

Arvada Park Advisory Committee Minutes
January 14, 2009
Majestic View Nature Center

In Attendance

Bob Barber, Pat Cervera, CJ Dantine, Mike Foley, Michael Hult, Brandon Marette, Jessica Myklebust, Bill Orchard, Gary Reeves, Jean Scharfenberg, Larry Wapensky, and Carol Whipple.

Absent

Cheryl Ames and Lisa Medina.

Others Present

Mike Lee, Manager Park and Urban Design.

Call to Order

CJ Dantine called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Public Present

Tami Halloran (tamihalloran@mac.com) made a presentation and a request for changes and improvements to Beeman Park in the Five Parks area. She suggested establishing part of the unfinished part of the park as a “dog park.” Since there is a school adjacent to the park her plan would be to restrict dog use of the park to hours the school is not in session. She will do further planning on the dog park. Tami also suggested that a section of the park adjacent to the school grounds, be developed as a small public garden with a drinking fountain and water service for the dogs. APAC suggested that Tami work with the school to put in a grant request for the garden. Tami went on to say that several residents are unhappy with the undeveloped park, particularly the temporary fencing along two streets. Mike Lee and Committee members said that while there are some banked fees for the park development, there is a need to wait until more developer fees are received to do the work. Any changes made at this time most likely would be wasted when the final development of the park is done. APAC, with Jessica as liaison, will work with Tami on seeing if a dog park can be established, and the improvements. Tami was encouraged in the meantime to contact the HOA for the area to discuss her ideas and concerns.

Approval of Minutes

The December 10, 2008 minutes, on a motion by Michael Hult, were approved with one addition. At the meeting Mike Lee said that he asked Karen Baltz at the MVNC to review the Urban Conservation Treaty (Migratory Birds) to see if the City wanted to participate.

Breakfast Meeting

Gordon clarified that there are 49 playgrounds in the City, 16 of which don't meet ADA standards, not 49 as reported at the last meeting. Gordon noted that these 16 playgrounds are not hazardous and were built before the ADA was enacted in 1993. Gordon also touched upon the Budget, including capital maintenance, Apex District Board meeting, the upcoming City Council retreat that will address the recreation master plan and strengthening retail sales, Stenger restrooms, Arvada Channel, Community parks and Apex attendance at APAC meetings. Gordon also mentioned that Parks will not be able to fill the two new maintenance positions because of a City hiring freeze. The next meeting with Gordon will be held in the evening of February 9th for scheduling reasons.

Report from Mike Lee

- RFQ Pedestrian/Bike Plan – Five proposals have been received. Meetings will be scheduled once the consultant is selected. All APAC members will be invited to the meetings.
- Xeriscape Gardens-MVNC – Joe is working on the plans. Hopeful to get started in the spring.
- Arvada Channel – Concrete Work is done with landscaping scheduled for spring.
- Stenger Restrooms – Jeff is working on a design/build.
- Garrison Street Center – Now looking at the possibility of building a new building out of the flood plain. Arvada's savings on not building a retaining wall would be applied to the new building construction. An initial plan design recently completed would create a very wide channel that would remove a lot of trees. The design will be reviewed to mitigate channel width and tree loss.
- Meadowglen HOA – Design for the trees along W. 80th Ave. is not done at this time.
- Pocket Park at Standley Lake – CJ is working with the HOA to develop an estimated cost and possible HOA funding commitment. He has funding commitments from citizens if the HOA doesn't come through. Mike says he still needs for him and CJ to get with maintenance to determine the feasibility.
- Arvada Area Horseman's Association, Naming Barn for Bert Gregg – Carol is working with Mike.
- Double E Park – Mike estimates that about 20 percent of the work is done. The retaining wall and playground are done and some concrete is in. Weather has contributed to delays.
- Churches Ranch – The barn restoration is done. APAC needs to address a grand opening/ dedication.
- Pioneer Park – Pretty well done. Planting trees in the median. Landscaping is completed.
- Mastodon Head, Arvada Center – Now under construction to be done by March.
- Land Acquisition-Future Parks – Mike said that work is underway on finding and acquiring land for the future parks: East Side and Central.

