

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the
City Council of the City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
At the Joint Public Safety Facility

The City Council held a study session at 5:29 p.m.

Mayor Russell Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Russell Stewart, Councilors Afshin Safavi, Al Blum, Mike Gallagher, Dan Sheldon, and Katy Brown were present on roll call. Also present were City Manager Jim Thorsen, Deputy City Manager and Public Works Director Jay Goldie, City Attorney Kathie Guckenberger, Police Chief Michelle Tovrea, Community Development Director Rachel Granrath, Finance Director Jessica Sager, Parks and Recreation Coordinator Emily Black, Parks Operations Supervisor Jeff Roberts and City Clerk Laura Gillespie.

Absent: Councilor Randy Weil

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council conducted the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Gallagher to approve the agenda as proposed.

The motion passed unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Susan MaGuire, 14 Mockingbird Lane, introduced herself as the new Interim Director of the Cherry Hills Land Preserve (CHLP). She noted that the CHLP was excited for the possible opening of Quincy Farm on a regular basis. She indicated that CHLP wanted to reiterate its desire to work with the City to help maximize the benefits of Quincy Farm by being a source of volunteers, providing educational programming, and assisting with fundraising.

Klasina VanderWerf, 5250 E. Chenango Avenue, indicated that she was a member of the Quincy Farm Committee (QFC). She stated that she appreciated City staff's experience and knowledge of City parks and trails, but that they were experts of the current properties and Quincy Farm was a different type of property. She noted that unlike other City parks and trails, Quincy Farm was governed by a conservation easement which outlined specific uses, constraints, and conservation values that needed to be preserved; had its own committee; and had buildings. She indicated that the tenants and neighbors of Quincy Farm were getting used to it being a public property. She stated that the QFC had a commitment to the property and recommended small steps such as opening the property to the public for limited hours and limited days per week with a volunteer on hand to monitor the property, remind users of the constraints, provide education about the property to users, and provide feedback to the QFC and staff. She indicated that the QFC proposed to reassess the public hours after two

months. She noted that former Councilor Alex Brown had stated that when in doubt about Quincy Farm, go slow.

Gordon Rockafellow, 4200 E. Quincy Avenue, stated that he was speaking in place of Jeri Neff who was unable to attend the meeting tonight. He indicated that her primary concern was security as she lived at the front of the driveway entering Quincy Farm and she did not feel security was being sufficiently addressed. He warned the City that they could not rely on the neighbors to monitor the property as neighbors couldn't see the east side of the property due to foliage. He questioned what was allowed and not allowed in the conservation easement.

Howard Schirmer, 4100 E. Quincy Avenue, explained that he was one of the neighbors who Cat Anderson had asked to sign papers to bring the current situation about. He noted that his view of the future of the property had been preservation of a rural area with no change from past conditions, rather than the current development of a City park. He agreed with the recommendations from the QFC. He noted that security was a serious issue for the property. He encouraged Council to proceed slowly with opening the property to the public.

Lucinda Greene, 2855 Cherryridge Road, stated that she was a member of the QFC and had spent a lot of time on the property as a member of the QFC and as a member of the Cherry Hills Land Preserve. She noted that on page four of the conservation easement, under the Acknowledgement of Intent section, the Purpose stated "The purpose of this easement is to preserve and protect in perpetuity the conservation values of the property."; page five stated that "The West Area may be used for preservation uses as described in paragraph 5(a), subject to the limitations described in paragraph 4(a)(4)..."; paragraph 5(a) on page 9 stated "The property, and the structures permitted thereon, may be used as a nature preserve, for historic preservation and interpretation, for gardens, for private and public meetings, gatherings and celebrations, for classes and education, for photography, painting and other artistic endeavors..." and paragraph 4(a)(4) on page seven stated "...The West Area shall be managed primarily as a natural area with limited public access..." She noted that designating hours when the property would be open did not get at the real intent of the purpose to preserve and protect the conservation values of the property. She indicated that recent QFC meetings had been discordant regarding the issue of public access. She stated that the QFC's recommendation would allow the City to determine what resources were needed, how best to educate the public that this property was different than others, how to protect the wildlife, and how to educate the public on the conservation values. She indicated that while the QFC was nearer to completion of the management plan there were still significant issues with the impact of uses on the west side of the property. She asked Council to approve a soft trial opening with a volunteer docent and to allow the QFC to continue their important work.

