

INCPARC Apr15 2014

The INC Parks and Recreation Committee (PARC) met April 15 at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Club, 2020 S. Monroe Street. Present: co-Chair Maggie Price, Larry Ambrose, Cindy Johnstone, Brad Cameron, James Sample, Ray Ehrenstein, Ronnie Crawford, Judy Sullivan, Jim Considine, George Mayl, and Diana Helper.

Larry advised that Planning and Development Manager Brad Buchanan is planning on moving the text amendment to the Zoning Code which would set open space in General Development Plans (GDPs) at 10% of net area. Larry pointed out to Buchanan that this "one size fits all" method is not contextual and that INC had passed and sent a Resolution asking that the City commence a process to come up with a formula for calculating the appropriate amount of publicly accessible private open space based upon the context of the GDP, its size, density and number of people expected to live there. Buchanan asked Larry if INC would support the 10% of net language amendment in exchange for his agreement to set up a process later. PARC discussed this and was unanimous in standing by the Resolution and asking for a public process before any amendment should be brought forward to City Council by CPD. PARC believes Buchanan's promise to honor the INC suggestion for a process, even so, would be a good step in the direction of allaying the "bruised trust" Buchanan has observed between citizens and city. A letter to Mr. Buchanan will be drafted to advise him of INC PARC's decision. Larry also will contact INC Zoning And Planning for input.

A letter from Parks/Rec Manager Lauri Dannemiller announced formation of a committee for Denver Parks and Public Spaces Master Plan, being devised by Downtown Denver Partnership and DPR. She requested a representative from PARC. Maggie will forward this with this PARC Report. It was suggested someone from Highlands or Golden Triangle might be appropriate, and that we ask to have a rep and an alternate.

Brad Cameron reported that Round 3 of park designations is being considered and Round 4, which includes Prairie Park, will begin soon. Diana said she met with DPR staff who are enthusiastic about this site. Cindy mentioned that Gates-Crescent Park will be further diminished by an addition to the Children's Museum. PARC agreed to send a letter to the city stating PARC's concern and regret for this matter, as another example of taking public park land without a vote of the people.

Cindy reported on the Beer Ban topic for Washington Park, and hoped that people of various opinions could get together to talk about this proposal, and it has not received great support. Lauri Dannemiller has not made any decision as yet. Also, the 2nd Annual Wash Park Photo Contest is underway and June 10 will be the Fishing Derby at the Lily Pond.

Ronnie said the dedication of the lower Platte River plan will be at Johnson-Habitat Park April 26. Large Purple Dumpsters now as a pilot in Cheesman and Washington Parks are "doomed to failure" according to Jim Considine. His concern is educating the 2% who dump other than recycle material in them and how it will affect their success. The Solid Waste Dept and DPR on them that indicates they will be removed if they don't succeed. The committee working on Solid Waste Management Implementation Committee has 4 citizens and 22 city employees. Jim and Steve Nissen, Ronnie Crawford, Mike Michalek are community reps. The plans had been made before the committee met, resulting only in after-the-fact comment.

Other topics: Renee Lewis sent a report reminding that the Hentzell park hearing is May 19. There is a move to create Historical Status for City Park, Washington Park, and Cheesman Park. The timing of this project could include input from candidates for election in November.

You are invited to take the on-line survey about the planned Rec Center at Colfax/Josephine. It is at <http://www.keysurvey.com/votingmodule/s180/f/600061/8376/>. It will close on April 21.

Stroller Moms are back in full force in some parks.

There's a need for DPR to publicize public transportation that serves our Mountain Parks.

--Next PARC meeting: May 20. – *Diana Helper, PARC member*