

**CITY OF LOVELAND OPEN LANDS ADVISORY COMMISSION
AUGUST 8, 2012
PARKS AND RECREATION CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Lori Bell, Rick Brent, Steve McMillan, Darren Pape, Bill Zawacki, Hugh McKean, Jim Roode (alternate).

Commissioners Absent: Gale Bernhardt, Kathy Hartman, Andy Hawbaker, Ted Mioduski.

Staff Present: Brian Hayes, Gary Havener, Debbie Eley.

The public meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

Approval of the July 11, 2012 Commission Meeting Minutes: Steve McMillan made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Bill Zawacki seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: None present.

City Council Liaison Report. Hugh McKean reported that Cumberland & Western has invested \$2.5M in improvements at the Rocky Mountain Center for Innovation and Technology and is actively seeking tenants.

Discussion/Action:

1. Regional Open Space Study/Land is Colorado Kickoff. The Regional Land Conservation, Stewardship & Recreation Study is a coordinated planning process to identify gaps in Larimer County open space resources. A Core Team consists of one representative from each city/town. The study will be completed by Logan Simpson Design of Fort Collins. The public engagement process will include a citizen survey with a goal of 7,500 responses. The draft Public Involvement Plan and Citizen Survey were circulated to OLAC. The study will not prioritize open lands for acquisition or replace the current City of Loveland Open Lands Plan. An Advisory Commission of representatives from local governments, nonprofits, businesses and educational institutions will help guide the county-wide study over the next 12 months. A public kick-off event is scheduled for Thursday, August 23rd at 7:00 pm at New Belgium Brewing (500 Linden St. in Ft. Collins).

2. River's Edge Natural Area Update. The design contract has been assigned to Logan Simpson Design and 65% plans are being developed, based on the Master Plan. Details of facilities and amenities are being incorporated. The project will be completed in one phase with an estimated budget of \$1.4M. Highlights of the 65% drawings will be presented at the September OLAC meeting.

3. High Plains Open Space Fund Balance. An open space fee per building permit is charged in the Millennium development area, to be used for open space acquisitions in Loveland. The City and High Plains agreed to the CPA audit figure of \$352K in the open space fund, resulting in a transfer of \$32K from the Open Space account back to High Plains.

Reports/Correspondence:

4. Natural Areas Projects Report.

- **RFP for Separator Farms:** An RFP for the lease to farm the separator properties was sent out by The City of Loveland, Larimer County, and the City of Fort Collins. Staff from all three entities will review the submitted bids on August 10, with selection of a bidder expected by August 15. A 5-year lease may be negotiated.
- **River's Edge Clean Up:** A group of 25 volunteers helped clean up the River's Edge property on July 28, picking up trash and piling Russian olive branches. Another cleanup may be scheduled soon.
- **Mineral Rights Follow-up:** Brian distributed a preliminary list of mineral rights ownership on open lands properties. The City owns most of the mineral rights, but some properties have partial ownership with other entities. An attorney's opinion could help determine whether any properties are at risk for mineral development.

5. High Plains Environmental Center. The on-site OLAC meeting at High Plains will be scheduled in October. River's Edge Natural Area design drawings will be presented in September at the regular meeting location.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.