Peter Clute, 4300 S. Dahlia Street, stated that he and his wife were present tonight and welcomed the opportunity to establish a memorial bench for their daughter, Caroline Clute. He explained that their daughter had been born in Denver, lived much of her life in the Village and Fort Collins, and had died tragically. He noted that they had worked closely with Parks Operations Supervisor Roberts to find the proposed memorial bench which was located in a quiet alcove of Dahlia Hollow Park. He thanked everyone at the Village for the opportunity to donate a memorial bench. He indicated that his daughter's death had been avoidable and in his opinion had been malpractice. He prayed that no one would experience what he and his wife had gone through as parents.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Blum to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes – January 15, 2019
- b. Highway User Tax Funds (HUTF) Mileage Certification
- c. Resolution 5, Series 2019; Accepting an Anonymous Donation from a Resident on Behalf of the Cherry Hills Village Police Department
- d. Resolution 6, Series 2019; Ratifying Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for the 18th Judicial District Assessment Center
- e. Resolution 7, Series 2019; Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with SungateKids

The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Council Liaison Assignments

City Clerk Gillespie presented an amended Liaison Program and assignments list for Council's consideration. She explained that staff had amended these documents based on Council discussion at the January 15, 2019 meeting and the primary change was to remove Council liaisons to City boards, commissions and committees. Instead board, commission and committee members would be encouraged to attend Council meetings and there would be more joint study sessions and regular meetings between the groups to facilitate increased dialogue.

Councilor Sheldon noted that Councilor Blum did not have a liaison assignment for any outside agency.

Councilor Blum offered to be the primary liaison for the Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable.

Councilor Sheldon asked Mayor Stewart if he was comfortable being the primary liaison for so many outside agencies.

Mayor Stewart confirmed he was comfortable.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown suggested a grammatical edit to the Liaison Program document.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Gallagher to the amended City Council Liaison Program and updated City Council Liaison Assignments as attached to the February 5, 2019 staff memorandum, with the amendments to each document as discussed.

The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 8, Series 2019; Accepting a Bench Donation in Memory of Caroline Clute

Coordinator Black presented Resolution 8, Series 2019 for Council's consideration. She explained that the resolution would accept a memorial bench donation in memory of Caroline Clute.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown thanked the Clutes and noted that the bench would be a beautiful addition to Dahlia Hollow Park. She indicated that she hoped it would honor their daughter's memory and that she was very sorry for their loss.

Councilor Gallagher added that it was nice the bench was so close to the Clute's residence.

Councilor Sheldon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown to approve Resolution 8, Series 2019; accepting a bench donation in memory of Caroline Mieville Clute.

The motion passed unanimously.

2019 Trail Signing Project

Coordinator Black explained that the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission (PTRC) had determined that one of their 2019 priorities was to create new signs for the trails in the Village. She indicated that the existing numbering system was confusing to users and did not provide helpful information to navigate between points in the City. PTRC Vice Chair Fred Wolfe had created a proposal for new signage on the trails. Based on estimated costs, the 2019 budget included a \$10,000 line item for this project. PTRC also discussed the idea of a "Village Trail" that would pass by significant landmarks in the City.

PTRC Vice Chair Wolfe stated that he had been a Village resident for over 30 years and a PTRC member for two years. He noted that the current trail numbering system was tied to residential home addresses but was not helpful for users of the trails. He explained that based on the system he had observed in Switzerland he suggested a new signage system that would indicate the distance from the sign to significant points. He identified 24 intersections that needed signs. He proposed eight foot posts with a top image, sign flags to direct users to significant points with the minutes required to walk there based on a 20 minute mile, and below those the Police Department phone number and the biker sign. He indicated that these signs were designed to work with equestrians. He added that in order to provide easy location identification to emergency services and the Public Works department each sign would also contain an identifying letter and number based on its location.

Quincy Farm Committee member Katie Agron noted that although the indication of minutes required to walk to the next location was not initially intuitive it did become intuitive quickly for users of the trails in Switzerland. She noted that Switzerland had looked at several different options and decided that minutes made more sense than using miles or kilometers.

Vice Chair Wolf added that the minutes indicator was intended for walkers and that other users such as cyclists and equestrians would have to make their own adjustments. He noted that the new signs would be weatherproof. He expressed

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

concern with coordinating sign design with the High Line Canal Conservancy for signs on the High Line Canal. He indicated that the Swiss signs were bright orange for improved visibility.

