

**SOUTH SUBURBAN PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING NO. 839  
MINUTES**

**Call to order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South Suburban Park and Recreation District was called to order at 5:35 pm, Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at the Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 South University Boulevard, Centennial, Colorado. Chair John Ostermiller presided.

**Present:** John K. Ostermiller  
Susan M. Rosser  
Pamela M. Eller  
Michael T. Anderson  
Scott A. LaBrash

**Legal Counsel:** James P. Collins, Esq.

**Management Staff:** Deanna R. Heyn, Acting Executive Director  
Brett Collins, Director of Planning & Development  
Teresa Cope, Director of Communications  
Jay Dikeman, Director of Hospitality Services  
Mike MacLennan, Director of IT  
Rich Meredith, Executive Director, Hudson Gardens  
Dave Brueggeman, Interim Parks and Open Space Director  
Bill Ramsey, Director of Golf  
Clay Shuck, Deputy Recreation Manager  
Steve Shipley, Director of Finance

**Study Session**

After the call to order, Mr. Ostermiller convened the Study Session, and the group discussed most of the items on the posted agenda. (See end of public meeting, below, for the continued discussion.)

The Board joined the 2015 volunteers' reception in the Center at 6:20 pm and returned to the public meeting at 7:05 pm. About 60 members of the public were in attendance.

**Outstanding volunteers recognition**

Ms. Cope presented. 5,110 individuals volunteered nearly 60,000 hours of volunteer time in 2014. Ms. Cope reviewed the criteria for the recognition, which included a minimum of 50 hours of service in 2014.

Those honored this evening were

Carol "Cookie" Peterson, volunteer at Carson Nature Center/South Platte Park  
Diane Wagner, volunteer at Carson Nature Center/South Platte Park  
Stan Folker, volunteer for restoration and maintenance projects throughout the District as well as the South Platte Park archery program  
Matthew Hamer, volunteer for Goodson Pottery Studio  
Chad MacKendrick, volunteer coach for youth basketball and flag football  
Steve Harden, volunteer coach for boys and girls basketball and flag football  
Brad Hanson, volunteer for South Suburban Ice Arena  
Karl Nyquist, volunteer for South Suburban Ice Arena.

In addition Robert Hoffman, a volunteer for Hudson Gardens, was recognized posthumously for his leadership and contributions to the water gardens program at Hudson Gardens. His widow Fran and grandson Austin received the award on his behalf.

## MINUTES

Mr. Ostermiller congratulated the volunteers and expressed the Board of Directors' appreciation.

### **New employee introductions**

Kristin Kolstedt, HR Manager introduced

Heather Moore, HR Generalist; and

Shawn Wissel, Grounds, Trails & Natural Open Space Supervisor introduced

Robert Ardeljan and

Daniel Woods

in the Grounds Maintenance division.

### **Legal Counsel's report**

Jim Collins reported there was nothing to report at this time. (His confidential monthly report to the Board was included in tonight's packet.) He noted, the Board of Directors plan to call an executive session later this evening.

### **Minutes approval**

#### **March 11, 2015**

Mrs. Rosser read two changes into the minutes.

On page 6, paragraph 2, to revise Mrs. Rosser's comment, regarding ... mixed feelings about the project ... to, "removing the boulders, because the boulders are a pleasant place for children to play."

Page 11, line 4: To revise Mrs. Rosser's response to Mr. O'Brien. Mr. O'Brien stated doubt that, because of the \$1 million spent to acquire the property, development would stop with this trailhead .... Mrs. Rosser's response was, "The District has previously purchased other open space parcels with similar price tags."

**Therefore, with no objections, the minutes of meeting no. 837, March 11, 2015 stood approved as corrected.**

#### **March 25, 2015**

Board members had no corrections, additions, or changes. **Therefore, with no objections, the minutes of meeting no. 838, March 25, 2015 stood approved as presented.**

### **Citizens' comments**

No public came forward to speak tonight.

### **Consent Agenda items**

Mr. Ostermiller explained that Consent Agenda items are provided for study in the Board's study packets and introduced in Study Session for the Board's review. They can be adopted by a single motion. All resolutions and proposed actions must be read by title prior to a vote on the motion. Any consent agenda item may be removed at the request of a Director and either tabled or heard separately.

