

Wellington Parks Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes – March 15th, 2016

The meeting of the Parks Advisory Board was called to order by Temporary Chairman, Sarah Rice at 6:34 p.m., March 15th, 2016 at the Leeper Center, 3800 Wilson Ave., Wellington, CO.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Angie Billington, JC Cox, Sarah Rice, Tim Singewald and Kathy Wydallis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chairman - Jack Brinkhoff

PRESIDING: Temporary Chairman – Sarah Rice

ALSO PRESENT: Lorilyn Bockelman – PAB applicant; Ashley Macdonald – Wellington Town Trustee & member of Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development committee; Curtis Bridges – Chamber of Commerce, Econ. Dev. Committee Chairman; Peter Pronko– Wellington Main Street member & Wellington business owner; Curtis Smelker – Wellington Main Street member, business owner & Auto Club participant; Sandra Wolf – Wellington Main Street member, business owner & new skate park proponent; and Lynette Deuschele – Wellington resident & Playful City/WCP Grand Opening committee member .

1. Public to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items

Lorilyn Bockelman reported that the Playful City application was accepted without any edits. The application to continue Wellington's Playful City designation will be submitted with photos by the weekend.

2. Approval of Minutes

MEMBER SINGEWALD MOVED AND MEMBER COX SECONDED to approve the minutes from the January 19th, 2016 meeting after clarification of Member Rice's role in a committee assessing needs from the GRASP survey. Roll call was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

MEMBER SINGEWALD MOVED AND MEMBER BILLINGTON SECONDED to approve the minutes from the February 16th, 2016 meeting. Roll call was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Staff update – Hand-out from Town Administrator

Member Rice went over the attached hand-out from Larry Lorentzen and entertained questions and comments. Member Billington expressed concern that the new handicap ramp at Park Meadows Park looked rather steep and that a damaged piece of playground equipment at PMP ('frog') had been replaced by a substandard looking 'horse' and wondered if an actual replacement part had been ordered. Questions were also raised about removing NO FISHING from the NO FISHING, NO SWIMMING, STAY OFF ICE signs at the PMP ponds.

Lorilyn Bockelman and Member Singewald read and discussed a list of concerns regarding Wellington Community Park. Member Singewald suggested that the PAB send a letter listing these issues to Mr. Lorentzen. Member Wydallis offered to write the letter and Member Billington volunteered to contact Mr. Lorentzen by phone or in person. Other issues involving the restrooms at WCP and multiple Port-A-Potties at other parks also would be included in the letter to Mr. Lorentzen. The original list and subsequent letter are attached to these minutes.

4. Presentation – Trustee Ashley Macdonald

Trustee Macdonald addressed the PAB as a member of the Economic Development Committee of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce. The EDC had made contact with someone interested in bringing a recognizable, non-fast food, chain restaurant to downtown Wellington. A deal-breaking concern over the inadequacy of downtown parking had been voiced to the EDC. The EDC's proposal was to have

the Town remove the basketball court and skate park at Centennial Park; and level and pave the area for public parking. The EDC also believed the area could be used for functions such as the Farmer's Market or the local Auto Club. Their rationale was basically: the skate park is at the end of its usable life; there are plans in the works to move it to another park or area sometime in the future anyway; and a level, open area (parking lot) at that corner of 4th and Cleveland would look better and help the business community more than the skate park/basketball court does. Trustee Macdonald emphasized that this plan was a short-term solution until Centennial Park was renovated. The Economic Development Committee was planning to ask for a date to close the skate park/basketball court and propose using the space for parking at the next Town Trustee meeting – March 22, 2016. Curtis Bridges, the chairman of the Economic Development Committee also spoke in favor of this proposal, reiterating that the lack of public parking in Wellington is a 'minus' for prospective businesses interested in downtown locations.

Trustee Macdonald offered to answer questions and listen to comments and opinions. The main questions involved: what entity wants the parking; if any conflicts of interest exist for Economic Development Committee members; and why the restaurant is not considering properties with room for or existing parking lots, in particular, the area south of Ridley's grocery store? The identity of the possible restaurant was not divulged. Trustee Macdonald said she personally was not working for the realtors or restaurant involved, although she does have interest as a local real estate agent. The reason for not considering other property with parking potential was vague and appeared to be related to the personal preference of the restaurant owner/developer.

