

LARIMER COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

The mission of Larimer County Department of Natural Resources is to establish, protect and manage significant regional parks and open lands providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.

MINUTES

Date: December 1, 2020

Time: 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom Webinar

Contact: Please contact Sidney at smichl@larimer.org or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend.

Members		Staff		Guests
Deborah Shulman		Ken Brink	x	
Jill Wuertz	x	Daylan Figgs	x	
Kathy Maher	x	Dan Rieves	x	
Kristina Kachur	x	Mark Caughlan	x	
Mandy Peters	x	*Stephen Johnson		
Pete Blume	x	Sidney Michl (minutes)	x	
Robert Harris	x			
Russell Fruits	x			
Ruthie Rollins	x			
Spencer Clark	x			
Steve Ambrose	x			

x = present

***commissioner**

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS – 5:32 p.m.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – none
3. AGENDA REVIEW
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
 - a. Steve moved to approve the minutes from last meeting, Kathy seconded, motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Natural Resource events for this month: larimer.org/naturalresources.
- b. To sign up for Parks Advisory Board updates, go to apps.larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm, enter your email, click "Subscribe," and check the "Parks Advisory Board" box.

6. UPDATES & REPORTS

- a. Park District updates – Dan/Mark
 - i. Dan – working on fall maintenance projects, resurfaced Flatiron Road and will use extra funds to resurface campsite loops. Camp hosts are moved out but camping remains busy. Implemented a pilot project to issue same-day reservations. Boat ramps are closed, Marina and Sail Club infrastructure is removed from the lake and stored for the winter. Next project is ANS shelters, currently prepping pad sites.
 - ii. Mark – replacing water lines at Inlet Bay campground and redoing water pedestals. Cabin design will be out to bid late January/early February with construction anticipated in March. Working to get ANS structures in place this month. Boat ramps are closed, fishing remained busy until the end of the season. ANS season kicks off April 1st through last Sunday in November, starting to plan for next year. Hope to make ANS supervisor a full-time or limited term position. Rangers have been busy and the department lost a full-time ranger to a cardiac event last week. 2020 has been challenging, cautiously looking forward to 2021.
 - iii. Ken announced his retirement after 5 years with the county and said this will be his last PAB meeting. Daylan said details for an open house will be forthcoming.
- b. Quarterly board report (July-September) – Daylan
 - i. DNR was awarded the GOCO Resilient Communities grant, which will help fund Sky View Campground. Project construction is anticipated in the spring.
 - ii. Highlights from the report:
 1. Hawk Canyon Ranch acquisition at Red Mountain Open Space
 2. FLAP grant funding for reservoir infrastructure improvements
 3. Completion of Soldier Canyon Dam maintenance project at Horsetooth Reservoir

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Horsetooth Mountain Open Space Management Plan update – Daylan
 - i. The management plan kicked off in November, stakeholders and a technical advisory group are being finalized this month. Public engagement will occur on online platforms due to COVID-19 restrictions. Daylan asked board members to consider their involvement in the process. Mandy, Kristina, and Spencer expressed interest in the advisory group.
 - ii. Ruthie asked about the plan's general components, Daylan said it is intended to be a living document with a list of action items to be implemented within 3-5

years (trail reconfiguration, additional parking, ideas to address increased visitation, etc.).

- iii. Jill asked if there are outreach goals for different demographics or user groups, Daylan affirmed the need for focused outreach and said the technical advisory group will help guide that effort. Online platforms should also make public engagement more accessible and ensure diverse input.

8. ACTION ITEMS

9. US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION UPDATE – Jeff Stahla

- a. Jeff thanked the county for their support with the Soldier Canyon Dam project. While the Cameron Peak Fire presented challenges in late October, it did not hinder the project from moving forward and maintenance was completed one week early. USBR is in the midst of their inspection period of west slope infrastructure with completion anticipated by Dec. 10th, then the east slope reservoirs will be filled to max. capacity. It is yet to be determined if the East Troublesome Fire will impact water quality for the upcoming runoff season.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

11. DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Daylan Figgs

- a. Currently renewing our memorandum with USBR to manage recreation at reservoir parks, further updates will be provided along the way. Shayna Jones, Project Management Specialist, will attend an upcoming PAB meeting to provide an update on capital improvement projects. DNR is contemplating an incremental fee increase that, if passed, would be implemented in 2022. As COVID-19 cases increase, staff are working remotely to the extent possible but offices remain open and basic services are available. Looking to make permit/technology upgrades to reduce future operating costs. Dan added automated pay stations were recently upgraded.

12. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: 2/2/2021 via Zoom Webinar

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. (24-6-402(4)(a)) for discussion pertaining to the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real, personal or other property interest.

14. ADJOURN – 6:13 p.m.