

March 18, 2014

INC PARC (Parks and Recreation Committee) met March 18, 2014, at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Club, 2020 S. Monroe Street. Present were co-chairs Maggie Price and Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Larry Ambrose, Cindy Johnstone, Karen Miller, Marlene Johnson, Ray Ehrenstein, James Sample, Ronnie Crawford, Diana Helper, Renee Lewis, Casey Davenhill, David and Linda Matthews, Glen Legowik, Tim OByrne, Christine O'Connor, and guests Catherine Sandy, Councilman Chris Nevitt, DPR Manager Laurie Dannemiller, and Mary McCoin, a member of PRAB (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board).

DPR's plan to ban 3.2 beer at Washington Park this summer was presented by Chris and Laurie.

This park has had more reported problems than any other Denver park, for which 3.2 beer is deemed responsible, as it is the only alcoholic beverage allowed at Denver parks. Strong enforcement is planned by DPR rangers, police, and others. DPR Managers may call for a "test policy" for up to 180 days, to try changes such as this. Those with beer will go to other parks, so increased enforcement will be needed for problems that may occur elsewhere. Notification of this change will be made by media and posted signs. PARC members had many comments, and it was hoped that Mary would take these to PRAB. Also it was suggested that funds from marijuana sales be used to increase safe and peaceful park use by Denver citizens. Comments may be sent to [Laurie.Dannemiller@denvergov.org](mailto:Laurie.Dannemiller@denvergov.org).

Cindy Johnstone proposed a letter from INC PARC to the Washington Park Profile in response to the "Representative View" by Mayor Hancock in the March issue. After discussion, PARC voted 17-0 to send the letter.

See Letter Here

Ronnie introduced Catherine Sandy, who told of the long project she and others undertook to get the radioactive waste at the Shattuck Superfund Site (Overland Park neighborhood and surroundings) removed and taken away for disposal. Over 18 years of opposition, denials, determination, help from grants, experts, influential government people, reluctant release of important documents, proof of contamination in dust and water, at last the ineffectively "buried" waste was carefully hauled away in 2700 rail cars. This is a testament to perseverance by citizens, and especially Catherine, to whom PARC gave a standing ovation. She vowed to do what she can regarding the ASARCO site in north Denver before she moves to Florida.

Casey spoke about Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners, which promotes care and maintenance of natural areas. She urged keeping a positive attitude and increasing public interest in our valuable open spaces. Visit [www.cherry-creek.org](http://www.cherry-creek.org) for more information.

Renee reported that there is firm documentation of Hentzell wildlife open space as a designated park. Friends of Denver Parks website <http://www.friendsofdenverparks.org> contains full info about this ongoing process. Friends of Denver Parks had a good turn-out marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and will have a fund-raiser Puppet Show March 22 on the topic of short-grass prairies.

Larry advised that SEAP (Special Event And Planning) held its "final meeting" but forgot to send notice of it to the INC representatives on that committee. INC asks that another meeting be held including the INC reps.

See Letter Here

Word was received from DPR that it is dedicated to doing the needed work to make Prairie Park a truly fine example of historic prairie. Diana said that it is a great amenity to Denver and gives the visitor a view of the land historically trod, with the mountains rising ahead.

Katie reported on several items from the recent PRAB meeting, including golf, fees for mountain park use, and trash removal from those parks.

Maggie reported that the second round of stakeholder/DPR meetings concerning City Loop at City Park will take place March 22 10:00 at the Zoo. You need not be a stakeholder from an RNO to attend the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Next meeting April 15. – Diana Helper, PARC member