

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 21, 2012
CASTLE ROCK PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on March 21, 2012 at Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course, Castle Rock, CO. Ron Claussen, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ron Claussen (Chair) (absent)	Chandi Brown
Caryn Johnson (Volunteer Chair)	Rebecca Erickson
Rich Ward	Carla Collinge

COMMISSION LIAISONS PRESENT:

Brian Logan	Jennifer Green (absent)
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STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rob Hanna	Jennifer Martin
Jeff Brauer	Eileen Matheson
Kristen Trbovich	Curt Williams (absent)
Barbara Spagnuolo	Jeff Smullen

- I. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- III. **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
(REVIEW / APPROVAL)**

ACTION: Approve the February 12, 2012 meeting minutes as transcribed.

MOTION: Rich Ward

SECOND: Carla Collinge
Motion passes 5-0.

IV. **PUBLIC FEEDBACK ON COMMUNITY GARDENS PROPOSAL**

Approximately 20 people attended the discussion for public feedback on the community gardens proposal. Listed below are some of the questions and concerns that were asked by attendees. Staff or representatives answered questions asked during the discussion.

Questions/Concerns

Who is the Community Gardens committee?

Where do they live? Are they residents?

Are there not any other areas available? Philip S. Miller Park? Triangle Park? Baldwin area?

Who is going to pay for the garden?

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Why couldn't other improvements be made to the park instead of adding a community garden? Suggestions included adding additional trees, picnic tables, and a net for the basketball hoop.

What about the water? Who is going to pay for it?

Will pesticides be used or will it be organic?

Will the gardens be locked?

Would it not be better to use container gardens in their own residence?

What about the utilities in the area (gas lines, water, and power)?

Why aren't there more opportunities for low-income residents?

Will it be an eyesore in the offseason?

Will it be fenced?

Will Utilities be a partner? Are they in agreement?

Several proponents have gardens at their own homes but are excited to learn from others in a community garden setting. They think it is a great way to teach kids about gardening while moving into the 21st century way of gardening together. One resident has seen the community gardens in Europe and thinks they are beautiful. One resident is interested in donating his time to help with ground prep, fencing, etc. He lives in the neighborhood and never sees anyone utilizing the park. He feels that the community garden would be a good use of property. The proponents were shocked to hear the concerns of those that were opposed.

Representatives from the Community Gardens project provided the following feedback:

- Optimal use of the property
- Residents all over town are interested in learning gardening techniques from others
- The Group plans on donating a plot to the low-income groups in high density population
- TAG will purchase a plot for the teens of the community to learn gardening
- Great Eagle Scout projects
- Will be raised gardening beds
- No insecticides will be used; everything organic and water wise
- Native plants will be used
- Sod that is removed could be reused at other parks in Town
- Area will be fenced and locked
- There will be an advisory board with rules and by-laws
- Health benefits, great outdoor activity
- Residents will be invited to teach
- The Chair of the Committee is enrolled in the Denver Urban Gardens – Master Community Garden Program
- The Group wants to be an asset to the Town
- Dutch Heritage Gardens agreed to donate soil and materials at the conclusion of the February 15, 2012 meeting

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Commission comments

Does the use of the garden allow a basketball hoop to remain?
Are there other facilities near the area that have amenities for the residents to use such as a basketball hoop?

At the conclusion of the discussion, Commission members had the opportunity to change their previous motion from the February 15, 2012 meeting or not respond so that the motion may remain intact. Commission chose not to respond; therefore, listed below is the motion from February 15, 2012.

ACTION: Finalize community gardens proposal as discussed for Glovers Park. However, Commission would like staff to contact neighborhood residents for their input, determine contractual issues if necessary and present to Town Council with recommendations after hearing from the Community.

MOTION: Rebecca Erickson
SECOND: Caryn Johnson
Motion passes 4-0.

V. 2011 YEAR IN REVIEW- KRSITEN TRBOVICH, BUSINESS ANALYST

Kristen provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting all activities completed by the Parks and Recreation Department in 2011, which were included in the 2011 Annual Report that was also distributed at the meeting.

VI. UPDATE FROM TAG REPRESENTATIVE - CHANDI BROWN

TAG made \$1,358 from raffle tickets purchased at the Daddy Daughter Ball for items that were donated by sponsors. The funds raised will be used for the Group's activities throughout the year. TAG sent each sponsor a thank you note along with a picture of the Group from the event.

TAG will also be assisting with the community garden.

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE DIRECTOR, ROB HANNA, DIRECTOR

Rob reminded Commission of all upcoming events as listed on the front page of the department monthly report.

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VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Rebecca applauded staff for the opening of Castle North Park. She said her kids loved the new playground equipment, especially the spinning-climbing tower. She said it was nice to see that we collaborated with local volunteers to open the park.

Rebecca also thinks the monthly reports are awesome. She likes to see the progress of projects that the department is working on and knows that it takes a lot of effort to complete. She especially loves our involvement with the Special Needs Club. She thinks it is a great way to reach others, provide outreach and give everyone opportunities in the community. She will be working with our Recreation Division and the free lunch program to help those in need at Centennial Park this summer. She is happy to be part of a group that cares.

Brian Logan wanted to thank everyone for his or her roles. He said when he joined Council he was conservative and focused on the dollars and sense of everything and he wanted to challenge himself. In addition, since he has been a Council liaison to the Commission his views of changed a bit. He sees the value of the department and the amazing, great projects that we work on for the community. He is not sure if he will be the Council liaison in the upcoming term but wanted to say thank you.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Rebecca Erickson
SECOND: Carla Collinge
Motion passes 5-0.