



**LOVELAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
Minutes ♦ January 10, 2019

**Present:** Wendi Cudmore, John Bradley, Katie Davis, Shane McWatters, Jim Haynes, Brett Dowgin, Laura Leah Olsen

**Staff:** Elizabeth Kayl, LeAnn Williams, Molly Elder, Bryan Harding, Kim Lucero

**Absent:** Councilor Richard Ball

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

**Minutes:** Minutes from the November 8, 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 introduced newest Commission member, Jim Haynes. Laura Leah is now a regular Commission member. There are two more vacancies with one person currently interested. Elizabeth asked the Commission to announce vacancies to anyone who may be interested in applying.

**Selection of 2019 Chair and Vice-Chair:** Next, the group discussed nominations for the 2019 Commission Chair and Vice-Chair. A motion was made for Wendi to remain Chair, which was approved. A nomination was made for Shane McWatters to fill Vice-Chair position, which was also approved.

**2019 P&R Commission Goals:** Elizabeth explained that Commission goals are usually set at the beginning of each calendar year. She asked for specific ideas from the Commission and shared some ideas of her own:

- To help foster communication to advocate for the new recreation center through a sales tax increase. (LeAnn Williams).
- There are eight underpasses in our trail system that are currently on a projects list.
- Review designs of new play features of the new neighborhood park in the Willow Bend Natural Area on 1<sup>st</sup> Street by the Boys and Girls Club and New Vision Charter School, which is currently in the planning stages (Bryan Harding). To also come up with ideas how to incorporate the natural area with the new park and provide input for an outdoor educational piece.
- Review of and feedback for the budget. (Molly Elder).
- We could use volunteers to set up fundraisers for our 501(3)(c) P&R Foundation. (Molly Elder).
- To have representation at Council from the Commission as a united front to speak about large projects like the new recreation center. It is helpful for the Commission to express as a group



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Civic Center • 500 East Third Street • Loveland, Colorado 80537  
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how excited and anxious they are to see these projects happen and to explain “need versus want.”

John Bradley suggests the Commission consider ways to work with local businesses and churches to engage community involvement. Elizabeth shared that we currently have quite a bit of community involvement through various volunteer programs. An example provided was “Week of Hope” – an event where hundreds of volunteers from the faith-based community have come together to clean up open lands and trails. From a liability standpoint, we typically do not recruit volunteers to help with building of parks and moving equipment. John also suggested contacting CSU Natural Resource department about students (interns) helping with grant-writing. Elizabeth stated that we just had a CU student who contacted us about an internship opportunity. As this would be more of a department goal, the group directed their focus back to Commission goals. The group discussed the possibility of forming subcommittees to help with specific projects as they relate to the passion of individual Commission members. Molly plans to bring in the Chair of the P&R Foundation to explain the program and focus areas, which would provide volunteer opportunities for the Commission. Elizabeth recommends that the Commission make a manageable list of goals (3-5 things) with special committee work. CAPRA is another area that Commission may be able to help with. Elizabeth will send out a survey and list of goals to commission members and will put this item back on the agenda for next month along with the survey results.

**Review Donation Request:** (Informational). LeAnn reported that Carrie Martin Elementary submitted a donation request for \$100 in Chilson passes to be used as prizes for their school auction. Elizabeth approved this request. Applications are accessible online.

**Review of Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park Memorial/Art Selections:** Elizabeth provided background information regarding the City’s 1% donation to public art for all capital projects. P&R works with the Visual Arts Commission (VAC) to help steer the process for public art selections which will be placed on P&R properties, such as VSMP. For VSMP, there were a total of 62 artists who submitted proposals. That group has been narrowed to 3 finalists whose proposals will be presented to the Visual Arts Commission on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Bryan went over the finalists applications and art samples (photos), and also referenced each artist’s website. Wendi will get in touch with VAC to see if there is an opportunity for the Commission to provide input. The budget for the VSMP art piece is \$75,000 (1%). The history of the park and a way to represent the memorial spirit of the park will be highly considered when selecting the final artist and art feature for VSMP.

**Master Plan for Cultural Services Department – Presented by Jill Stilwell:** Jill Stilwell is a consultant recently hired by Cultural Services (CS) to create a master plan for that department. Jill provided brief history of the CS department, which is made up of four programs: The Rialto Theater, Loveland Museum, Art in Public Places, and the Pulliam building (phase one renovation has begun at the Pulliam). The four key themes that the master plan will be based on are **connect, participate, creative identity, and thrive**. Jill requested input regarding how Cultural Services can expand their programs to reach more of the community. Partnering with P&R was one opportunity that was discussed such as partnering with Chilson to make sure we are offering more robust programming for K-12 students. Jill also discussed how CS might be able to help support artists and enable them to thrive and earn a living through creating art. CS needs capacity to do these things and will discuss ideas how to increase revenue and venue components. Wendi asked for feedback from Commission



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members. John asked if this will be presented to Council, and Jill confirmed that the proposal will be finalized around March to present to Council. Jill provided her contact information and welcomes any feedback from the Commission.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Discussion:** The LWCF, established in 1965, is a significant source of income for parks and public lands. Designed to protect and preserve America's most vulnerable public lands and national parks, LWCF provides a small portion of federal income from offshore drilling activities to help support parks and public lands. Elizabeth shared a December 20<sup>th</sup> press release announcing that the U.S. Senate failed to move forward on the legislation to renew the LWCF for 2019 and beyond. Every day that the program is in limbo, the nation loses 2.5 million dollars a day for community-driven projects. More information can be found on the NRPA website. John suggested that the group draft a letter urging renewal of the LWCF that the Commission would then send to congressional delegation, senators and the new governor. More involvement, at policy level, will be added as a Commission goal. It was agreed that Elizabeth will draft the letter and then email the draft to Commission for any changes/recommendations. She will then bring final letter to the next meeting for final approval.

**Update on Community Improvement Program (CIP) Revamp – Presented by LeAnn Williams:**

An update to the CIP was recently presented to City Council. Council was asked if they want to the CIP projects on the ballot in 2019 for funding through a sales tax measure. It is yet to be determined if the projects will be listed as a package of all projects or an a la carte menu. The updated timeline of 2019 or 2020 along with pros and cons were listed in the packet. Currently, P&R projects on the CIP list include a new recreation center and trail underpasses.

**Future Topics:** John will draft a letter on behalf of the Commission congratulating Dan Gibbs who was recently appointed Director of Natural Resources and is an incredible proponent of parks and recreation. John will bring the letter to next month's meeting for final Commission approval. LeAnn mentioned the Mountainfilm Tour showing at the Rialto on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and encouraged everyone to spread the word about the event and to also buy tickets.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm**

**Next meeting 2/14/2019**

**/s/ Wendi Cudmore, Chair**