PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.
WebEx Meeting
MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Shannon Crouthers, Chair; Bobbie McClure, Vice-Chair; Rick Eriksen, Marty Tessmer, Bryan Taylor, Angela Zbikowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Ely, Sydney Futrell, Andre Hickman

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation Services; Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space; Suzie Jaquith, Administrative Supervisor

OTHERS ABSENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER: By Parks & Recreation Board Chair Crouthers at 5:05 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS: None

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: The Agenda for the November 3, 2021 meeting was approved after a motion was made by Member Tessmer and seconded by Member Zbikowski.

IV. ADOPTION OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES – The October 6, 2021 meeting Minutes were approved after a motion was made by Member Eriksen and seconded by Member Tessmer.

V. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS/REMINDERS
A. Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space, gave an update on the 2022 Budget.
   • The 2022 Budget was reviewed at the fall budget workshop by city council. Budget Office makes changes based on city council’s requests. The revised budget then goes through the regular council process with a 1st and 2nd reading and final approval taking place in late November, early December.
   • 2022 Projected Revenues and Revenue Sources:
     o General Fund/Reservoir Visitations, Shelter Rentals: $1.4M
     o Recreation Fund/Programming, Center & Pool Usage: $8M
     o Golf Fund/Green Fee Cart & Club Rentals: $8.5M
     o Open Space Fund/County Sales Tax Share-back: $12.2M
     o Conservation Trust Fund/Colorado Lottery (Powerball): $4.2M
     o Designated Revenues Fund/Developer Contribution, ArCo $1.4M
     o Parks Development Fund/Developer Contribution (In-Lieu of) $1.7M
   • Service Level Increases for 2022 include: 16 FTE’s (full-time employees) late in 2022 for Southeast Recreation Center; 5 FTE’s for state mandated 811 Utility Locate Program; 4 FTE’s for ranger patrol addition for open space property; 1 FTE for Parks Operations & Management contract supervisor; and 2 FTE’s for development review and planning in response to continue strong development activity.

NOTE: By simple majority vote, Board may re-establish Agenda order. Quorum is reached with five members.
Challenges for 2022:
  - Staff Shortages – Especially lifeguards and labor trades at the lower pay levels. Main contributing factors are higher cost of living in the Denver metropolitan area forcing people to find employment elsewhere; people moving closer to family and friends for support; and staff leaving for other jobs/new career opportunities.

Capital Amendment Highlights (projects planned over next 5 years):
  - Parks and Open Space Construction: $29.5 M
  - Open Space and Trail Construction: $15M
  - System-wide Planning and Implementation: $3.5M
  - Infrastructure Improvements: $26M

2022 Fall Supplemental
  - Adam County Grants: $500K
  - Arapahoe County Grants: $1M
  - Private Grants: $40K

B. PROS Update – Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space
  - Veteran’s Day Celebration is November 11th at the Beck Recreation Center. Event will include a pancake breakfast and a musical performance by the Denver Dolls.
  - Innertube water polo is offered for ages 13 and up at Utah pool on Mondays from 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. and at Moorhead pool on Saturdays from 11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
  - Aurora Sports Park hosted the CHSAA State Softball Championship Tournament.
  - Boos Cruise Halloween event at Aurora Sports Park was a success.
  - PROS Special Events & Marketing Team was featured in the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association magazine.
  - Over 500 Generation Wild participates visited PROS nature centers and engaged in naturalist programs and activities.
  - Golf Division revenues are up around 1 million for the year. Participation has dropped slightly as other activities become more available. Dynamic pricing has helped with revenues this year.
  - Parks Operations and Management division continue to do phenomenal work with planting new trees and converting areas to drought tolerant, native grasses to help conserve water.

VI. BOARD MEMBERS REMARKS
A. Comments from Board Members
  - Member Eriksen asked if PROS received funds from Douglas County. Director Bell replied, yes around $50K a year.
  - Member Eriksen commented many businesses are raising starting wages to attract new employees and asked if PROS is considering it in the future. Director Bell replied higher starting wages were offered this year based on experience as well as

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using bonus incentives to attract and retain lifeguards with only limited success. Human Resources Department conducted a city-wide compensation study this year which resulted in pay increases for many city employees.

- Member McClure asked what “Disney” meant posted next to the Hoffman Heights basketball completion. Director Bell responded the project was funded by a grant from the Disney Foundation. Member McClure complimented staff on efforts to apply for and receive grants.

- Member Eriksen complimented Director Bell on the budget presentation. Director Bell remarked she values board members’ input and would like to explore more interests from board members and focus presentations of those interests next year. She asked board members to think about future meetings and the possibility of meeting in person versus virtual for next year.

- Member Crouthers announced next meeting on December 1, 2021 will be a public hearing to vote on the Fulton Park Master Plan Amendment. January 5, 2022 meeting has been cancelled.

- Member Zbikowski reported the “turtle” play structure at Rocky Ridge park had been crushed by vandals. Director Bell will follow up with staff. She asked for members’ patience when requesting repairs to park equipment due to supply chain shortages.

- Member Crouthers attended the women’s golf association final meeting of the year at Saddle Rock golf course where she talked with Head Superintendent, Kevin Kallas, about potential water restrictions next year. She was impressed to learn Kevin is already practicing some self-imposed water restrictions on the course. She complimented the golf staff on the conditions of all the Aurora golf courses.

- Member McClure remarked she realized how important dog parks are, not only for people and dogs in the community, but also for people traveling with their dogs. She expressed interest hearing from PROS staff on how global warming impacts parks.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS
A. Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – Public Hearing on Fulton Park Master Plan Amendment - Virtual meeting – Webex
B. Wednesday, January 5, 2022 - CANCELLED

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Member Zbikowski made a motion to adjourn and Member Taylor seconded. The motion passed at 6:15 p.m.

Shannon Crouthers, Chair; Parks & Recreation Board

Suzie Jaquith, Administrative Supervisor

ADOPTED ______________________________

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PRAB November 3 2021 Minutes_Final

Final Audit Report 2021-12-02

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