



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes
September 21, 2011

Meeting Summary

There were presentations on The Bay Implementation Plan and Playful City USA. Other Recreation-related matters were discussed.

Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) was called to order by Chair Jaci Gould at 6:35 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2011, in the Aspen Conference Room at the Paul Derda Recreation Center.

Present: Jaci Gould, Doug Malcolm, Dick Miller, Kathy Dolan, Larry Crawford

Absent: April Muir, Sarah Davenport

Others in Attendance: Nancy Harrold, Director of Recreation Services
Barb Ploeger, Recreation Specialist – Marketing
Ronda Jo Ackerman-Alford, Capital Improvement Program Project Manager
Ellen Cancino, Recording Secretary

Agenda Minutes

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No citizens attended.

PLAYFUL CITY USA

Barb Ploeger presented information on the “Playful City USA,” which is a “national designation recognizing cities and towns that value the importance of play.” It is intended to motivate designee cities to “take specific steps that aim to increase the spaces to play and opportunities to play.” The basis of the program is that only 1 in 5 households has access to a playground or park within walking distance, and children are not getting enough active play.

KaBOOM!, the national non-profit that created the program, gives grants to provide better play areas. Kathy pointed out that since Broomfield has an abundance of amenities, she is not sure that Broomfield would ever be given any grant money. Barb said that accessibility issues at existing playgrounds could possibly be addressed with the funds.

Jaci noted that the designation could attract commerce as well as new residents.

Nancy suggested that some or all members of PRAC be on the “Play Committee.” Formation of such a committee is one of the requirements. Other community members would be included on the committee, as well.

Discussion continued. All agreed that staff should continue to pursue the idea, and it would be logical to have PRAC members be part of the new “Play Committee.”

BAY AQUATIC PARK IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Ronda Jo Ackerman-Alford from the Capital Improvement Program division attended to provide information on the future plans for expansion/renovation at The Bay. She noted that Broomfield is currently working on a facility assessment. The Bay is 20 years old and has never had a major facelift. She provided a drawing showing how the park has been divided into several different phases for improvement consideration.

Dick asked how many years it may take to complete. Ronda Jo said that it is up to City Council to prioritize the various projects and allocate funding. Jaci asked if it would be possible to increase the fees and designate the increase as an improvement fee. That would be very hard to track and Nancy felt it would be difficult to 'sell' to people since there are no improvements in place currently or planned for the near future.

Nancy continued the discussion focusing on City Council's 2011 Priorities. Under the heading of "Completion of Facilities," there are four Recreation Services-related areas: the Community Center, a large dog park/trail, Broomfield County Commons (BCC) athletic fields, and The Bay. Nancy would like for PRAC members to give some thought to prioritizing the list and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting.

Nancy provided a 'wish list' of ideas for development for the Miller property. That is the area north of the temporary dog park at BCC. Broomfield has plans to purchase the property in the future.

She also distributed information on ideas for renovation of the Community Center, adding that a study is currently being done on that subject.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June 23, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Miramonte Park shelter request. A request was made by a citizen in 2007 to build a small shelter and add some playground equipment in Miramonte Park. Nancy provided a drawing of the proposed site. Jaci noted that parking could be an issue if the shelter was used for rentals. It was suggested that the shelter be made smaller than the proposed 12' by 16' so that it would not be suitable for rentals.

The recommendation from PRAC is for a smaller covered area with a picnic table to be built.

Pet memorial request. A citizen had asked to place a memorial to their pet on open space and was denied permission. Nancy was asking PRAC's feelings on allowing a memorial in a park. Some discussion followed; there was no strong opposition. It was suggested that perhaps small 'bricks' to memorialize pets could be part of the future permanent dog park.

STAFF REPORTS

Gymnasium/gymnastics center dedications. Nancy said the dedication for the gym and gymnastics center at PDRC, naming them after John Ferraro and Bob Prince respectively, is planned for October 8. Invitations will be sent to PRAC.

OLD BUSINESS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

None discussed.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Palisade. PRAC toured the Palisade development in June. Larry said that he feels that preserving the existing barn would be a waste of city funds. Jaci said that preservation of the exterior is already in place, but doesn't feel like there should ever be an attempt to utilize the interior, as was done with the Brunner House. In summary, PRAC does not support restoration of the barn in Palisade.

Banners along County Commons Drive. Dick noted that most of the banners on poles along Broomfield County Commons Drive are tattered and look bad. Nancy said that replacing the banners is not budgeted for 2012, but she will suggest it for the following year. Dick suggested that they be removed in the meantime.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: DATE/AGENDA ITEMS

Date. The next meeting of the PRAC will be on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Aspen Conference Room at the Paul Derda Recreation Center.

Agenda Items.

- Fireworks softball tournament – ending agreement with Triple Crown Sports
- Recreation Services fee survey
- Baseball field allocation
- Playful City
- Project updates
- Staff reports

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Approved:

Chair

Date