

Approved as Amended 10/14/15
OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes
Meeting Date September 9, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Shelley Dunbar Frances Hartogh Molly Davis Kevin Bracy Knight Tom Isaacson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Tracy Winfree Jim Reeder Steve Armstead Abbie Poniatowski Mark Gershman
Kelly Wasserbach Alyssa Frideres Alycia Knutson Bethany Collins Deryn Wagner
Brian Anacker Greg Seabloom Leah Case Cecil Fenio

GUESTS

Brian Wiltshire, Engineering Project Manager, Public Works

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – Approval of the Minutes

Frances Hartogh said on page two in the first paragraph, it should read, “Frances expressed her concern that the Board was not provided more information about this process; it would have been courteous to have more of a heads up regarding the complete restructuring of OSMP organization.” Shelley Dunbar added on page one, under Public Comment, it should read, “Suzanne Webel, Boulder County, said that the Boulder County Horse Association (BCHA) supports the city ordinance enabling staff to enforce designated horse trailer parking at trailheads . . .”

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees to approve the minutes from Aug. 12, 2015 as amended. Kevin Bracy Knight seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Public Participation for Items not on the Agenda

None.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Matters from Staff

Jim Reeder, Trails and Facilities Division Manager, gave an update on various staff projects.

Shelley asked if staff needs more volunteers. Jim said staff generally receives a good response, but more volunteers are always welcomed.

Steve Armstead, Environmental Planner, gave an update on the North Trail Study Area (TSA).

Kevin asked when the public will get to see the scenarios. Steve said likely in the first week of October. Frances asked if people can still participate and comment once the scenarios are presented. Steve said during workshops there will be time for participants to look at scenarios and provide feedback. There will also be a period of time for this to happen online. Molly Davis asked if the experts who participated in the panels will be excluded from this process. Steve said they were brought in to be objective in their contributions of ideas; if they continue to advocate it may a conflict of interest. Molly asked if they would be able to clarify comments if needed. Steve said yes.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Matters from the Board

Frances asked if the Open Space budget could include money to help with transportation when schools are attending an Open Space education program. Tracy said staff is currently talking about this.

Tom Isaacson encouraged staff to make it very clear to the public that any graffiti on Open Space will be as short-lived as possible.

Molly requested that the ordinance regarding a transfer versus disposal be moved along faster if possible.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Staff briefing regarding the Chautauqua Pedestrian Safety, Access and Lighting Improvements Project

Brian Wiltshire, Engineering Project Manager, Public Works, gave an update on this project. Staff will continue gathering public input on the design and incorporating comments where possible. No action is requested at this time.

Frances asked if the possible effects on wildlife from the new lighting has been explored. Brian said these are low scale pedestrian lights that can be dimmed down or even turned off based on need. Frances asked if the park closes at night. Deryn Wagner said areas of the park do, but there may still be activity after dark from the tenants or from the concert venue. Frances asked how the access to Open Space would change. Brian said the access points would be better defined. Kevin asked where the sidewalk would be placed and if it would cut into the road. Brian said it will likely cut into the slope of Chautauqua Park. Molly asked how the slope might look and if people would be able to walk across it. Brian said it would be steep enough to deter people from walking across, but still be able to maintain vegetation. Molly expressed her hope that this look as natural as possible. Shelley asked that the interpretive and way-finding signs get posted at all pedestrian access points.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Request for a recommendation to renew a ten-year lease, including an option to extend the lease term for an additional ten years, with Colorado Parks and Wildlife for 39.65 acres of open space property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park for coordinated trail corridor management.

Bethany Collins, Property Agent, gave a presentation on a possible lease renewal with CPW for the portion of Rattlesnake Gulch Trail that is on Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park property.

Public Comment

None.

Return to the Board

Molly asked if the intent of this is to change the enforcement. Bethany said it is purely to extend the lease; management and enforcement will stay basically the same. Tom said he approves of how this is set up; to have OSMP manage and enforce such a small section does not make sense. Shelley asked how this lease will be managed. Bethany said it will still require communication between the two agencies; the lease area is solely along the trail corridor.

Motion

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees recommend that the City Council authorize the city manager to enter into a ten-year lease, including the option to renew for an additional ten years, for 39.65 acres of open space property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park for coordinated trail corridor management as approved by OSMP and CPW staff and the City Attorney's Office. Molly Davis seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – Request for a recommendation to renew a ten-year lease, including an option to extend the lease term for an additional ten years, with Colorado Parks and Wildlife for 73 acres of open space property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park for coordinated climbing access corridor management.

Bethany Collins, Property Agent, gave a presentation on a possible lease renewal with CPW for climbing access corridors on OSMP property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park property.

Kevin asked who will manage this area. Bethany said the lease is only for the trail corridor. Frances asked who would respond in an emergency. Tom said day to day management will be different from emergency situations. Shelley asked if staff has discussed making lands more contiguous so we do not need these lease agreements. Bethany said there has been conversation about this in the past, but for this area it did not make sense.

Public Comment

None.

Return to the Board

No further comment.

Motion

Kevin Bracy Knight moved the Open Space Board of Trustees recommend that the City Council authorize the city manager to enter into a ten-year lease, including the option to renew for an additional ten years, for 73 acres of open space property adjacent to Eldorado Canyon State Park for coordinated climbing access corridor management as approved by OSMP and CPW staff and the City Attorney's Office. Frances Hartogh seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Review the City Manager's 2016 proposed budget for the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department and recommend approval of the Operating and Capital Improvement Program Budgets and a portion of the Lottery Fund Capital Improvement Program Budget.

Tracy Winfree, Director, presented the 2016 budget.

Tom said the budget allotted for the North TSA does not seem high enough. Tracy said there is not as much heavy lifting in the North TSA and not as much capital work. Frances said a budget overview for personnel expenditures would be helpful. She asked if this includes additional rangers. Tracy said yes; there are now 19 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employees in that work group. Molly asked what the agricultural maintenance includes. Tracy said upgrades and leases. Molly asked why Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements are not included. Tracy said the department is expecting a total of \$5.5 million that has not hit the books yet, but will be put back into the Open Space fund. Molly asked if the IBM connector trail will be done in 2015. Jim said that is the plan. Shelley said the amounts projected for 2016 seem large. Tracy said all listed projects will be paid for in 2016, but may not be completed until 2017.

Public Comment

None.

Return to the Board

Frances asked whether the vehicle acquisition program focuses on clean burning/electric vehicles. Tracy said the city overall has an ethic towards clean burning and renewable vehicles. Shelley asked if buildings are moving towards this as well. Tracy said yes.

Motion

Tom Isaacson moved the Open Space Board of Trustees recommend that City Council approve the appropriation of \$35,240,569 in 2016 from the Open Space Fund and the General Fund and \$355,300 from the City's Lottery Fund CIP to cover the 2016 Open Space and Mountain Parks

Department operating and CIP expenditures and transfers. Molly Davis seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by Leah Case.

APPROVED BY:

Shelley Dunbar
Board Chair

DATE