

**City of Boulder
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Boulder Friends Meetinghouse
1825 Upland Avenue, Boulder, CO 80304
June 23, 2014
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:

Mike Conroy, Myriah Conroy, Michelle Estrella, Kelly Wyatt, Marty Gorce,
Mike Guzek, Tom Klenow

Board Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jeff Dillon, Yvette Bowden, Abbie Poniatowski, Sally Dieterich, Whitney
Ofstedahl, Kady Doelling, Lisa Martin, Stacy Cole, Joy Master

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with one change. Staff requested to move agenda item VII to precede agenda item VI.

Gorce made a motion to approve. Conroy (Myriah) seconded. The motion to move agenda item VII was approved unanimously.

Dillon introduced newly appointed Deputy Director Yvette Bowden, provided her qualifications and asked Bowden to elaborate.

Bowden said she has twenty-five years of non-profit, corporate and municipal experience, most recently in Atlanta where she was responsible for the expansion of the City of Atlanta's premier green space, Piedmont Park, which welcomes approximately 4.5 million visitors each year and hosts about 87% of Atlanta's festivals.

II. FUTURE BOARD ITEMS AND TOURS

Dillon provided a timeline update on future board items:

- 8/25/14 PRAB meeting – Crestview Park Site Plan
- 8/25/14 PRAB meeting – Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Pond update
- 8/25/14 PRAB meeting – Recreation program service analysis update
- 3rd quarter – Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) pesticide update
- 4th quarter – Boulder Reservoir Site Management Plan update
- 4th quarter – Asset management update

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation was opened.

No one spoke.

Public participation was closed.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes from May 19, 2014.

Minutes from May 19, 2014 were approved as written.

B. Informational Items

Written updates on these items were provided to the board as part of the packet materials. These items are informational items that require no board action or discussion. If the board prefers more detailed information or discussion, that item would be moved to Agenda Item VI, Items for Discussion/Information.

1. Park Development Update
2. City of Boulder Approved Pesticide List

V. ITEMS FOR ACTION

There were no Items for Action

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. Proposed Smoking Ban in Parks

Oftedahl presented this item on the potential expansion of the City of Boulder smoking ban. She outlined what the ban currently covers and what the proposal includes. The ban is currently in place on the Pearl Street mall from 11th to 15th, the Boulder County Courthouse lawn and the municipal campus (9th to 13th and Arapahoe to Canyon). PRAB is being asked for input on the proposed expansion to City of Boulder parks. The recommendation is to ban smoking on all city owned, maintained and leased park ways, park property and recreation facilities (with the exception of Flatirons Golf Course) including the grounds. In addition, adding the ban to the Colorado Chautauqua Association is being reviewed.

Next steps:

- PRAB input
- 10/ 2014 city council study session

Martin – The City of Boulder is moving toward creating a healthy environment for everyone who lives here, works here and visits here. At this point it's really about second hand smoke and making sure people want to come here and live their lives without being impacted by second hand cigarette smoke.

PRAB feedback:

- Wyatt – What about the ball fields? I can see how that could really be an issue for adults at Stazio, but not at the fields kids use. I do think it would be a positive change though. I understand the health part of this, but what about the fire danger? I am totally for a healthy lifestyle and support anything we can do to promote that.
- Estrella – But aren't we pushing smoking into the alleys? I'll address the real issue – the transient/homeless population. Is this proposed ban really about smoking?
- Conroy (Myriah) – I'm against smoking, but not everyone is. Even the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has an opinion on this. This is not the way to go about imposing a ban. It's not the right mechanism. Smoking e- cigarettes on city property is crazy and they need to be included in the ban. Flatirons Golf Course shouldn't be excluded either.
- Conroy (Mike) – Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) has an alcohol/tobacco/drug free policy at the Scott Carpenter ball fields. It seems like we're creating a separate class – the transient/homeless population. Also, what about multi-use paths and private property and fire danger? Do we have to have an ordinance? Wouldn't signage be a solution? Why just cigarettes? Auto emissions are bad too. If we're going to impose a ban, people will just move to another location and smoke. Should the language be expanded to include all tobacco, not just cigarettes?
- Guzek – I'm for it.
- Gorce – I agree with all that have spoken. I think this is an unveiled attempt to deal with another problem. How will this be enforced? The cost will be high and it will create animosity towards the City of Boulder and the police. I'm not against the ban, but it doesn't address the cost.
- Klenow – I see the smoking problem as a major public health issue. And you don't want to move the smokers from in front of the businesses to back in the alleys. I think we need to look at the example of the schools. If we're moving some people temporarily to someplace not necessarily desirable, but we're sending the message that this is not desirable behavior in our community. Hopefully this would cause the problem to decrease and go away.
- Conroy (Myriah) – I would characterize the board as anti-smoking, but mixed on the ordinance

Some PRAB members felt e-cigarettes should also be included in the ban.

VII. MATTERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT

A. Boulder Reservoir Site Management Plan Update

Haley provided a brief timeline update on the status of this item.

- 2012 – Boulder Reservoir Master Plan (BRMP) was approved and adopted
- Key outcome of the planning process was to complete a detailed site management plan that would understand operational and management actions for the Reservoir
- BRMP projects ongoing and completed

- Biological species inventory completed
- Continuing traffic data collection
- Special events data continues
- Community outreach continues
- Capital improvements – final implementation of bond funds underway
- Volunteer raptor monitoring continues
- Parks and Recreation Department/Boulder County Audubon Society nature camps collaboration
- Boulder Reservoir traffic mitigation/noise monitoring for special events continues
- North shore trail realignment/restoration by Mile High Youth Corps continues

B. Operating Budget

Poniatowski provided this update:

- Park operations will shift to zone management structure adding four management positions
- Natural lands maintenance lead will be added
- Valmont City Park assistant manager will be added
- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) management continues
- Civic Area Activated
- East Boulder Community Center (EBCC) management/operation consolidated
- Boulder Housing sites/Human Services Department youth services programming coordination with Parks and Recreation Department
- Department will shift to facilitated service delivery – dance/pottery programming

In addition, the department has experienced unanticipated expenses related to business and flood recovery.

VIII. MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Wyatt asked about the status of the Knollwood tennis courts and the Evert Pierson Kids’ Fishing Ponds.

Dillon responded with an update:

- Fishing ponds repair is moving forward
- United States Tennis Association (USTA) offered a \$30,000 grant towards rebuilding
- Local tennis club has offered to teach lessons
- Based on public comment the department will move forward to replace the two courts

Conroy (Myriah) asked what is the procedure to re-establish diving at Scott Carpenter pool.

Dillon provided the following facts to support the diving closure:

- 2011 – Received recommendation from aquatics builders to remove the diving boards due to the age and depth of the pool not meeting standards
- Feet first jumping/diving is still permitted

Conroy (Myriah) asked how the department is planning for and how it will impact the budget when city council decides to implement a living wage in Boulder.

Dillon responded that no plans have been drafted at this time.

IX. NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 28, 2014

X. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY PARKS AND
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Mike Conroy
Board Chair

Attest:

Sally Dieterich
Recording Secretary