- A) APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE FOR MARCH 2015 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,664,634**
- B) AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO POWERS CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR THE RIVERSIDE DOWNS PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$556,174; AND APPROVE A TOTAL PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$939,780, WHICH INCLUDES A 15%**

## MINUTES

### **CONTINGENCY AND PROJECT RELATED EXPENSES; CONTINGENT ON EXECUTION OF THE TEMPORARY ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH HILLSIDE FARMS AND THE CITY OF LITTLETON.**

- C1) APPROVE A TRAIL EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SHERIDAN FOR THE MARY CARTER GREENWAY EAST BANK TRAIL AT THE WEST OXFORD AVENUE UNDERPASS.**
- C2) APPROVE A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH XCEL ENERGY FOR THE MARY CARTER GREENWAY EAST BANK TRAIL AT RIVER RUN PARK.**
- C3) APPROVE A TRAIL LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH DENVER WATER FOR THE MARY CARTER GREENWAY EAST BANK TRAIL AT RIVER RUN PARK.**
- D) APPROVE THE REVISED BIDDING POLICY. (IN SUMMARY, TO COLLECT VERBAL BIDS FOR PROJECTS IN THE RANGE OF \$5,000 TO \$9,999; WRITTEN BIDS FOR PROJECTS IN THE RANGE OF \$10,000 TO \$59,999; AND TO IMPLEMENT FORMAL BID PROCEDURES FOR PROJECTS MORE THAN \$60,000.)**

**MRS. ROSSER MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEMS A–D. AS READ. Mr. LaBrash seconded the motion.** There was no further discussion. **Consent agenda items were approved unanimously (5-0).**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There were no public hearings this evening.

### **2015 Matching Gifts projects**

Brett Collins presented. He asked the Board to approve the projects and District matches per staff's recommendations.

The budget for 2015 matching gifts is \$15K. Staff has reviewed twelve projects. Two projects (applicants: Todd Skoda, Homestead Farm 2 HOA; and Art Stewart, Heritage Greens Metro District) were rejected because the improvements are not on District property. A third project is not recommended (applicant: Linda Nixon, for SouthGlenn Civic Association). Brett asked the Board to approve a total of \$10,847 in matches and to announce the recipients.

Mrs. Eller asked if the unused budget balance would carry over to the 2016 budget. Brett explained it would not; however, the Board can approve an appropriate (different) amount for the 2016 budget.

Regarding the Palos Verdes Civic Association request, Mrs. Rosser asked for clarification on the proposed stairs project. Brett explained that the goal is to create better access through Palos Verdes Park's tot lot. Currently during the winter, the trailway is muddy and sometimes impassible. Randy Pabst, submitting for the Association, had suggested crusher fines-covered stairs, shored with timbers. On review, Planning staff thought a better solution would be to re-grade the trail. They will look at realigning the trail and using a concrete surface rather than crusher fines, so that fines don't wash down into the nearby store parking lot. The revised plan has been discussed with the Association, and they were happy with the revision. Mrs. Eller asked if the proposed picnic shelter is a future project. Brett responded, staff has recently identified several maintenance/improvement items for Palos Verdes Park. They are looking at several projects to complete at the same time as the matching gifts project. Mrs. Rosser recalled they'd talked about the sidewalk and railing previously. Brett responded, the change to a gentler slope would eliminate the need for a railing.

Mr. LaBrash referred to the proposed disc golf course in Walnut Hills. He asked if the Walnut Hills Civic Association or others are asking for the course. Brett reported that this is an Association project. He attended their recent meeting, during which the Association made the request and asked for 9 baskets. Following this

**MINUTES**

meeting, staff reviewed the project and recommend 3–4 baskets; 9 baskets are just too much for the site. The Association will handle a public input process and will talk to the neighbors directly affected by the proposed project; and if the neighbors don’t support it, they may not go forward. Mr. LaBrash noted the proposed site is surrounded by open space and residential parcels.

Mrs. Rosser asked why some individuals are asking for matching gifts projects not on District property, as apparently the District requirement is communicated in the submission packet. Brett explained that the public sometimes assumes properties are the responsibility of the District’s, while in fact for instance they belong to the local homeowners association.

**MRS. ELLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED PROJECTS (by staff. See list below) AND DISTRICT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,847, AND ANNOUNCE THE 2015 MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM RECIPIENTS. Mr. LaBrash seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (5-0).**

No public remained in attendance at this time to receive the announcement of project awards. District staff will disseminate the information through press release.

