

**City of Boulder
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Valmont Bike Park Platt Farmhouse
Airport and Valmont Roads
October 28, 2013
Summary Meeting Minutes**

**To listen to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings in their entirety,
please go to the following link: www.boulderparks-rec.org**

Board Present:

Rick Thayer, Mike Conroy, Michelle Estrella, Myriah Conroy, Kelly Wyatt, Mike Guzek, Marty Gorce

Board Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jeff Dillon, Alice Guthrie, Sally Dieterich, Jeff Haley, Kady Doelling, Jen Bray, Mike Eubank

Guests Present:

Matt Chasansky, Boulder Public Library Arts and Cultural Services Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

II. FUTURE BOARD ITEMS AND TOURS

Guthrie provided the following timeline update on future board items:

- 11/18/13 PRAB meeting – Pottery lab RFP update
- 11/18/13 Chautauqua Update
- Next 2-3 months – Parks and Recreation Department fees discussion
- First quarter 2014 - City Council public hearing for department master plan acceptance
- PRAB study sessions on Capital Improvement Program(CIP) flood impacts and follow up on the smoking ban

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation was opened.

Peter Richards, resident, questioned the City of Boulder's participation in the Silver Sneakers program, as he views it to be a non revenue producing program.

Public participation was closed.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes from August 26, 2013 and September 23, 2013.

The minutes from August 26, 2013 and September 23, 2013 were approved as written.

B. Informational Items

1. The Park Development Update was approved as written.

V. ITEMS FOR ACTION

There were no Items for Action.

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. 2014 Cyclocross Nationals

Eubank provided a brief update on this item. He said cyclocross was originally designed as a winter sport for cyclists to train off-season, but developed into a main sport discipline because of popularity. Valmont Bike Park was built with Union Cycliste International (UCI) standards for cyclocross – a 1.5-2 mile course with the last lap a bell lap. He added that this event will provide a strong economic impact to Boulder with spectators coming during the slowest part of the tourist season.

The following timeline was given for the 2014 Cyclocross Nationals:

- Bid awarded to Boulder by USA Cycling after a competitive bid process
- Event dates – late August/early September through February (participation in Boulder to be in January) at Valmont Bike Park
- Event hosting and planning – City of Boulder partnership with USA Cycling
- Five day race event – January 8-12, 2014
- 8,000 racers/spectators expected
- \$1-1.5 million economic impact to Boulder

PRAB comments:

- Impact to the course – the wear and tear. Has that been factored in?
- Race budget cost to the City of Boulder
- What about snow removal?
- What are entrance fees for participants?
- What are plans for transportation and parking and the impact to the city?

Eubank responded that everything has been included in the planning process. USA Cycling has agreed to split the cost of impact to the course, race budget is \$60,000-\$80,000 but will be reimbursed to the city from sponsorships, snow removal is covered by park staff and as an additional line item in the budget, race entrance fees are approximately \$80 per race per participant and there is a transportation/parking plan in place.

B. Flood Art Project – Library Arts Department

Matt Chasansky, Boulder Public Library and Cultural Services Manager, presented a short presentation on the art program response to the 2014 flood. He added that to take advantage of artists in the most profound way would be to work on an immediate project when people really need to respond to the impact. Through collaboration with BMoCA and local businesses, the flood project was initiated. Thirteen local artists were invited to submit ideas in eco arts, sustainable and social practices and dealing directly with the community in artwork installation creation. From the proposals, four artists were chosen for the project installations which will last no longer than one year. Artists were given four goals to address:

- Facilitate community healing
- Thank first responders
- Honor those directly affected
- Commemorate the historic event

Four artists were chosen:

- Lynne Hull – Eco artist whose project is titled “Reclaimed Trees” will create totems from downed trees along the path from the civic area to Eben G. Fine Park.
- The bARTer Collective – Project titled “Still Waters Run Deep” will be a recipe exchange based around an old delivery truck with the idea that comfort food recipes are the way that families gather to promote healing.
- Viviane Le Courtois – Works with projects defined by the way people interact. Her project is titled “Rescued Memories” and will be a series of cast porcelain objects evolving from items destroyed by the flood.
- Berger and Fohr Design Group – Graphic art design group that will create a series of fine art prints that address themes that emerge from artist project participants. The prints will be auctioned to the public.

Chasansky added that this is a great opportunity for the city with numerous public events to be scheduled during the project. On September 11, 2014, there are plans to reunite the artists for a one year anniversary celebration.

