BE A GOOD STEWARD: Protect & Respect your Parks, Trails & Recreation Facilities

Call Meeting to Order: Scott Sinn called the meeting to order 5:32pm.

Agenda Review & Items of Note: None

Citizen Participation: None

Approval of Minutes:
Dawn Theis made the motion to approved the Parks & Recreation Board minutes of September 26, seconded by Kelly Smith – Minutes Approved: 7:0

Meeting Summary

- The Board was updated on the Longview Trail project which will connect Fort Collins and Loveland the Cathy Fromme Prairie to 57th Street along Shields Street. The project is projected to cost approximately $5.2 Million, funded by a partnership between Loveland, Larimer County, Fort Collins, a $1 million CDOT Transportation Alternatives Program grant & a $1 million Great Outdoors Colorado grant.

- The Board reviewed a potential land purchase associated with the Poudre River Whitewater Park.

- The Board reviewed Jessica MacMillan’s interview on Rec On Record, a project which seeks to provide the community with more insight into the goings-on of the Recreation Department and provide an additional option for providing input.
Full Minutes

AGENDA ITEMS:

**Longview Trail – Greg Oakes, Apprentice Landscape Architect, Park Planning**
The Longview Trail is a proposed 4.5 mile multi-use trail connecting Fort Collins and Loveland from the Cathy Fromme Prairie to 57th Street along Shields Street. The section in Fort Collins is just over 2 miles long, the majority of which runs through Natural Areas property. The concept design has been vetted by Natural Areas and the Land Conservation & Stewardship Board. Bike Fort Collins has also approved and felt the project would provide a serene trail experience since it is in the Natural Areas. There are some concerns for the North end of the trail as portions adjacent to private property.

The project is projected to cost approximately $5.2 Million, funded by a partnership between Loveland, Larimer County, Fort Collins, a $1 million CDOT Transportation Alternatives Program grant & a $1 million Great Outdoors Colorado grant. 30% design has been submitted, 75% of plans will be submitted mid-January, 100% plans submitted in March, construction is planned to begin September 2017 and projected to complete in May of 2018.

**Discussion**
Board – Will there be trees planted along the trail?
Staff – No. We discussed with Natural Areas yesterday. Modifies natural area & adds to maintenance
Board – Would you refer to this a bike trail?
Staff – It is a hard surface multi-use trail
Board – Is it as wide as the trail at Redtail Hawk?
Staff – That’s just the road to put the tunnel in for the Fossil Creek Trail connection.
Board – Are we looking to get additional right-of-way
Staff – No we are not due to the grade of the property & cost
Board – It would be nice to add interpretive signs along the trail to provide insight into cultural points along the trail.
Staff – Natural Areas also mentioned shelters yesterday. That is something down the road in the planning process we can include.
Board – Could we recommend a protected bike lane as on Laurel for the Northern Shields section? Doesn’t offer actual protection but perceived protection
Board – How do they manage snow removal in those areas?
Staff – Staff removes snow by hand. We’d have to look into specialty equipment since conventional plows can only plow one way.
Board – Should we expand Shields in the future, we don’t have to rip it up and redo it now that it’s off the road
Board – Is that a bridge in the wetlands?
Staff – It is. We worked with Natural Areas to find a location for the bridge that is the least impactful
Board – Are these going to be open spaces so people can go off trail?
Staff – They will be Natural Areas.

**Update on potential land purchase associated with the Poudre River Whitewater Park – Kurt Friesen, Director of Park Planning & Development**
Board discussed the potential land purchase associated with the Poudre River Whitewater Park in executive session.

Motion – Jessica MacMillan made a motion to approve the use of Neighborhood Park Funds for the potential land purchase associated with the Poudre River Whitewater Park, with the understanding that a neighborhood park will be built on the property within 10 years of the purchase date.
Seconded – Ragan Adams
Vote: Approved 7:0

**STAFF UPDATES**

**Parks Updates**
- Poured-in-Place playground safety surfacing project was completed at Spring Canyon Park
- Conversion project at Avery Park is starting. New playground equipment is currently being installed.
- Removed large, aging cottonwood trees on Ziegler, between Horsetooth & Harmony
- A tennis court at City Parks has been converted to four Pickleball courts.
Jefferson Park was closed and transitioned to Rodizio Grill ownership following the end of the City of Fort Collin’s lease. Staff reached out to the Coloradoan in advance of the closing to provide information to the public.

