

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the
Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission of the
City of City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Held on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
at the City Center

PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Chair Robert Eber called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chair Robert Eber, Vice-Chair Fred Wolfe, Commissioners Peter Sutherland, Aron Grodinsky, Stephanie Dahl and Tory Leviton. Also present were Emily Black, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, Pamela Broyles, Administrative Assistant, and Jessica Sager, Finance Director.

Absent: Commissioner Kate Murphy

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PTRC conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Thomas Barry
1800 East Stanford Avenue
Cherry Hills Village, CO

Mr. Barry said he was here to talk to the Commission about the proposed trail vacation and dedication on South Vine Way.

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Emily Black reminded Mr. Barry that the Commission is unable to discuss the trail vacation and dedication because the application was submitted and is in the review process.

Mr. Barry acknowledged Ms. Black's request and said he wanted to thank City Staff and the City Attorney for their hard work and commitment on the proposal.

Mr. Barry noted that a formal petition was submitted to the City and they are getting additional surveying done at the City's request. He announced that the Armstrong's sent a letter to the Community including all Cherrymoor residents outlining the proposal. He said the response has been positive and in support of the proposal. He concluded that he is looking forward to working with the Commission over the next few months.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chair Wolfe moved, seconded by Commissioner Aron Grodinsky to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes – January 9, 2020

The motion passed unanimously.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 75th Anniversary/John Meade Park Collaboration

Ms. Black updated the Commission on the City's special events for 2020. She confirmed that the annual Outdoor Movie Night event will be cancelled this year due to construction in John Meade Park. The dates for the Car Show have not been confirmed.

Ms. Black reported that the 75th Anniversary Committee is interested in collaborating with PTRC to hold a joint event for the John Meade Park grand opening and a 75th Anniversary celebration. The 75th Anniversary Committee is considering an event in the fall with activities such as food trucks, pony rides, history exhibits and booths from community organizations. Staff is looking for feedback from the Commission on whether they are interested in collaborating with the 75th Anniversary Committee and if so what types of activities the Commission would like to see at the event.

Ms. Black shared the concept of a monument that the 75th Anniversary Committee is interested in creating with the bricks that were saved from the demolition of the former Village Center. There was discussion about using the bricks to form a monument to be placed somewhere in John Meade Park or in front of City Hall. The Cherry Hills Village Art Commission voiced that they were not in favor of using the bricks to design a monument, but provided other ideas such as using the bricks as a foundation for a piece of art. Ms. Black said the Committee is looking for feedback from PTRC on the monument idea or if they have other ideas to share with the 75th Anniversary Committee.

Ms. Black invited Thomas Barry, Co-Chair of the 75th Anniversary Committee to come back to the podium to discuss the Committee's ideas.

Mr. Barry shared that the 75th Anniversary Committee is conceptualizing some ideas to celebrate the 75th Anniversary. They are looking at doing two events over the course of a year, including a kickoff event in summer and a celebration in John Meade Park in the fall. He said the Committee thinks it would be a great opportunity to combine efforts and funding for the John Meade Park grand opening with the 75th Anniversary celebration. The Committee is looking for feedback from PTRC on whether they are interested in collaborating before finalizing any plans.

At the request of the Commission Mr. Barry announced the names of members on the 75th Anniversary Committee.

Vice-Chair Wolfe asked if the Committee has made any effort to contact the citizens who have lived in Cherry Hills Village the longest.

Mr. Barry explained that the Committee is working with Finance Director Jessica Sager on ways to reach out to the community for stories, images and information from the past 75 years so they can collect historical elements. He said the Committee is planning to include an historical presentation with keynote speakers. He asked that if the Commission knows of anyone that could contribute to the historical value of the Village, to have them contact Jessica Sager.

Director Sager added that the City has a list of people they will be reaching out to as they move forward.

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Vice-Chair Wolfe expressed the idea of using the bricks for people to engrave their names since the bricks have meaning to the Village. The bricks could then be put somewhere around the Village Center to celebrate the 75th Anniversary.

Mr. Barry responded that the 75th Anniversary Committee is proposing to install some type of monument that utilizes the bricks and it would be a fundraising event where names could be engraved on the bricks. He said the Committee is looking at creating a monument with a time capsule that includes artifacts from 2020 that will be placed in a vault within the monument. The idea is to reopen the vault in 25 years at the 100th Anniversary celebration. He said the Art Commission suggested using the bricks as a foundation for an art piece with the donor's names engraved in the bricks.

Commissioner Grodinsky suggested that if there is an area that is slated to have asphalt or paving, it would be an opportunity to inlay the engraved bricks in the Park.

Commissioner Leviton brought up that he spoke with the Art Commission Chair about the possibility of doing something with the bricks at the corner of Quincy and Colorado. He said this intersection is considered the center of the City and working with the Art Commission to place some type of sculpture in this location would make it visible to more people. He said the Art Commission would work with local artists to utilize the bricks.

