

INC PARC (Parks and Recreation Committee) met Tuesday, January 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the Heritage Club, 2020 South Monroe St. Present were: co-chairs Maggie Price and Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Diana Helper, Kay LcFountise, Cindy Johnstone, Brad Cameron, Kathleen wells, Marlene Johnson, Ray Ehrenstein, James Sample, Ronnie Crawford, and Mary Ewing of PRAB (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and Angela Casias and Scott Gilmore of DPR (Denver Parks and Recreation).

Kay spoke about the concern of wire bristles from clean-up machinery being found in Washington Park. These pose a danger especially to children and pets. She and Cindy have alerted DPR to this situation. Scott said they are from a machine and DPR will take care of it. A machine, the "Goosinator," which scares geese off by chasing them and with loud noise, is on trial, purchased by the city. DPR will use it at City Park, Sloans Lake, and Washington Park. The machine is approved to haze geese and encourage them to migrate to other areas. It has been used effectively at City Park. Scott also said that volunteer Coyote crews are being trained to help manage coyotes in parks, and that more signs have been posted warning against ice skating on any park lakes.

Angela spoke about snow-making at Ruby Hill Park for the rail yard site. She said that design work has begun for phase two of the Ruby Hill Park plan. There will be meetings soon with neighbors regarding the planned amenities, and a public presentation on March 13. Construction will begin in 2014. There's talk of a Champion Disc Golf course at Ruby Hill as well. She mentioned a proposal by Ski Denver, for Nordic Skiing at Wellshire Golf Course (probably next year). Virginia Vale residents will meet about plans for a new, larger playground at Garland Park. La Alma and Sun Valley residents are having meetings about trail improvements, including a bicycle route connection. Angela also reported that the Communication Policy committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

Cesar Chavez Day, April 6, will feature a party hosted by RTD at the Decatur Street Station. Angela said DPR will be involved with this event. Cindy asked if there will be booths- and if so, might INC have a presence there. Angela will let us know. The DPR website is being redone with more meeting schedule information and a page of general information for RNOs and others.

Scott distributed copies of DPR's "Proposed Park Designations 2013" and said DPR has begun the process of identifying parks designated and not-yet designated, and lists 9 parks for designation in the next two months (including Ruby Hill and Hentzell) and 10 more for designation by the end of the year. All parks in place in 1956 were designated at that time. Since then, it has been "a patchwork." The document included a brief DPR history, designation considerations, list of park acreages, and citywide maps of parks designated and non-designated. Designation is done by DPR, and is a separate process from dedication, or from official naming and ordinance by City Council.

Scott said City Park Playground committee will visit the equipment manufacturer, and 8 or 9 meetings will be held starting in March. He praised the Westwood community and Live Well Colorado for their work in making Westwood Park a reality.

Mary mentioned that there are new members of PRAB, and a new list of the members will be forthcoming. Angela and Scott said that DPR is working more closely with PRAB. Katie reported on the INC vote for PARC's statement and resolution on Jan. 12. Kathleen said a one-page statement will be distributed to INC members to send to City Councilpersons regarding the Hentzell Park matter.

Cindy asked for input about the "Commercial Use Policy Response" committee she will attend at the Jan. 23 meeting of that task force, trying to write a Policy statement. There will be three meetings and then it is proposed to take the draft policy to the PRAB for a public hearing and approval. Although PARC is not in favor of commercial park use, the matters of appropriate types of use, limits on permit numbers, limits on areas of operation, ability to enforce, number of people, realistic cost benefit analyses, are considerations. It was felt that this Policy should take longer to develop than its March deadline affords.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Next meeting is Feb. 19. – *Diana Helper, PARC member*