**Recreation Updates**

- Mike Calhoon & Bob Adams attended the NRPA conference in St. Louis. Both departments will be working on Parks & Recreation accreditation in the next year.
- Rec on Record
  - Thank You to Jessica MacMillan for sitting in for Scott Sinn last minute to be interviewed on Rec on Record.
- EPIC Project is moving forward and should be complete by November 30th
  - Continue to communicate with FAST, Vortex and PSD and relocating practices to Senior Center and Mulberry Pool.
  - Bulkheads in place tomorrow. Filling the pool on Friday – priming system up next Wednesday.
  - Front Lobby Area should be fully ready by this weekend.
  - Planning grand re-opening December 17th 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Pickleball Courts/RFP
  - Courts at City Park Opened to the public
  - Recreation working with Purchasing on a Request for Proposal for Leagues, tournaments and clinics
- The Proving house, which has been sitting where the new recycle center opened, arrived in one piece at the Farm at Lee Martinez. The plan is to raise money to restore it and add it to The Farm’s “Back Forty” museum display.
- Special Events
  - Treatsylvania
    - October 28 6:00 - 7:30 PM
    - October 29 6:00 – 8:00 PM
    - October 30 1:00 – 3:00 PM & 5:00 – 6:30 PM
  - Bow Wowvania
    - October 29 Noon – 1:00 PM
  - Hogwarts Halloween
    - October 29 6:00 – 9:00 PM
  - Veteran’s Day Breakfast
    - November 11 7:00 AM at the Fort Collins Senior Center. (1200 Raintree Drive)
    - The Fort Collins Golden K Kiwanis and the Fort Collins Senior Center hosts a yearly celebration of military personnel, family and friends. Entertainment provided by the Blend Women’s Barbershop Chorus. There will be Posting of the Colors at 8 AM with music to follow.
- Discussion
  - Board – Can you explain what Parks & Recreation accreditation means?
  - Staff – It’s similar to Malcom Baldridge for Parks, Cemetery, Recreation & Forestry departments. There is an application process where you explain your best management practices, policy planning, etc. Some applicants are selected for interview to amplify what information was provided in the application.
  - Board – How many accredited cities are out there?
  - Staff – About 130
  - Board – Do most cities have combined Parks & Recreation departments?
  - Staff – Some do, but it does depend on the size of the city and what services or facilities they provide. Larger cities may be divided into districts.

**Park Planning Updates**

- Avery Park – Pooling money from Parks lifecycle, Social Sustainability & Park Planning to work on refresh of the park.
  - Phase 1 Playground will be open likely in the Fall 2016.
  - Phase 2 Restroom & shelter to be completed Winter of 2016.
  - Avery will be honored with plaque & a painting.
- City Park Pickleball – Hosted an event to celebrate the courts opening. Received a really good response and appreciation from the community.
- Trees Along Trails – 125 trees will be planted along trails this Fall.
• Lilac Park – Project has been approved. Park Planning will be meeting with neighbors next week to talk about water quality pond.
• Fossil Creek Trail – Shields to College connection project – Underpass is currently under construction. Boring will begin after Thanksgiving. Trail design is just now being started to complete the connection. Hoping the project will be completed by the end of next year.
• Discussion
  o Board – Updates on City Park refresh?
     Staff – Project is still open for community input. We haven’t committed to a plan yet.

Bicycle Advisory Board Liaison Update: Safe routes to school bicyclist training provides excellent information to the future generations of cyclists. The Board is interested in a future presentation at 12/7 or 1/25 meetings

Schedule of Articles/Calendar: Bruce Henderson will be writing an article for the Spring Recreator, due December 21, 2016. Annual report will be due at the end of January. Review next meeting

Bullet Points
• Longview Trail Presentation
• Rec on Record
• Krush property purchase Poudre River Whitewater Park

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 7:21pm

Respectfully submitted,

Coleen Elliott

Board Attendance
Board Members: Ragan Adams, Brian Carroll, Bruce Henderson, Jessica MacMillan, Scott Sinn, Kelly Smith, Dawn Theis
Staff: Bob Adams, Mike Calhoon, Carol Rankin, Coleen Elliott
Guest: Robert Kingsbury - Observing