C. Flood Recovery Update

Doelling provided the FEMA process update on this item. She presented the flood recovery summary including:

- Process categories – debris removal, emergency protective measures
- Reimbursement – 75 percent from FEMA, 12.5 percent from the state and 12.5 percent from the city
- Record keeping requirements – 3 years
- Timelines:
 - 9/14/13 – declaration date
 - 12/6/13 – damage identification (60 days)
 - 3/14/14 – debris removal (6 months)
 - 3/14/14 – emergency work (6 months)

- 3/14/15 – permanent work (18 months)

Haley provided additional information on parks staff involvement in the emergency response. He said staff worked on de-watering flooded areas, cleaning clogged drains, ensuring flow of water from buildings/neighborhoods, closing parks/park areas that were impacted, clearing Boulder Creek Path and assessing tree stability and removal when necessary. He added the following summary of impacts to parks and recreation facilities and estimated costs:

- 32 neighborhood parks
- 3 community parks
- 5 community areas
- 3 recreation centers
- Boulder Reservoir
- Scott Carpenter park
- Flatirons Golf Course and events center
- Salberg Studio
- Parking lots - \$120,000
- Facilities - \$335,390
- Playgrounds - \$320,000
- Sidewalks/paths - \$575,000
- Outdoor courts - \$250,000
- Parks utilities - \$315,000
- Structures - \$130,000
- Multi use fields - \$280,000

He added options for recovery costs:

- Insurance
- Reallocation in department budget
- Reserves
- Inter-fund transfers
- Grants
- Donated time and materials

In addition to staff working on the clean-up, the department has completed nine volunteer projects with 775 volunteers totaling 2,266 volunteer hours.

D. Valmont City Park – South Development

Haley provided an update on Valmont City Park south plan. He explained that there will be an update to the 2008 Valmont City park master plan with focus on the undeveloped areas on the south side of Valmont Road. He added a timeline for the planning process:

- 11/13-1/14 - data gathering
- 11/13-2/14 – opportunities/constraints – analysis of data
 - Round table summary report, athletic fields study results, community survey results, needs analysis report
- 3/14-5/14 - concept alternatives development
 - Community open houses, Founder's Day

- 5/14-7/14 – Recommended concept plan
- 8/14-10/14 – Final concept plan completion

PRAB will be involved in the Valmont south planning process by having the Valmont planning process on the PRAB agenda as information and discussion items throughout the process with a proposed recommendation from PRAB at the September 2014 meeting. In addition, there will be a joint study session with city council in July 2014.

E. Discussion on Smoking Ban in Urban Parks and Municipal Campus

Guthrie said council has asked that the smoking ban on park lands, civic areas and the municipal campus be returned for discussion during the fourth quarter of 2013. PRAB input has been requested by council.

PRAB comments:

- What is motivating this discussion? Is it a loitering concern, a health concern or a littering concern
- It's being used as a mechanism to stop loitering in the municipal complex and that's ok because cigarettes are the gateway to other drugs.
- If it's about health and safety that's fine, but you need to be careful with comments directed towards loitering as that can become a constitutional issue.
- It's easier to enforce a city wide ban than to enforce a ban in pocket areas.
- You can make laws, but the manpower to enforce these rules in the parks is astronomical.
- I think they stand a better change of enforcement at the civic area. It's a lot harder at an empty park.
- If it's truly a health concern, it's a density issue where people have no opportunity to get fresh air. Pearl Street and the civic area are good examples. They're high density. What is the city manager trying to address? From an enforcement standpoint, yes, all or nothing.
- If you think you'll stop people from smoking in a designated area they'll just go across the street.
- You'll eliminate some from smoking on public areas, but I think we're disingenuous if we say the smoking ban will solve larger issues. Drugs are the larger issue and the cigarette issue is just a smoke screen.
- It's just a panacea to cure the problem.
- How about a joint recommendation that we think as a board that the city should tackle this problem and have an honest conversation with the community. Otherwise I'm not standing behind it.
- We're getting a new civic area and have never addressed the problems of the present civic area and will doom the new one.
- It's a much bigger conversation that this council should absolutely take on.

This feedback will be forwarded to the city manager.

VII. MATTERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT

There were no Matters from the Department.

VIII. MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no Matters from Board Members.

IX. NEXT BOARD MEETING: November 18, 2013

X. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

APPROVED BY PARKS AND
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Rick Thayer
Board Chair

Attest

Sally Dieterich
Recording Secretary