Chair Eber asked the Commission if they are in favor of collaborating with the 75th Anniversary Committee for the opening of John Meade Park.

The Commission agreed that it is the best use of resources to combine the events.

Ms. Black confirmed that the contractor is expected to wrap up construction in John Meade Park at the end of August so the Park should be open in September.

Commissioner Dahl offered to serve as the PTRC liaison to help organize the celebration.

Ms. Black recapped the Commission's decision to:

1. Collaborate with the 75th Anniversary Committee on a fall event
2. Consider engraving the bricks and laying the bricks in some of the walkways of John Meade park
3. Considering a sculpture at the corner of Quincy and Colorado

Chair Eber cautioned that using the bricks as a foundation for an art piece, with the symbolic nature of the bricks, could put the focus on the art and take away from the significance of the bricks. He suggested honoring the bricks by having them as a prominent item in and of themselves. He suggested a creative way to use the bricks is to create a monument in the shape of "CHV" that could be placed at the entrance or edge of the Park to welcome people.

Commissioner Leviton suggested stacking the bricks with space between them to make the monument look larger since the bricks are limited.

b. Additional Trails to be Signed (Vice-Chair Wolfe)

Ms. Black reported that Vice-Chair Wolfe has developed the next phases of the Trail Signing project beyond the Village Trail and he would present the plan for PTRC's consideration.

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Vice-Chair Wolfe stated that he was asked to present the design of the Village Trail and any future trails to City Council. He presented the Commission with a map that shows the current Village Trail that is 5.85 miles and the next phase of trails he is proposing that will complete a 15-mile loop. He pointed out some areas on the map where maintenance will be required to make the trails safe and usable. He will work with Parks staff to improve these sections and stabilize the walking surface.

Vice-Chair Wolfe explained that he envisions 8 planned trails that connect to the Village Trail. He reviewed the signage that will include distance and the average time it takes to walk the trails. He said most of the posts for the signs already exist. He asked for input from the Commission before presenting the proposal to City Council.

Chair Eber asked if there are pieces of the trail system that are not included in the proposed trail map such as the Charlou neighborhood.

Vice-Chair Wolfe confirmed that all trails are not included in the plan. He pointed out that the trails through the Charlou neighborhood are on-street trails.

Chair Eber noted that the Commission's original plan was to rename the trail system and he believes that resigning the entire trail system is something the Commission will still have to address.

Vice-Chair Wolfe confirmed that once John Meade Park is developed the signage may change. He noted that there will be a trail number on the bottom corner of each sign for identification purposes of the particular location to assist emergency responders.

Commissioner Leviton asked if residents who live near the trails were contacted for feedback on the trail names that Vice-Chair Wolfe is proposing.

Ms. Black noted that Vice-Chair Wolfe will present the trail plan to City Council in a study session. The next step is to publish the proposal in the Village Crier and the City can ask for feedback on the trail names at that time.

Commissioner Sutherland asked if the trail maps will be updated and reprinted once the trail system is complete.

Ms. Black confirmed that the plan is to make corrections to the map and reprint it.

c. High Line Canal Signage

Ms. Black reported that in October 2019, City Council endorsed the Plan for the High Line Canal following a recommendation by PTRC. The Commission was provided a copy of the *Signage & Wayfinding* report with recommended improvements for each area of the canal, including signage. She reported that staff has received initial cost estimates for signs from the High Line Canal Conservancy and the designer. She explained that staff included the high estimate in the budget for 2020 and City Council approved the budget to include \$36,500.00 in the Conservation Trust Fund for High Line Canal signs. The cost of signs is being offset by matching funds from the High Line Canal Conservancy and Arapahoe County Open Spaces. She said the Cherry Hills Land Preserve also donated \$10,000 to the High Line Canal Conservancy to be used for Cherry Hills Village signs.

Ms. Black expressed that the designs for the signs went through an extensive public input process that began in April 2018. She reported that the Cherry Hills Village section of the High Line Canal is called the "Wooded Village." Ms. Black summarized the signs to be installed in Cherry Hills Village as:

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- High Line Canal trail entrance at Belleview
- The underpass at Hampden
- Dahlia Hollow Parking Lot
- Quincy Farm Interpretive Sign
- Crossing signs when driving across the High Line Canal

Ms. Black said the signs will emphasize that the High Line Canal is a slow trail that will have speed limits. She confirmed that none of the signs in Cherry Hills Village will show the local trails.

Ms. Black pointed out that Three Pond Park is the halfway mark of the High Line Canal and there will be signage to reflect this important feature.

Vice-Chair Wolfe asked if the High Line Canal Conservancy plan includes someone patrolling the trail.

Ms. Black responded that at this time each jurisdiction is responsible for its own patrol, but this may become more unified in the future.

Vice-Chair Wolfe commented that at one time the Police Department patrolled the High Line Canal with bikes. He said the bike patrol was effective and he believes security will be needed on the Canal.

