



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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CITY OF LOVELAND OPEN LANDS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2015

Parks & Recreation Conference Room, 500 E. Third St., Loveland, CO 80537

Commissioners Present: Lori Bell, Gale Bernhardt, Andy Hawbaker, Ross Livingston, Darren Pape, Jim Roode, Nathan Thompson, Bill Zawacki, Jean Whittaker (alternate), Hugh McKean (City Council Liaison), Kerri Rollins (Larimer County Liaison).

Commissioners Absent: Rick Brent.

Staff Present: Rick Anderson, Brian Hayes, Keven Aggers, Marilyn Hilgenberg, Debbie Eley.

The public meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.

Public Comment: Two members of the public were present (Pedro Lopez, Mary), and Saja Hindi, reporter from the Loveland Reporter-Herald newspaper.

New Member Introductions: Nathan Thompson was appointed by City Council on January 6, 2015 as a regular member of the commission, for a term effective until December 31, 2018. Jean Whittaker was appointed by City Council as a non-voting alternate member, to be appointed as a regular member if a vacancy occurs prior to December 31, 2015. Chairperson Gale Bernhardt announced that commission member Lori Bell has submitted her resignation, due to a job promotion out of state.

Bill Zawacki made a motion to recommend that City Council appoint Jean Whittaker as a regular member of the commission. Jim Roode seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of November 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes: Tabled until a quorum is present.

City Council Liaison Report. Hugh McKean reported that City Council approved an economic incentive package for a new business, which includes a loan from the Capital Expansion Fee funds, specifically \$250K from the Open Lands CEF. The loan will be paid back over 10 years with interest, from sales taxes generated by the business.

Larimer County Open Lands Advisory Board Report. Kerri Rollins reported that the Larimer County Open Lands Master Plan update is nearly completed. The final draft is available online and will be presented at the January OLAB meeting. Kerri also reported on the status of trail grants for the two partnership trails connecting Loveland and Fort Collins, through Larimer County. So far, \$450K has been awarded for the CO Front Range Trail (east Loveland – Boyd Lake area), and GOCO requested a full application for the \$1M Longview Trail grant on the west side of Loveland. The State Trails and CDOT grant requests are still outstanding. Grants will be split equally among the 3 entities for construction of the joint trail. Kerri also noted that Rob Novak has left his position with the county to be the Director of Communications for the CSU Department of Natural Resources. So far, the county has received 57 applications for the position of Community Relations & Public Information Specialist.

Discussion/Action Items:

- 1. Capital Expansion Fees (CEFs) Update.** Adam Orens of BBC Research & Consulting gave an overview of the CEF study underway. City Council requested that CEFs be re-evaluated using a “plan-based” approach to calculate fee amounts. The proposed new CEF amounts for Open Lands, Parks, Trails and Recreation will be based on the 2014 Parks & Recreation Master Plan. The previous methodology used a “replacement-cost” model. Proposed changes to the fee amounts will be presented to OLAC at a future meeting.
- 2. Election of Officers – Chair and Vice Chair.** Gale Bernhardt nominated Bill Zawacki as Chair. Andy Hawbaker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Bill Zawacki nominated Ross Livingston as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Boards & Commissions Annual Summit – February 19, 2015.**
 - a. Goals and Accomplishments.** The commission approved the 2014 accomplishments as stated and the 2015 goals were approved with the addition of adding “by summer 2015” to Goal #1.
 - b. Select two OLAC members to attend.** Jim Roode and Darren Pape will attend as OLAC representatives. Bill Zawacki will attend if Darren is not able to.
- 4. Property Naming – 57th & Taft Property.** More than 150 individuals submitted over 300 names for the new natural area at 57th & Taft. Nine names were presented to OLAC for review. *Sunset Vista Natural Area* was selected by the commission as the new name.

Executive Session. Jim Roode made a motion to close the regular session of the meeting. Darren Pape seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The regular session was suspended at 7:35 pm.

Gale Bernhardt made a motion to convene Executive Session to consider matters relating to information on the purchase or acquisition of property. Darren Pape seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Executive Session convened at 7:35 pm. The Executive Session was concluded at 8:30 pm and the regular session reconvened.

5. Property Review – Big Thompson River Properties. Staff asked for a recommendation on the purchase of properties consistent with current negotiations underway, as discussed in Executive Session. Jim Roode made a motion to recommend that staff move vigorously to acquire Parcel B and pursue Parcel A only as it aids in acquiring Parcel B. There was no second. Darren Pape made a motion to recommend that staff pursue negotiations on Parcel B. Lori Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 6-2.

Reports/Correspondence:

6. Open Lands Projects Report. The Environmental Education Coordinator, Michele Van Hare, will attend a future meeting to discuss plans for the EE and Volunteer programs. Staff also recommends inviting an appraiser as a guest speaker for a future meeting, possibly using a past appraisal as a practical example.

Commission Member Discussion Topics:

1. Gale Bernhardt reported that a new Parks & Recreation Director has been selected, Elizabeth Anderson. Rick Brent participated in the interview process as a representative of OLAC and Gale shared Rick’s positive comments submitted via email.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.