Councilor Sheldon thanked Vice Chair Wolfe for his work on the project. He asked if cyclists or equestrians used the Swiss trails.

QFC member Agron replied that cyclists did but equestrians did not.

Councilor Sheldon noted that Village trails had four types of users – walkers, joggers, cyclists and equestrians – and questioned the appropriateness of minutes versus miles on the new signs. He agreed that the Village signs should be coordinated somehow with the High Line Canal signs for continuity, but noted that the three miles of High Line Canal trail in the City should not necessarily dictate signage for the other 34 miles of Village trails.

Councilor Gallagher agreed that the trail signs needed improvement, especially in the periphery areas where users were more likely to get lost. He agreed that the Village signs should be coordinated with the High Line Canal signs. He thanked Vice Chair Wolfe for his work on the project.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown agreed that improvement was needed. She agreed with Councilor Sheldon that miles might be more appropriate than minutes. She suggested that the Village trail signs could use the same material as the High Line Canal signs but have unique identifying features. She thanked Vice Chair Wolfe for his initiative with the project. She suggested letting the High Line Canal Conservancy set the initial tone of signage and then having the Village use a variant.

Councilor Safavi agreed that a change was needed and he thought Vice Chair Wolfe's proposal would be a good improvement.

Vice Chair Wolfe added that after the new signage was installed the next step would be to update the City's trail map.

QFC member Agron noted that Central Park had a very good trail map that might be useful for PTRC to review.

Councilor Blum asked if the High Line Canal signs included distances and if putting minutes on the Village signs would conflict.

Councilor Sheldon confirmed the High Line Canal signs included distances.

Councilor Blum suggested that Vice Chair Wolfe could meet with the High Line Canal Conservancy to find out about their plans for signage on the High Line Canal.

Vice Chair Wolfe also suggested that the City could begin to do memorial bridge donations since they were running out of space for memorial bench donations.

Mayor Stewart agreed that the current trail sign system needed improvement. He asked if the identifying letter and number would be sufficient for staff to locate an issue on a trail.

Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie confirmed that it would.

Vice Chair Wolfe noted that PTRC had also begun a discussion about electronic bikes but had tabled the issue to see what other municipalities did.

Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie indicated that rule enforcement signs would still be present on the trails and would be separate from these new directional signs. He suggested installing some of the new signs away from the High Line Canal to get input from trail users.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown noted that the Village Trail was a great idea.

Mayor Stewart noted that it might be beneficial to have the City trail signs be distinctive from the High Line Canal signs in order to identify them clearly as Village trails.

Councilor Blum agreed. He asked for more information about electronic bikes.

Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie replied that the smaller electronic bikes were hard to identify and so it was easier to enforce a speed limit of 10 miles per hour on trails rather than enforce the prohibition on electronic bikes. He added that allowing electronic bikes was a slippery slope to other motorized vehicles.

Vice Chair Wolfe noted that there was already an issue with regular bikes on the trails not announcing their presence to pedestrians.

Council Bill 1, Series 2019: Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 by Creating a Fund for the Cherry Hills Village Charlou Park 3rd Filing General Improvement District and Appropriating Funds Therein (first reading)

Director Sager presented Council Bill 1, Series 2019 on first reading. She explained that Council had approved the organization of the Cherry Hills Village Charlou Park 3rd Filing General Improvement District (GID) and now a fund was needed in the City budget to track expenses and revenues for the project.

Councilor Sheldon asked about the number of poles that were involved in the undergrounding project.

City Manager Thorsen replied that he would include information about the number of poles and linear feet of utility lines in his next update to Council.

Mayor Stewart asked about transformers.

Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie replied that it was a little convoluted because as part of the undergrounding project Xcel was doing some updates and upgrades to their system.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Sheldon to approve Council Bill 1, Series 2019 amending the budget for fiscal year 2019 by creating a fund for the Cherry Hills Village Charlou Park 3rd Filing General Improvement District and appropriating funds therein on first reading.

The following votes were recorded:

Safavi	yes
Brown	yes
Gallagher	yes
Sheldon	yes

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Blum

yes

Vote on the Council Bill 1-2019: 5 ayes. 0 nays. The motion carried.