<b>Applicant and contact</b>	<b>2015 proposed project</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Amount approved by Board</b>
Homestead Farm 2 HOA. Todd Skoda	Replace railroad ties around playground and refresh wood chips.	\$1,000	
Heritage Greens Metro District. Art Stewart	Replace damaged brick wall and concrete planter hit by vehicle.	\$2,000	
SouthGlenn Civic Association. Linda Nixon	More electrical outlets at Clarkson Park.	\$1,000	
Nob Hill/ Ridgeview Hills Association. Violet Pierce	3 picnic tables- 2 on the south side of Ames Elementary near soccer fields, 1 on the north side near playground area.	\$500	\$500
TrailMark HOA. Randy Pabst	Planting of trees and shrubs in TrailMark.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Palos Verdes Civic Association. Rod Brown	Install stairs at the north side of the Tot Lot Palos Verdes Park.	\$2,000	\$2,000
Walnut Hills Civic Association. Brian Bern	Installation of 9 disc golf baskets along the Little Dry Creek Open Space within the Walnut Hills neighborhood.	\$780	\$780
Littleton Hockey Association. Brian Ten Eyck	Purchase new hockey nets to be used for practices, games and scrimmages at SSIA.	\$2,000	\$2,000
Ben Franklin Swim Team. Kristie Curtis	Use swimtopia.com for our website and its features to help manage the swim team. Update the meet manager software.	\$207	\$207
South Suburban Pottery Guild. Diane Gaither	A new slab roller, upkeep of new glazes, shop vac, new stools, additional lighting and additional and replacement tools.	\$1,860	\$1,860
Holly Parks Sharks Swim Team. Christi Castellano	Backstroke flagpoles and one 20x 20 tent.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Denver Figure Skating Club. Amy Schneider	Portable mirror for figure skating and hockey movement assessment at SSIA.	\$1,500	\$1,500
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$14,847</b>	<b>\$10,847</b>

**Goodson Recreation Center: Art-on-Loan Program, substitute selection**

Melissa Reese-Thacker, Senior Park Planner presented. During the February 11, 2015 public meeting, Planning staff asked the Board of Directors to approve the Public Art Committee’s recommendations for the annual art-on-loan program and two art installations on the Goodson plaza. Since then, District staff was informed that one of the approved art pieces, Spirits in the Smoke, will not be available this year. Artist Chris Powell has proposed to place Living Storm (his signature piece) as an alternate. The largest version of this piece would be

## MINUTES

available for installation under the same terms as for Spirits in the Smoke, and in the same location as previously discussed.

**MRS. ELLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE SOUTH SUBURBAN PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION OF CHRIS POWELL'S LIVING STORM AS A SUBSTITUTION FOR THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED SPIRITS IN THE SMOKE AS PART OF THE 2015 ART-ON-LOAN PROGRAM AT THE GOODSON RECREATION CENTER. Mrs. Rosser seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously (5-0).**

Mrs. Reese-Thacker reported the installations would go forward in May 2015.

### Board of Directors items

- Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Rosser reported on the most recent Lone Tree Subcommittee meeting. Discussion items generally included the same capital projects.

Mrs. Heyn updated the group on a proposed inclusion of several properties into the District, that are located west of I-25 and already in the City.

City members are pleased with the District's efforts on the Entertainment Center Park plan and Fairways improvements construction. Members of the Subcommittee probably will see two preliminary plans for the bridge over Lincoln this summer, after their presentation to the Lone Tree City Council.

Mrs. Heyn reported cancellation of the Easter and Mother's Day brunches usually held at the Lone Tree Clubhouse. City members were disappointed, but were supportive of the idea of taking a year off, reformatting the event, and re-starting with new events in 2016.

There will be an City Arbor Day event the first week in June. Trees will be available to City residents for reasonable prices.

The City of Lone Tree has become a "Tree City," a national award, after meeting appropriate criteria. Mr. LaBrash responded that most of the cities in the metro area are a "Tree City," and there are 94 in Colorado.

City representatives reported on their new community gardens program, to be located near the Lone Tree Elementary.

- Mrs. Eller asked for an update on the recent CANDO Committee meeting (Sheridan). Staff will provide an update at a later date.

Mrs. Eller probably will be unable to attend the next High Line Canal Working Group meeting in May. Mrs. Heyn plans to attend.