Comments from PAB members and individuals attending the meeting included:

- 1) The recent Univ. of Colo. Denver study, which was brought up in the presentation, had advised that the southeast corner of the park where the skate park presently sits should be beautified with an artistic Wellington sign, grass, benches, trees, flowers, etc. once the skate park has been relocated. The idea of having a bare-dirt or paved lot in that space was never considered.
- 2) The basketball court is the only one in any of Wellington's parks that has lights for evening play.
- 3) Removing the basketball court would lead to Wellington being out of compliance with GRASP guidelines.
- 4) Wellington's Main Street Program realizes the need for parking and looks forward to the eventual relocation for the skate park, but does not believe that this proposal was an appropriate use of the space.
- 5) The current location for the local Auto Club meeting next to Taco John's is more than adequate with lots of parking spaces, access to the restaurant and its restrooms, and the restaurant provides clean-up services.
- 6) Doubts were raised about the "temporary" status of the parking lot - the worry being that the area would never be returned to the park.
- 7) Negative opinions regarding the "commandeering of public property for commercial use" or "subsidizing commercial businesses by giving them parking spaces" were expressed by a number of attendees and PAB members.
- 8) As the general public is unaware of this proposal, before anything would be decided on, a banner telling of the approximate date of the possible closing of the skate park/basketball court ought to be attached to the fence at the skate park, so the public could know what is being considered and have time and an opportunity to voice opinions/concerns.

5. Interview applicants for Parks Advisory Board open position

The sole PAB applicant, Lorilyn Bockelman, expressed her long-time passion for Wellington parks and trails. Members Billington and Singewald acknowledged the continuing commitment, dedication and contributions of Mrs. Bockelman.

MEMBER WYDALLIS MOVED AND MEMBERS BILLINGTON, COX, RICE AND SINGEWALD SECONDED a motion to recommend to the Town Trustees, the appointment of Lorilyn Bockelman to the Parks Advisory Board. The motion was unanimously approved by acclamation. Member Wydallis will write and email to Larry Lorentzen immediately to include the vote regarding Mrs. Bockelman's PAB appointment in the next (March 22nd) Town Trustee meeting's agenda.

6. Old Business

a) WCP Grand Opening Discussion and Budget

Member Cox had prepared a list of estimated costs for the Grand Opening and began the discussion emphasizing that some of these costs may be provided by sponsors. A microphone, speakers, and a popcorn machine will be borrowed from the Wellington Community Activities Committee. Banners advertising the Grand Opening will be a fixed cost of ~\$300.

Member Billington added that the 501(c)3 might be able to contribute and planned to have a "Friends of Parks" booth at the Grand Opening to provide information on joining the 501(c)3 and on sponsorships and contributions to the parks – (trees, benches, bike racks, etc.) She will be attending a future Town Trustees meeting to discuss the 501(c)3 organization and the Grand Opening's booth.

Lorilyn Bockelman said that Mayor Jack Brinkhoff and possibly Wendell Nelson from the Chamber of Commerce will be speaking after the ribbon cutting at 9:40AM. Anyone wanting to make a speech will be allowed to at that time. She will also be reminding ECI of their offer to provide bottled water for the Grand Opening.

Member Cox is trying to locate and borrow a big grill for cooking hamburgers and hotdogs that will be obtained at a reduced cost from Weld County Meals on Wheels. Buns, chips and condiments will hopefully be provided by a sponsor. Ridley's will be contacted by the 501(c)3.

A Big Rock will be ready by the Grand Opening for plaques honoring donors. Dynamic Images, a local business, will be the vendor for the Rock and plaques. The cost will be between \$600 & \$1000. Dynamic Images will also be making the banners.

Member Singewald has been researching beer gardens. Old Colorado Brewery has shown an interest in the WCP Grand Opening. A beer garden would need a special permit from the Town and certified beer garden personnel. Sandra Wolf reported that Wellington Main Street members will be attending a class to become certified beer garden volunteers in the near future. Curtis Smelker said that the certification class will be offered locally and has openings for more participants. Member Rice expressed some concern with having a beer garden at the Grand Opening due to the attendance of children, but the consensus was that a beer garden would be welcomed.

