks, plazas, and squares" areas as open lands, which PRAC did not feel was acceptable.

John added that a dog park could be considered for part of the space.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

None

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: DATE/AGENDA ITEMS

Date. The next meeting of the PRAC will be on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, at 6 p.m. in the Lobby Conference Room at the City and County Building, One DesCombes Drive.

Agenda Items.

- Park amenities – possible update
- Signage at Bronco Park
- Designee to serve on Sustainable Broomfield Task Force
- Request to name a ball field after Jim Clapper

- Project updates

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Approved:

Chair

Date