Referred to the redevelopment of the church property adjacent to Goodson Recreation Center, Mrs. Eller asked about plans for the shared signage at the entrance on University. The current sign still refers to the church. Staff has not worked out the plans with the new owner at this time. Mrs. Eller stated she would prefer the District have its own sign.

- Mrs. Rosser reported on a tour with Ron Rakowsky, Greenwood Village City Mayor. Mainly her purpose was solicit some funds to help the local Meals on Wheels Program, also serving Village residents. At the same time, she told him about the testimony during the March public hearing, regarding speeding bicyclists near the Big Dry Creek Trailhead by Littleton High School. Mr. Rakowsky will meet with nearby Village residents this Saturday and talk about signage, bike lanes, and increased police patrols.

Mrs. Rosser reported on a weekend visit to the trail along the Platte and the number of speeding bicyclists. Members talked about media reports of increased bicycle use in Denver, a recent article that identified the Mary

## MINUTES

Carter Greenway as a nearby recreation destination; and a cell phone app (Strava) which allows bicyclists to clock their speeds and travel times and then share that information, which encourages competition.

- Mr. Ostermiller reported on a meeting with Littleton and Arapahoe County Open Spaces representatives regarding the Ohlson property, co-purchased several years ago by the City and District and adjacent the High Line Canal near C-470. The agency representatives had big concerns about Dave Lorenz' recent letter regarding transferring of a portion of land to the District. At this time, Mr. Ostermiller believes the City will transfer part of it by deed, probably with deed restrictions or a conservation easement to prevent any sale or use of the property for other than open space or recreation. Probably the Littleton City Council will address the matter in May 2015.

Members returned to the remaining study session agenda.

### Planning quarterly capital projects

Brett Collins referred to the written quarterly Department report and submitted two additions: District Planning staff has submitted a grant application for Progress Park and will submit an application for the Sterne Park playground and shelter improvements. He noted, in addition to project work on the report, Department staff provides daily support to the rest of the District staff.

To Mrs. Rosser's question, Brett reported the two grant applications to Arapahoe County Open Spaces this year (proposed: \$250K each) were for the Arapaho Park playground and Writer's Vista upgrades (ballfield and playground). Mrs. Rosser asked about Brett's level of confidence in their success, and he couldn't respond at this time.

To Mrs. Eller's question, he affirmed there are no scheduled tennis court renovations in the 2015 budget.

Mr. Anderson asked about Department staffing needs. Brett proposes to wait until the District knows if it will win the grant applications, in June. He may request either additional planners or consulting services (or both).

To Mr. Anderson's question, he reported that while the national media and local agency contacts have reported significant increases in construction costs recently, the recent bids for the District haven't yet reflected this trend.

Mr. Anderson asked Brett to address the sinkhole in the Lorenz Regional Park ballfield, before year-end, as it is unsightly.

Mrs. Rosser expressed approval for recent aesthetic improvements in Willow Creek Park, and particularly the laying-back of a cliff on the drainageway, that could have been a potential safety issue. Brett gave the credit to Melissa Reese-Thacker.

### Announcements and emergency items

Mr. Ostermiller announced

- A quorum event: Centennial State of Our City Address and Luncheon, April 16, 2015, start time: 11 am, at the Embassy Suites Hotel DTC, 10250 East Costilla Ave. Centennial CO 80112. This event is open to the public.
- A quorum event: Lone Tree State of the City. May 19, 2015, start time: 11:30 am at the Lone Tree Arts Center, 10075 Commons Street. This event is open to the public.

When a date for Jim Priddy's retirement party from the District has been scheduled, to include all the Board and senior management, it will be announced as a quorum event as well.

At 8:07 pm, Mr. Ostermiller announced the request for an Executive Session tonight.

## MINUTES

### **Executive Session**

**MRS. ELLER MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO, OR, AS AUTHORIZED BY... C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4), #**

- (B) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFERENCES WITH DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL, TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE ON SPECIFIC LEGAL QUESTIONS,**
- (E) FOR THE PURPOSES OF DETERMINING POSITIONS RELATIVE TO MATTERS THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS, DEVELOPING STRATEGY FOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND INSTRUCTING NEGOTIATORS.**

**Mr. Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (5-0).**

The Board paused briefly, continued into Executive Session at 8:10 pm, and returned from Executive Session at 8:56 pm.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the group adjourned for the evening at 8:57 pm.

Donna Shephard  
Executive Assistant

/ds