Ms. Black said she would check with the Police Chief on security.

Ms. Black said that the High Line Canal Conservancy is hoping to get the sign project to bid by the end of February and a contractor on board by April. Their goal is to start installing signs by fall. Ms. Black noted that the mile marker signs were privately funded and will be installed prior to the High Line Canal signs.

Ms. Black shared that the next step is to have the Executive Director of the High Line Canal Conservancy Harriet LaMair present their plan at the March PTRC meeting. PTRC will have the opportunity to ask questions and staff will ask that PTRC recommend that City Council participate in the High Line Canal Signing Project.

REPORTS

a. PTRC Chair Report

Chair Eber reported that he met with Mayor Stewart and the Quincy Farm Committee Chair to discuss the language in the proposed Cherry Hills Land Preserve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He said he has not heard back from them.

Chair Eber mentioned that he would like to do something to recognize City Manager Jim Thorsen's retirement in May.

b. Commission Members Report

Commissioner Leviton reported that he was recently in Palm Springs and was impressed with the amount of recreation that the community offers. He would like to see more recreation opportunities in Cherry Hills Village. He announced that he is working on a summer concert series for June, July and August.

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c. Staff Report

(i) John Meade Park Construction

Ms. Black reported that the wood for the boardwalk was delivered and the foundation for the restrooms is scheduled to be poured the beginning of March. She said the construction project overall is going very well.

(ii) Quincy Farm Master Plan

Ms. Black said that she will bring the Quincy Farm final site plan to the next PTRC meeting. She specified that it is not the final master plan document. She is anticipating the full master plan document to come before PTRC for approval in June. She informed the Commission that the timeline for the masterplan is tight. She will be sending PTRC the drafts as she gets them so the Commission can make comments or suggestions throughout the process. She advised that the commission should be comfortable with the document and not wanting to make a lot of changes by the time it is presented in June.

(iii) Citizens Advisory Taskforce for Master Plan update

Ms. Black reported that City Council is redoing the City's Master Plan and they hired a contractor to assist with the project. A Citizens Advisory Taskforce is being established that will include PTRC, the Planning and Zoning Commission and other appointees, and the Taskforce meetings will also gather public input. She said City Council will finalize the structure of the taskforce at their meeting next Tuesday.

(iv) Cherry Hills Village Art Commission

1. City Hall Sculpture – *Gusto* by Gilberto Romero

Ms. Black shared a picture of the permanent sculpture *Gusto* that the Art Commission is recommending be placed in front of City Hall. She said approval for the sculpture will go before Council next Tuesday. The piece is interactive in that it does swivel on the base. Ms. Black confirmed that PTRC does not need to approve the piece as it is not in open space or parks. She stated that funding for the permanent art piece was budgeted in the Art Commission budget and some of it was earmarked in the COP funding for the City Hall building.

2. February 24th Meeting - John Meade Park Piece

Ms. Black reported that the Cherry Hills Village Art Commission is considering installing a permanent art piece in John Meade Park. The Art Commission will be discussing ideas for the piece at their next meeting and will present their ideas to PTRC at a future date. She shared that the Cherry Hills Village Land Preserve is interested in contributing funds for the piece. Ms. Black noted that staff has emphasized the desire for interactive art that kids can enjoy. The idea is to install play art versus a monument sculpture.

3. *Big Bronze Walking Eye Flower* – July 13th Expected Removal

Ms. Black informed the Commission that the *Big Bronze Walking Eye Flower* sculpture in City Park on the corner of Quincy and University will reach its two-year loan period in July and is expected to be removed at that time.

Chair Eber asked if there are plans to replace the sculpture in City Park once it is removed and what will happen to the concrete pad that was installed.

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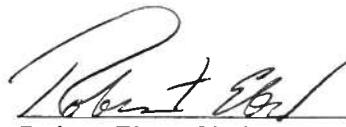
Ms. Black said she does not know of any specific plans for that location. She said the footings will probably be removed and the area will be restored back to its original landscape.

Vice-Chair Wolfe asked if there are any updates on Crown Castle moving their equipment from John Meade Park to City Park.

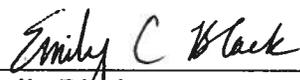
Ms. Black responded that there are no updates. She said Crown Castle is working on their application, but the City has not received a formal application. She said the communications equipment in John Meade Park will be staying for now.

ADJOURNMENT

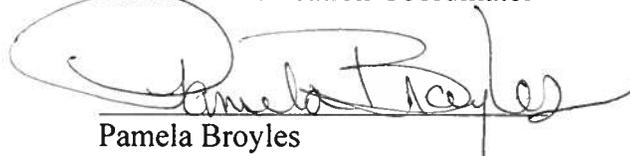
The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next PTRC meeting is scheduled for March 12th at 5:30 p.m.



Robert Eber, Chairman



Emily Black
Parks and Recreation Coordinator



Pamela Broyles
Administrative Assistant