



**LOVELAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes ♦ October 11, 2018**

**Present:** Constance Keeney, John Bradley, Gene Alvine, Katie Davis, Shane McWatters, Brett Dowgin

**Staff:** Elizabeth Kayl, Dan Willadsen, Bryan Harding, Jeanie Vetter, Kim Lucero

**Absent:** Wendi Cudmore, Leighton Millar, Laura Leah Olsen, Councilor Richard Ball, Jessica Hinterberg

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:30p

**Minutes:** Minutes from the September 13, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.

**Council Liaison Report:** No update to report as the Council Liaison was not in attendance.

**Director's Report:** Elizabeth explained that commission terms are expiring at the end of this year for Leighton, Gene, and Jessica and that Jessica has submitted her resignation due to family issues. Three regular positions will be open. Incumbents are willing and encouraged to run again. Applications must be submitted by Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> with City Clerk's office. Individuals who applied last time will be strongly considered. The Commission Chair, Council Liaison, and Director will be present at these interviews. Elizabeth gave an update about the fee being considered for Devil's Backbone. She explained that consultants were hired to conduct a fee-study on fees currently set for all areas and camping sites in the County. Implementing a \$9 fee to visit Devil's Backbone is not popular. Elizabeth is currently working with Marilyn Hilgenberg and Gary Buffington to try to slow down the County's process in order to allow community engagement. The County agreed to allow public engagement; therefore, a schedule of public meetings and Board presentations will be set to allow alternatives to suggested fees. Elizabeth will share the schedule of these public meetings at the next meeting along with details for next steps. Elizabeth offered to bring a copy of the County's presentation at Commission's next meeting if anyone is interested. Elizabeth also shared that she participated in a workshop with City leaders at the Thompson School District (TSD) to meet the new Superintendent, Marc Schaffer. Elizabeth said he has some great ideas in working with the City. TSD has two items on the ballot in November – a \$14 million mill levy override and a \$149 million bond initiative. Brett explained that initially the TSD Board's intention was \$1 per day for the average \$350,000 house, and it is actually less per day than initially projected – 78 cents per day per \$350,000 house. Finally, the Commission holiday dinner will be on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, and everyone agreed that it should be at the same place as last year. Like last year, menus will be provided ahead of time, and there will be a white elephant gift exchange. P&R provides the holiday dinner as a way to thank the Commission for their time and dedication and a chance to enjoy each other's company. More details will follow.

**Meet the Staff – Jeanie Vetter:** Bryan Harding introduced Jeanie Vetter who is to the most recent Park Planner to join P&R. Jeanie has her own business in Cheyenne, Wyoming and is currently working 20 hours a week in this office. Jeanie is originally from this area. She was born in Denver, grew up in Longmont and moved to Cheyenne about eight years ago for work. She is currently commuting back and forth. She says it is great to be back in Colorado and is eager to begin helping with all of the projects going on at the moment. Current projects



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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she is working on are: the Mehaffey Park extension, Willowbend, Boedecker, and ADA transitions. Jeanie has gained extensive planning and development experience from her work in Cheyenne. The planning process in Parks is somewhat different, but she is very excited to be here.

**Approval of Recommended Donation Requests:** Three applications were included in the agenda packet and Elizabeth explained the donation process: 1) applicant fills out request; 2) submitted to the appropriate manager; 3) to Director for review and signature; 4) presented to Commission for review and comment; and 5) Director finalizes and approves the process with her signature. Katie wanted an explanation as to why Berthoud Elementary can participate, and Elizabeth explained that they are a Thompson School District school, which makes them eligible. All three applications are requests for donations for school-related fundraisers, and Elizabeth explained that passes to the Chilson or from Golf will be donated with a \$100 limit per organization per year. If there is not enough information in the application regarding a specific donation request, then the Recreation Manager will contact the applicant for more details. As applications are received, they will be included each month in the agenda packet for Commission's review.

**Initiatives for Innovation – Elizabeth Kayl Presenting:** Elizabeth provided clarification on the first agenda packet that was emailed. It mistakenly included initiatives from the Open Lands Advisory Commission (OLAC) and instead should have included the Initiatives for Innovation prepared in conjunction with City Council and the Executive Leadership Team (ELT). These were emailed in the second agenda packet. Elizabeth explained that Initiatives for Innovation was created as a way to organize and prioritize a significant list of capital projects that need funding. Over the last several years, Council has had a difficult time prioritizing these projects and asked for direction from the ELT. Specific categories were created to match goals and objectives of these projects; and from these categories, it will be easier to address the initiatives. Examples of the categories are provided in the agenda packet. A 90-day action plan will be provided and brought back to Council. Council will state their case of importance and have representatives speak on issues and look at available funding (i.e., grants, CEFs, Federal monies, or possibly nothing) to determine priorities. From Council's checklist, they will figure out a strategy for the year. Elizabeth shared the example from OLAC and discussed how they are addressing each initiative. P&R, Golf, and other divisions will be following suit. The P&R Department will take each division's initiatives and extract them into one document and bring to Commission for their input.

**Future Topics:** Commissioner Bradley inquired as to whether consideration had been made of the Woodward building for a new Recreation Center site and would like to discuss ideas for before and after school programs supported by P&R other than child care currently offered at Chilson, which can be a way to provide community support besides sports activities. Elizabeth reminded the group that the mobile rec trailer was implemented this summer and supports this idea of community support. Elizabeth also foresees working with the new Thompson School District superintendent as a viable option. Movies in the Park was also a very successful event during the summer. Commissioner Bradley also suggested that P&R contact the Colorado Lottery to ask for their participation in this event. Seeing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.