Public Access at Quincy Farm

Coordinator Black explained that there was currently no visitor access to Quincy Farm outside of reserving the meeting space within the Main House. It would be beneficial to have answers for grant funders, private donors, and community members about when and how they would be able to visit the property. The Nature Trail, and Plant Select and Pollinator gardens were complete and were shared with the public at the Open House on August 25, 2018. Staff was excited to share Cat Anderson's gift with the community on a more regular basis. Both the Quincy Farm Committee (QFC) and Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission (PTRC) had discussed this issue at two meetings each. The second QFC meeting had been advertised on the front page of the Village Crier as a public input meeting. Letters were sent to all adjacent homeowners in August 2018 advising them of upcoming QFC and PTRC meetings to discuss access. The City Manager, Public Works Director, Parks Operations Supervisor, and Parks Coordinator had met with the tenants to discuss access points, signage, and ways to balance tenant privacy with the realities of living on donated public land. Staff's memo included the QFC recommendation, the PTRC recommendation and staff's recommendation for public access to Quincy Farm. Staff also planned to install a sign at the High Line Canal entrance to Quincy Farm as well as other directional and rule signs, and to reroute the Nature Trail seasonally to protect the Great Horned Owl nest. If Council desired to have more restricted hours, staff recommended that the City still seek approval from Colorado Open Lands to have the property open daily from sunrise to sunset, and then only approve the desired hours of operation for staff to enforce. That would eliminate the need to go back to Colorado Open Lands in the future if Council desired to open the property more hours and days of the week. No access would be given to Quincy Farm until final approval was received from Colorado Open Lands. Coordinator Black noted that staff had received two emails about this issue today which were provided to Council on the dais. She indicated that everyone in the room cared deeply about Quincy Farm and wanted to share the property with residents in a way they felt was appropriate. She noted that Colorado Open Lands was there to support the City and help to interpret the conservation easement.

Councilor Safavi expressed concern that citizens might be uncomfortable if Council asked Colorado Open Lands to approve more extensive hours, even if Council stated they were intending to approve more restricted access.

Mayor Stewart indicated that Colorado Open Lands was more concerned with the use of the property rather than the hours it was open. He suggested a meeting between Colorado Open Lands and the QFC.

Coordinator Black agreed that a meeting would make sense when discussing uses and programming in the future, but that was a separate issue from opening the property for public access. She indicated that the City had owned the property for two and a half years and needed to make a request to Colorado Open Lands for public access in order to fulfill Cat Anderson's wishes and provide some level of public access, as the current level did not fit the conservation easement. She added that the Nature Trail and gardens had been created with a grant from the Cherry Hills Land Preserve but had so far only been available to residents for one day, during the Open House.

Councilor Sheldon asked about the process with Colorado Open Lands.

Coordinator Black replied that the City had not yet gone through the process that would be required for a public access plan, in which the City would submit an official letter which would be deliberated by the Board. She indicated that since the City had not gone through that official process yet she did not know what the timeline would be, but guessed it would be around 30 days to receive a response.

Councilor Sheldon noted that Council had heard from several residents tonight to proceed slowly and suggested that Council could approve limited hours and then go back through the process to expand the hours in the future if they chose to.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown indicated that she was well acquainted with the conservation easement from her time serving on the Quincy Farm Visioning Committee. She noted that there were many different interpretations of the concept of limited use. She suggested that the community needed to decide what limited use meant.

Councilor Gallagher stated that the issue of public access had been dragging on and that Council needed to make a decision in order to move forward. He suggested that Council ask Colorado Open Lands to approve expanded hours and then approve limited hours to begin with.

Councilor Sheldon noted that he had not heard from residents who wanted more access to the property and agreed with Councilor Safavi that residents needed to be comfortable with the level of access.

Councilor Gallagher agreed but stated that the City needed to open the property in order to see what the actual use should be. He indicated that the Main House should not be open unless someone was present.

Councilor Blum asked if Colorado Open Lands might turn down a request for more access.

Coordinator Black replied that when the Nature Trail had been approved in summer 2017 she had informally asked Cheryl Cufre from Colorado Open Lands and had been told that Colorado Open Lands was more concerned with keeping users on a trail on the property, for example, than with the hours.

Mayor Stewart asked if jogging and walking dogs would be allowed on the property.

