



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Civic Center • 500 East Third Street • Loveland, Colorado 80537  
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[www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org)

### LOVELAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes ♦ April 11, 2019

- Present:** Wendi Cudmore, John Bradley, Shane McWatters, Jim Haynes, Laura Leah Olsen, Councilor Richard Ball
- Staff:** Elizabeth Kayl, Molly Elder, Dan Willadsen, Bryan Harding, Kerry Helke
- Absent:** Katie Davis, Brett Dowgin, Keller Taylor, Kevin Turvey
- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm
- Minutes:** Minutes from March 14th, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.

**Council Liaison Report:** Council Liaison Richard Ball shared information regarding progress of the CIP initiative and a recent CIP presentation to Rotary which was well received. He stated that Council recently completed the performance review for the City Attorney and stated that he feels the City's legal team is doing well and working well together. Other issues before Council include the City budget, Garfield to Taft median improvements, and the issue of certain types of pets within City limits. He also shared that the Broadband bonds, which received an A+ rating, sold out very quickly. It is anticipated that Broadband will rollout service in the spring of 2020.

**Director's Report:** Elizabeth shared that we will be hosting an Arbor Day celebration on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at Mehaffey Park. A formal ceremony will take place at 11am and the Run For the Trees Festival (benefitting the Parks' tree fund) will begin at 5:45pm with a fun run through Mehaffey. This year is even more special than usual as the City is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year as a Tree City USA. As part of the Arbor Day festivities, we are planting 30 trees in honor of the momentous occasion. Next, Elizabeth briefly discussed the status of the batting cages and a recent article which ran in the Reporter Herald. She will forward to the Commission a copy of the memo that she prepared for the City Manager and Council reminding them of the reason for the proposed closure and the steps that were taken to secure a private party contract to run the cages. A private party operator has been found and the batting cages are expected to open for the season soon.

**Boards and Commission Survey Results:** City Manager Steve Adams was not in attendance and the item has been moved to the June meeting agenda.

**5 Minute Training Session/Meet the Staff:** Recreation Special Events Coordinator Kerry Helke presented to the group. She shared information about the multitude of new and improved special events that the P&R Department will undertake including the Mobile Rec Trailer, Movies in the Park, a Pirate themed Kids to Parks Day, the Farmers' Market with a new, additional market to be held at the Foundry this coming summer, a car show, and much more. She also shared information about improvements to our July 4<sup>th</sup> festival this year including a cornhole tournament, possible beer garden (in partnership with Cultural Services), Battle of the Bands competition, and a patriotic Kids' Parade



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through the park. Suggestions were made to consider advertising at local movie theaters and on Channel 16.

**Follow-up on Connect Loveland Engagement Opportunities:** The Commission briefly reviewed the prior month's request by Katie Guthrie to appoint a member to attend the Transportation Advisory Board meetings as a "Connector", and a member to attend Connect Loveland Stakeholder Committee meetings. Commissioner Haynes volunteered to attend the Transportation meetings and Commissioner McWatters volunteered to attend the Stakeholder meetings. Both will attend on behalf of the P&R Commission and will report back any pertinent info from the meetings to the Commission.

**Department Vision Statement Poll Results:** Molly shared the poll results gathered to date from the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Open Lands Advisory Commission, the Golf Advisory Board, and P&R staff. The deadline to complete the poll is Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. After that time Molly will do a final tally of poll results and those results will be used by P&R Mgmt staff to construct a final vision statement (or options) for Commission/Board approval.

**Additional Options to Qualify Families for the Low Income Fee Structure:** Molly shared information regarding how we currently qualify families for our Low Income program (through one of three referral agencies in Loveland). She is asking Commission members to consider whether it might make sense for us to approve any child that qualifies for the Free/Reduced Lunch program through the school district as low-income eligible. This will have the greatest impact on Chilson – both on use of the facility and potential effects to revenue. Molly and LeAnn will do some research and plan to bring back additional data for the Commission to consider. There was strong Commission support to explore available options to expand the program.

**Update on the CIP:** Commissioner Bradley shared that the CIP group is working on putting together meetings and events for the community to answer questions related to the CIP. Two educational pieces have gone out – a letter and a mail survey. 36,000 surveys were mailed and approximately 7,000 have been returned. A statistically valid telephone survey is being conducted right now. Survey results will be available to the public in a few weeks. The CIP group will be reporting back to Council on May 28<sup>th</sup>. It was mentioned that Loveland's current sales tax rate is currently low in comparison to our neighbors. This proposed half-cent increase would move us to the middle of the pack.

**2020 Core Budgets and Fees Review:** Due to the timing of base budget rollouts, Molly was only able to present preliminary base budget and fee information. At this time, base budgets will not change dramatically from last year. We are hopeful that the City will not be asking for budget reductions. Parks will not be changing fees in 2020 but will likely propose increases in 2021. Recreation is evaluating whether or not they will propose increases for 2020. If they decide to do increases, Molly will send via email the new proposed fee schedule to the Commission for review.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm**

**Next meeting 5/9/2019**

**/s/ Wendi Cudmore, Chair**