April 23, 2019

Open Space Advisory Board Minutes

City of Aurora
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD
AMC, Sand Creek Room
April 23, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Victoria Samuel, Vice Chair Suzy Cress, Wayne Gallagher, Lee Lindholm, Brad Stratton, Susan Bruce and Tom Isaacson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Christopher

STAFF PRESENT: Pat Schuler, Manager of Open Space and Natural Resources (OSNR); Jessica Bixenman, Manager of Special Events and Marketing; Chad Angell, Volunteer Coordinator; Ed Shalkey, Senior Landscape Architect, and Sarah Maier, Administrative Support.

VISITORS PRESENT: None

CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Victoria Samuel at 5:30 P.M.

I. WELCOME: Victoria Samuel welcomed Jessica Bixenman, Chad Angell and the Open Space Board.

   • GUEST SPEAKERS: Chad Angell gave an overview of his role as PROS Volunteer Coordinator. Chad is in charge of recruiting and coordinating volunteers for the department, coordinating volunteers for the different division’s volunteer projects, and managing the park steward program and the PROS Special Events volunteers. In 2018, PROS hosted over 1,000 volunteers who dedicated over 4,500 hours for a savings of $113,000. Chad also creates and sends out a monthly volunteer e-newsletter and works on advertising material. Chad went over the seven large-scale volunteer projects planned for 2019 including: removing a fence in Open Space and updates at the Grandview Dog Park. Chad summarized the Park Steward Program and the eight different Special Events that hosts volunteers.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Tom Isaacson motioned to approve the agenda. Suzy Cress seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
   • March Minutes – Suzy Cress motioned to approve the March minutes. Tom Isaacson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. PROS MANAGEMENT REMARKS:
   a) **Pat Schuler, OSNR Manager**
      i. Update on PCC Master Plan: Ed Shalkey provided an update on the PCC Master Plan. He described the existing facilities on the south side of the site are in need of maintenance and need to be upgraded to accommodate the demand of the programming at the site and meet current building code requirements. In 2018, there were 12,768 participants in the programs offered at PCC and there is much more demand for facilities than we can offer. The final draft of the Master Plan will be brought back to the Board when completed.

V. REPORTS:
   • The presentation sub-committee met and worked on the Open Space PowerPoint presentation. There are three different slide decks that can be used depending on the different audiences. The sub-committee will send out the updated outline and will continue to work on finalizing the presentation.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS: None.
VIII. OLD BUSINESS: None.

IX. ISSUES TO CITY COUNCIL: The group determined this month’s bullet points to be sent to their assigned City Council Member.

X. CHAIR’S REMARKS: Victoria mentioned that she would be interested in having an open house at the Medical Center of Aurora to educate people about the adjacent Jewell Wetlands. She also expressed interest in volunteering with the Naturalists at the OSNR booth at the PROS Special Events. Victoria would like to discuss City Council Member redistribution at the next meeting.

XI. GUEST COMMENTS: None

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS & DISCUSSION:

a) Tom Isaacson – Tom reminded the group to contact their assigned City Council Member and to complete site assessments. Tom to send the site assessment form to the Board Members.

b) Wayne Gallagher – Wayne recommended the Moon Landing Exhibit at the Aurora History Museum and announced that the last bird walk at Ponderosa Preserve was a success.

c) Susan Bruce – Susan asked if OSNR coordinates with the libraries to display trail maps and OSNR brochures. Pat to follow up.

d) Suzy Cress – Suzy mentioned that if the Committee is interested in doing a field trip to complete site assessments that it should be on the agenda for the next month.

XIII. ADJOURN: Tom Isaacson motioned to adjourn. Wayne Gallagher seconded the motion. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 6:53 P.M.

The next meeting will be May 28 at 5:30 P.M at the AMC in the Sand Creek Room

Victoria Samuel, Chair

Sarah Maier, Recording Secretary