Coordinator Black replied that jogging would be allowed and that the conservation easement did not specifically address dogs. She noted that part of her discussion with Ms. Cufre had been that Cat Anderson had been very specific about things that she had cared about, such as prohibiting bicycles and white fences. She indicated that part of Ms. Cufre's interpretation of the conservation easement was that Cat Anderson had not been specific about the term "limited use" and had left it open to interpretation. She noted that the City was tasked with being responsible stewards of the property but also with doing the responsible thing for the residents whose taxpayer dollars were paying for the property.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor Stewart noted that the conservation easement allowed for recreational uses on the east side of the property only and asked how the City would enforce that if the west side were open to the public without a docent.

Coordinator Black replied that if Colorado Open Lands was comfortable with the City's proposed hours, supervision and signage for the west side, then staff was comfortable with that as well. She added that there would absolutely be an option for volunteers to be on the property in the future for educational programs and activities.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown noted that in the QFC minutes former Mayor Christman had noted that the City had spent \$300,000 on Quincy Farm so far in 2018. She asked about the 2019 budget.

Coordinator Black replied that the 2019 budget included \$509,000 for Quincy Farm.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown noted that was a lot of taxpayer money. She stated that she was very sensitive to Cat Anderson's desires and the generous gift to the City, but that she had given the property to the City and the City was obligated to serve the residents of the community within the constraints of the conservation easement. She indicated that Cherry Hills Land Preserve's grant for the Nature Trail and gardens was generous and appreciated but asked for what purpose they were there if there was no public access to them. She suggested that if there had been no intent to allow use of the trail and gardens then perhaps the City should not have accepted the grant. She indicated that the City needed to maximize the benefit of the property for the community, Cat Anderson and the residents while being very mindful and respectful of the tenants who lived on the property and their safety and security, and of the neighbors.

Councilor Blum asked about the status of the management plan.

Coordinator Black replied that the two year master plan had been completed as a requirement of the conservation easement, and the QFC was working on the ten year master plan. She explained that the ten year master plan was still in draft form, had gone to PTRC for feedback, and that there was discussion about applying for a planning grant through Arapahoe County Open Space to assist with its completion.

Mayor Stewart stated that the plan was basically done and that the planning grant was for a limited scope of consultation to ensure that the management plan was in a good form to apply for future grants.

Councilor Blum asked if the management plan addressed hours of public access.

Mayor Stewart replied that it did not and was a high level document.

Councilor Safavi indicated that it did not matter how long the City had owned the property. He suggested that Council start slow with limited hours, evaluate after a certain time period, and return to Colorado Open Lands to ask for expanded hours as necessary as it seemed to be a fairly short process.

Mayor Stewart noted that submitting the public access plan to Colorado Open Lands was not a requirement but rather best practices in order to avoid future issues.

Councilor Gallagher suggested that Council submit expanded hours to Colorado Open Lands for approval but start with limited hours and monitoring if needed, and reevaluate after a specific timeframe.

Mayor Stewart indicated that he believed meeting between Ms. Cufre and the QFC would be more effective than sending letters to Colorado Open Lands.

Coordinator Black stated that she believed there was value in having a written confirmation from Colorado Open Lands approving the City's plan.

Mayor Stewart agreed. He noted that in his conversations with Ms. Cufre she had agreed that it was easier to start small and work up to increased access rather than starting with increased access and finding out it needed to be more restricted later.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked for reasons why access would have to be restricted later.

Mayor Stewart suggested that if bikers were using the property, people were taking down the signs, or neighbors were complaining about noise then access might have to be restricted.

Councilor Safavi agreed with starting with limited hours and expanding if there were no issues to eventually be open full time.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown indicated that if Council planned a phased implementation it would make sense to see if the end result was even possible by submitting that to Colorado Open Lands. She indicated that this had been a very deliberative process. She added that there had been residents at the Open House who had requested increased public access.

Councilor Safavi noted that he had only heard from residents who wanted limited access.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown replied that she had heard from people who wanted more access but that they were not present tonight.

Mayor Stewart noted that staff could return with a single recommendation from QFC and PTRC.

Coordinator Black replied that staff did attempt to get a single recommendation and that had resulted in the multiple meetings with each group, and that she believed QFC and PTRC would be frustrated if this issue came back to them again.

Mayor Stewart noted that the QFC's views were important and suggested that Council be deferential to them.

Councilor Blum asked why staff did not recommend a volunteer be on site.