Unfinished Business

- School Matching Grants – Jean and Jessica will be distributing letters in the next week with a deadline of mid-March. Discussion was held on a possible problem of photos being submitted electronically since it is being requested that grants be submitted electronically. It was decided that the electronic request would be required and applicants could contact Jean, Jessica or Jeffco Schools administration if they needed assistance.
- West Arvada Dog Park – Citizens involved with this dog park are reorganizing their efforts and have scheduled meetings on January 24th and January 28th. They have also put a survey on-line and are seeking input on the future operation of the dog park.
- Dog Park at Five Parks – (See Tami Halloran presentation.)
- Trail at Candlelight and Wyndham Subdivision – Discussion was held on land ownership, the benefit to Wyndham Subdivision residents (access to Van Bibber), cost of the project and where funding could be obtained, including any HOA contributions. Mike Lee said that all CIP money is committed for other projects. Gary will develop a letter to John Sullivan and Jean generally outlining that APAC feels that there is some merit in continuing to pursue the possibility of the trail and bridge, but that lack of funding and other commitments necessitate moving this to 2010. John will be encouraged to continue with planning and discussions with the HOA organizations.

New Business

- Retreat Follow Up-Team Memberships – The Park Awareness Sub-Committee was previously removed. The Sustainability and Park Assessment sub-committees continue. Larry said that CJ will

replace him on the Park Assessment Sub-Committee.

- Arvada Channel Naming – Bill Orchard will serve as chair for this team that includes Larry, Pat, Mike Foley and Carol. A great deal of work has already been done by Bill that will enable this team to finish up in short time.
- Sustainability – This sub-committee will remain with Bill, Jessica, Brandon, Gary and Carol. Brandon has volunteered to serve as chair.
- Park Assessments – This sub-committee now has Jessica, Pat, Gary, Carol and CJ.
- Transit Stations – The team will be Mike Foley as chair, along with Bill, Jean and Bob Barber. Former APAC member Doug Magee will be a citizen member of the team.
- Development of a Recreation Master Plan with Apex – This team will include CJ, Larry, Jean and Cheryl.
- Park Improvements 2009-2010 – Some additional information is needed before a formal team can be established. The APAC membership will serve as the team for the time being.
- Playful City Designation – Brandon brought information and discussed the possibility of the City securing the “Playful City” designation. The information was passed on to Carol to see if there was a fit with the Park Assessment Sub-Committee. It was mentioned that it might be applicable as well with the Recreation Master Plan as it develops.

Ongoing Business

- Park Assessments – Carol reported that the sub-committee has completed assessments of Memorial and Jack Tomlinson parks. A meeting will now be scheduled with maintenance management to go over the assessments. Following that, a short meeting will be held with maintenance as a follow up on actions taken on the previous assessments, Columbine and Gold Strike.
- Park/Trail Dedications – An event for Churches Ranch will be set as a future agenda item.
- Apex Board Meetings – Michael Hult attended the December 11, 2008 Apex Board Meeting. He distributed his report at the APAC meeting.
- Arvada Naming Policy – Jean made a report on the Arvada Naming Policy and said that there will be a 6:00 p.m. meeting on January 22nd.

Time did not allowing for a discussion on the Volunteer/Community Recognition or Arvada Report articles items.


Announcements

- Bill announced that Trails Day is scheduled for June 6th and he is seeking APAC volunteers to help with the activities.
- A 25-minute slide show presentation by Bill Orchard followed the APAC meeting. Bill presented slides and commentary on APAC activities for 2008 and other City of Arvada events.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned, by motion of Larry, at 8:42 pm. to be followed by Bill’s Slide Show.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary D. Reeves