



TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
FROM: Jeff Dillon, Director, Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Consent Agenda
DATE: April 28, 2014

A. Minutes Approval of Minutes from March 17, 2014

B. Informational Items

1. Park Development Update

Capital Improvement Projects:

Mesa Memorial Park

Park construction is in process with anticipated completion in late summer. The PRAB will be presented with a park naming recommendation (Bill Bower Park) at this month's meeting. Additionally, the neighborhood continues to be involved in the park development process with potential volunteer opportunities occurring later in construction. The Mile High Youth Corps will also be involved in the project by providing some work along the natural drainage way on site.

Civic Area

Work at the Civic Area is transitioning from aspirational master planning to implementation. Project managers, Paul Leef (Planning Department) and Jody Tableporter (Parks and Recreation Department), are coordinating efforts to:

- Activate the Civic Area through a series of events this summer (to bring people back and demonstrate the area's potential):
- Deliver a catalytic resign of the park/Civic Area space, and
- Investigate and ultimately deliver major projects (e.g., year-round Farmer's Market, innovation center).

All work in being done in partnership with external organizations such as the Farmer's Market and BMoCa as well as across numerous city departments such as the Library, Public Works, and Planning. Parks and Recreation has a significant role in the summer events and physical redesign and will be represented on teams to advance the major projects.

Capital Improvement Bond:

Crestview Park

The current plan is for Crestview Park to be improved in late summer of 2014 as part of the Capital Improvement Bond that was passed in November 2011. Improvements at the park will include providing a new playground, addressing issues of accessibility, and other infrastructure deficiencies. Staff will be hosting a second open house for the park design process on May 14 at the Boulder Friends Meeting House at 6:00 p.m to gain feedback and input from the neighborhood on the proposed design for the park based on comments received from the initial public meeting held earlier in the year.

Harlow Platts Park Shelter

As part of the 2011 Capital Improvement Bond, the Parks and Recreation Department received funding for the development of a picnic shelter with restrooms at Harlow Platts Community Park (under the bond project category of “Park Shelter Improvements”). This critical project has been prioritized through community input, demonstration of ongoing high shelter reservations at the park and public outreach through the recent Parks and Recreation Master Plan process.

The proposed shelter is a single story, open structure, approximately 1,500 square feet in size that will accommodate six picnic tables for hosting groups of up to 50-75 people. In comparison, this proposed shelter is roughly half the size of the existing shelters at both North Boulder Park and Martin Park.

To engage the community in the design process, staff has facilitated two open houses at the South Boulder Recreation Center to gather input on the development of a new shelter and restroom. The first meeting was held on Saturday, October 27, 2012 and the second meeting was held on Monday, February 3, 2014. Currently, staff is working closely with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and neighbors to finalize the design and accommodate ideas from the community in preparation for an open house in April to present the final design options. Staff has developed new alternatives based on a meeting with neighbors on March 3 and will be presenting all the alternatives at an open house to be held on Tuesday, May 6th at the George Reynolds Library from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.. The purpose of the meeting is to engage the neighborhood in reviewing all the alternatives and provide feedback to assist staff in developing the final location and design for the shelters.

Boulder Reservoir

Sanitary Sewer Upgrade:

The new six inch sanitary sewer line that services the Reservoir South Shore facilities as well as the Fire Training Center and the future Wild Land Fire Facilities is complete. The project was a

successful joint venture between the Parks and Recreation Department and FAM. This project will provide updated sanitation conveyance for the South Shore facilities and the Fire Training Center.

Water Line:

The new eight inch water mainline that services the Reservoir South Shore facilities is complete. The department partnered with the Utilities Division for the installation and inspection of this project. Service connections, tie-ins, and testing will be completed over the next month, prior to Memorial Day. This project will provide city water to all of the South Shore facilities

Entry Sign:

The new and improved Boulder Reservoir Entry Sign is complete. The new design (below) responded to input to develop a sign that focused on a merger between the re-use of the iconic entry sign frame and current Boulder park sign standards.



Docks:

Work on the South Shore docks that began in 2013 is continuing. A dive team was brought out to examine the existing dock anchors and cables. As a result, new cables have been installed and many anchors have been moved. In 2014, many new dock sections will be added and work on the ADA dock area will begin. The ADA dock area will be rerouted to ensure a safer experience for all users as they travel between the water and parking areas.

Feeder Canal Bridge:

The new Feeder Canal Bridge project is complete and will open to the public on May 5, 2014. The department has partnered with Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (NCWCD)

for this successful project. The project includes a new 10' x 40' pedestrian bridge with a 5-ton load capacity, trail and fencing realignments, new structural elements for the canal, and a new overlook area on the west side of the canal. The new overlook area (see below), or "Birds Nest", has been located at the highest elevation in the park and has been named to reference the diverse amount of birds that nest in the rich habitat of the Boulder Reservoir.



Site Management Plan:

Throughout 2013, the department has continued to collect site data to develop the Site Management Plan. South Shore user data, traffic counts, and environmental data were all collected in 2013. Biohabitats, Inc. was selected through an informal bid process to assist with an Environmental Inventory and Analysis Process. Their completed work includes inventories of site plants and animals (general wildlife, small mammal, carnivore, amphibian, avian). The Biological Assessment and Inventory project is currently circulating for final internal review. The Biohabitats, Inc. team has done an exceptional job of integrating their findings with existing recreation/visitor patterns in order to provide the department and city with an understanding of how best to support both environmental and recreation needs of the Boulder Reservoir.

All data collected over the past two years was presented for public review at a workshop held on January 22nd. This meeting was held in two segments. The first segment was an open house to give participants an opportunity to explore the background information and data collected. This segment of the meeting also provided an opportunity to learn about the current and proposed enhancement projects occurring at the Boulder Reservoir in the near term. The second segment of approximately 60 minutes was an interactive community workshop designed for small group discussions regarding specific topics. The workshop helped develop the long-term desired conditions and annual monitoring that will ensure the sustainability of all uses of the Boulder Reservoir for generations to come.

2. Flood Recovery Update

Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Pond

The Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Ponds suffered extensive damage as a result of the September 2013 floods. Impacts to the ponds included silting and sedimentation in all of the bays, damage to control structures, damage to existing fishing docks, and path erosion adjacent to Boulder Creek. In the interest of public health, safety, and welfare and to allow for the clean-up and removal of sediment in the ponds and Boulder Creek; the Evert Pierson Kids' Fishing Ponds were closed and currently remain closed.

The department recognizes that the fishing ponds are an asset to the Boulder community. The department is committed to seeing the ponds re-open. The department is currently working with a team of consultants to develop improvement plans for the fishing ponds. While still in the early planning stages, the following issues and possible improvements will be considered:

- Re-grading of the ponds;
- Replacement of site features such as benches and fishing docks;
- Reconstruction of trail system and damaged walks;
- Replacement of water control structures, as needed; and
- Establishment/re-establishment of site landscaping.

While a firm schedule for design and construction is still being developed, the department hopes to complete planning, public outreach, and construction documents by the summer of 2014. This would allow construction to possibly begin in the fall of 2014 and last through spring 2015.

3. Upcoming Planning and Development Public Engagement Opportunities

Valmont City Park Public Meeting

May 1, 2014

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Municipal Service Center (The Yards)

Harlow Platts Community Park Open House

May 6, 2014

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

George Reynolds Branch Library

Pineview Park Re-opening Celebration

May 8, 2014

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Pineview Park

Crestview Park Open House

May 14, 2014

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Boulder Friends Meetinghouse

Boulder Community Day (Community Clean Up Day and Kids to Parks Day)

May 17, 2014

Scott Carpenter Park

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.