Coordinator Black replied that staff recommended that there not be a requirement for a volunteer in order for the property to be open. She noted that she believed there was a need for volunteers in the future but that was a separate issue and staff did not recommend that public access to the property be dependent on a volunteer being present.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Councilor Gallagher moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown to recommend that City Council provide public access to Quincy Farm with the following conditions and hours: approval from Colorado Open Lands to open the Nature Trail from dawn to dusk; the Farm to be open seven days a week without an attendant; the inside of the Main House will not be open to public access; for a trial period of four months.

Councilor Sheldon clarified that the motion was for seven days a week dawn to dusk, rather than asking Colorado Open Lands for those hours and then opening the property for more limited hours.

Councilor Gallagher confirmed that was correct. He suggested that if that access resulted in issues then Council could further restrict the hours as necessary.

Councilor Blum asked if the motion should be amended to add that the public access would be subject to review in two months and at that point Council could make an adjustment to the hours.

Councilor Gallagher noted that there would not be much use of the property until the spring.

Mayor Stewart noted that the breeding season of the Great Horned Owls was beginning and the sewer project was currently ongoing.

Coordinator Black indicated that the sewer project was occurring now and would be completed within 30 days.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked when the breeding season would end.

Coordinator Black replied that the owls typically nested in January and February, but a different pair was at the property this year than past years so staff should know by the end of February. She indicated that the Nature Trail was designed so that it could be rerouted during the owl's breeding season to avoid that area for that time period, probably through April or May.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked if the use of the gardens would disturb the owls.

Coordinator Black replied it would not.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown proposed an amendment to the motion that public access begin on March 1st.

Councilor Sheldon asked Chief Tovrea if it would be problematic for officers if Council changed the hours.

Chief Tovrea replied that it would not be problematic and that the Police Department just needed to know what the hours were so they could be enforced. She noted that they would try to patrol the property more often at the beginning but that in general it would be patrolled the same as other City parks.

Councilor Sheldon asked about the hours that other City parks were open.

Coordinator Black replied that other City parks were open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. which was a hold over from when they were owned by South Suburban. She noted that this was an issue on staff's list to have the PTRC discuss and submit a recommendation to Council.

Councilor Blum asked if this motion would allow Council to restrict the hours if they determined that needed to occur after the four month trial period.

Councilor Gallagher agreed that would be a good amendment to the motion.

City Manager Thorsen suggested that the motion be amended to include that City staff would bring a report to Council at the conclusion of the four months.

Councilor Blum added that Council would be able to review staff's report and adjust the hours accordingly.

City Attorney Guckenberger asked if there had been a second to Mayor Pro Tem Brown's amendment to the motion.

Councilor Blum seconded the amendment to the motion.

City Attorney Guckenberger noted that Councilor Blum's amendment to the amendment to the motion also needed a second.

Councilor Sheldon suggested starting with a new motion.

Mayor Stewart noted that the owls were present beyond March 1st.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown replied that the Nature Trail could be rerouted to avoid the owls and use of the gardens would not disturb the owls.

Coordinator Black noted that all the recommendations agreed about protecting the owls.

Mayor Stewart questioned how the City would ensure protection of the owls if a docent was not on site.

Councilor Safavi asked what metrics would be used for the four month review.

Coordinator Black replied that staff would collect information on safety and responsible usage.

City Manager Thorsen added that staff would include feedback from users, tenants and neighbors, as well as any reports from the Police Department regarding vandalism or trespassing.

Councilor Gallagher asked that staff bring major issues to Council's attention as they occurred rather than waiting until the end of the four months.

City Clerk Smith asked for clarification that the four months was from the March 1st date.

Councilor Gallagher withdrew his original motion.

Councilor Gallagher moved, seconded by Councilor Blum to recommend that City Council provide public access to Quincy Farm with the following conditions and hours: approval from Colorado Open Lands to open the Nature Trail from dawn to dusk; the Farm to be open seven days a week without an attendant; the inside of the Main House will not be open to public access; a start date of March

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

1, 2019; a trial period of four months; staff will provide feedback on a regular basis with a report at the end of the trial period.

Mayor Stewart noted that according to the motion only the Nature Trail would be open from dawn until dusk, not the lawn of the property.

Councilor Gallagher replied that the intention was to open the property.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Blum, to amend the motion to change “the Nature Trail” to “Quincy Farm and the Nature Trail”.

The amendment to the motion passed 5 ayes and 0 nays.

The motion passed 4 ayes and 1 nays.

REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stewart reported that St. Gabriel Church had requested use of the main house at Quincy Farm to hold their corporate retreat. He indicated that the conservation easement limited use of the property to preservation or agricultural use and asked the City Attorney to determine if a corporate retreat would fit within those uses. He indicated that the Quincy Farm Committee was requesting a consultant and the budget was available. He added that a matching grant was available from the Arapahoe County Open Space and Trails Advisory Board. He reported that he had attended the recent Arapahoe County Commissioners, Mayors and City Managers breakfast where Congressman Jason Crow had promised to keep the group informed about the FAA Denver MetroPlex project. He indicated that the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) would be looking at the Master Plan this year and noted that this would be a good time for Council to review the P&Z powers and duties. He noted that he had some suggested revisions that Council would discuss at the next meeting, one of which was revising the Code so that Council had the power to modify P&Z's recommended changes to the Master Plan, rather than just accepting or denying them.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown stated that the Code allowed Council to adopt, modify or reject P&Z's proposed amendments to the Master Plan.

Mayor Stewart stated that Council would hold a joint study session with P&Z regarding the Code Modernization project on March 5th. He indicated that he would attend the February 14th CML Legislative Workshop.

Councilor Safavi noted that he also planned to attend the workshop.

Mayor Stewart reported that he had attended the Metro Mayors Caucus meeting and the primary issue of concern to the City was the proposal of an off ramp from I-25 at Union Avenue as part of the Belleview interchange project, which would significantly change the character of the City. He noted that historically the City had opposed and prevented an exit from I-25 at Quincy Avenue and would also oppose this new proposal. He suggested that Council should establish a regular schedule for joint study sessions with the City boards, commissions and committees. He reported that he had a very positive lunch with Greenwood Village Mayor Rakowsky. He indicated that he would be meeting with the new representative for House District 3 and would discuss the FAA Denver MetroPlex

project and CDOT issues. He stated that Councilor Randy Weil was at a long term care facility and was taking visitors.

Members of City Council

Councilor Gallagher reported that he and Councilor Safavi had visited Councilor Weil and had been encouraged by his progress.

Councilor Blum reported that the Code Modernization Steering Committee had met last week and the project would come to Council in March. He indicated that the construction plans for the traffic signal had been approved by Glenmoor Country Club, Glenmoor HOA and the City and had been submitted to CDOT for their review. He noted that the February issue of the CML Colorado Municipalities publication had an article about his company's affordable housing project in Buena Vista.

Councilor Sheldon explained that in 2017 he had worked with former Mayor Christman and Councilor Blum to rename the Swastika Acres subdivision but the applicant had fallen through and other City business had taken their attention. He indicated that last fall they had begun work on the project again and by coincidence the Denver Post had decided to write an article about the subdivision name. He noted that the article had been on the front page of the Denver Post several Sundays ago and had been fair press. He stated that he and Councilor Blum had worked with City staff to determine that there were 56 properties that still carried the name Swastika Acres and had found a new applicant to begin the process again. He estimated that Council would consider a formal request in the next 60 days.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown indicated that the next Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable meeting was tomorrow evening. She added that there had been a recent article in the Denver Post about the FAA Denver MetroPlex project.

Councilor Safavi reported that he had met the ambassador of Kazakhstan at the recent event hosted by the South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Stewart added that he and Councilor Gallagher would conduct interviews for the Quincy Farm Committee vacancy tomorrow.

Members of City Boards and Commissions

None

City Manager & Staff

City Manager Thorsen reported that Council would hold a joint study session with P&Z on March 5th to review the Code Modernization project. He noted that the latest CML Newsletter had reported that the residential assessment rate would fall from 6.9 to 6.7 due to the Gallagher Amendment which would result in less residential tax revenue for the City.

City Attorney

City Attorney Guckenberger indicated that she would address the Mayor's request regarding use of Quincy Farm.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

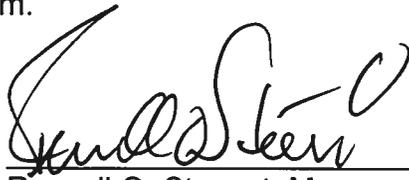
Mayor Stewart also noted that the City's contract with the City Attorney needed to be updated to reference City Attorney Guckenberger.

ADJOURNMENT

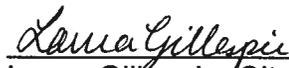
Councilor Sheldon moved, seconded by Councilor Blum to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.



Russell O. Stewart, Mayor



Laura Gillespie, City Clerk