



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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### CITY OF LOVELAND OPEN LANDS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2013

500 E. Third Street, Suite 200, Loveland

**Commissioners Present:** Lori Bell, Rick Brent, Ted Mioduski, Andy Hawbaker, Steve McMillan, Darren Pape, Bill Zawacki, Jim Roode (alternate).

**Commissioners Absent:** Gale Bernhardt, Ross Livingston, Hugh McKean (City Council Liaison).

**Staff Present:** Rob Burdine, Gary Havener, Brian Hayes, Debbie Eley.

**The public meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.**

**Approval of the July 10, 2013 Commission Meeting Minutes:** Tabled until a quorum is present.

**Approval of the August 14, 2013 Commission Meeting Minutes:** Steve McMillan made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Andy Hawbaker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Reports/Correspondence:

**1. Parks & Recreation Master Plan.** Cindy Mendoza and Melissa Berry, from MIG, provided a summary of the public involvement process to date for the Master Plan update. Respondents have shown support for additional opportunities for publicly-accessible open lands and trails for outdoor recreation. MIG recognizes that it may be difficult to create trails in developed areas, but there may be opportunities along irrigation ditches and at existing sites where future trails are identified. Also, new developments may have the potential to connect to the existing trail network. MIG will conduct a needs assessment and provide recommendations for priorities to formulate 5- and 10-year plans.

**2. River's Edge Natural Area Update.** Construction is on schedule, with the entry sign to be completed this week, the restroom delivered on 9/9 with stone veneer to be installed this week, the boardwalk to be completed 9/15, and staff preparing to install amenities and begin fence tear-down on 9/16. The Grand Opening will include a symbolic fence tear-down of a remaining section of fence, with OLAC member participation. The Loveland Fishing Club will assist with the Colorado Parks & Wildlife fishing clinic and a food concession booth to benefit the annual Kids and Senior Fishing Derbies. Several local businesses will participate with information booths and prizes, including JAX and Wild Birds Unlimited, and local non-profits will provide activities and booths, including Audubon Society bird walks and CSU Environmental Learning Center interactive wetland activities.

**3. Open Lands Projects Report.** The Loveland Open Lands and River's Edge Grand Opening logos were presented. Staff reported on the following property acquisition updates:

- a. 57<sup>th</sup> and Taft. The landowner is not in favor of selling trail easement(s) only and would support a purchase of the entire property or a trade. Staff is working to pursue a partnership with Larimer County and Fort Collins on this regional trail effort.
- b. Big Thompson Canyon. The landowner suggested carving off some of the river-front property to lower the acquisition cost. The existing bridges in the area are county-maintained but the roads are private. Staff plans to meet with CDOT on 9/23 to discuss possible access options.
- c. Boedecker Lake. The bank has received an offer on the property. Public access and parking would be limited in the area due to private roads and county properties. Staff recommends ownership by the HOAs and a possible conservation easement with tax credits to the bank for a full or partial donation.
- d. Jayhawker Annexation. Planning staff is working with Larimer County regarding current code violations that may be present at the 1.5-acre enclave to the east. No decision will be made to proceed with the Jayhawker Annexation until Larimer County responds with a letter regarding the status of the current use of the neighboring property.

**Commission Member Discussion Topics:** None.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.