MEMBER SINGEWALD MOVED AND MEMBER BILLINGTON SECONDED a motion to approve up to \$3350 to fund the banners, food, attractions and donor rock/plaques. Roll call was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

b) 501(c)3 update

Member Billington reported that at the last Friends of the Parks meeting Jake Raynolds of Wellington Parks and Recreation presented a few grants he had found. Member Billington is interested in following up on a KaBoom grant for Imagination Playground - which is essentially a portable playground made up of big blocks. This grant will be a primary focus at the next 501(c)3 meeting and is being considered as a particular project for soliciting donations at the Grand Opening. Mr. Raynolds informed her that he had a place to store these blocks when not in use. Member Rice expressed her support for outright purchasing the Imagination Playground and, while this may be considered in the future, Member Billington would like to wait until after the Grand

Opening. She is attempting to borrow an Imagination Playground from an acquaintance for the Grand Opening.

Another grant is 'Fishing Is Fun.' Wellington already has two stocked ponds and, according to Member Singewald, Nancy Howard at Game and Fish would be glad to have a Kids' Fishing Day. Game and Fish would supply the fishing tackle, rods and reels. The question of the removal of the NO FISHING signs was also raised. A Kids' Fishing Day would have the added benefit of qualifying as a PlayDay in keeping with our Playful City designation.

Member Billington and Mr. Raynolds are also looking into multiple Trail-specific grants and will inform the PAB at a future meeting.

c) Trail Discussion

Chairman Rice, using some of Lorilyn Bockelman's past research, suggested that the PAB request \$30,000 for a Trails Master Plan and that 50/50 matching funds are probably available through a Trails grant. Member Singewald agreed and reminded the PAB that Trails are a high priority for residents and had been promised to the residents by the Town. He stated that a formal presentation should be made at the next Town meeting. BHA was mentioned as a possible designer. The new plan is necessary to define the next critical sections of trail and get them out for bid. The Town's most recent Master Plan is out-of-date and too general for this purpose. MEMBER SINGEWALD MOVED AND MEMBER COX SECONDED a motion to request the Town's "blessing" for using \$30,000 of the PAB 2016 budget for an RFP for a Trails Conceptual Plan with the intention of finding a 50/50 matching grant. (The PAB understands that the \$30,000 would be taken from the \$50,000 allocated for matching grants in the PAB's 2016 total budget of \$80,000). The Town would have to administer this process. Roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Members Rice volunteered to present this proposal at a Town Trustee meeting in the near future. Member Billington volunteered to contact Larry Lorentzen to have it added to the next Town Trustee meeting's agenda.

7. New Business

Discussion on budget priorities

After the approval of two budget items earlier in the meeting, there is \$20,000 left for grants and \$26,650 available for other purchases. Chairman Rice acknowledged that she did not want a prolonged discussion at this time, but hoped the PAB members would have priority suggestions ready for the next PAB meeting. Member Billington would like to get a 14' shade structure (bird roosting-proof) for the Parks Meadows Park before summer. She will check on the pricing and the PAB will vote on it at the next PAB meeting. Member Singewald suggested planting trees which can be purchased and installed for \$300. Bike racks are another priority, but it is believed that the Town will be installing some and therefore the racks will not come out of the PAB budget. Benches and lighting for existing trails, a playground or sand box at the ball fields, and refurbishing the BMX track were also mentioned as items that might be affordable this year.

8. Other

Member Singewald wondered if tennis, pickleball, or soccer lessons could be organized through Parks and Recreation. The PAB would like to give their approval to expanding lessons given by private entities at Wellington parks. Jake Raynolds will need to be asked for the proper procedures for a person interested in teaching lessons. Procedures are also needed for reserving areas of the parks for family or group use.

Curtis Smelker expressed his concerns with the current CDOT plans for reconfiguring Cleveland Avenue. His concern is for safety. Member Singewald suggested a crossing light at 4th St. No bike

lanes are planned for the Hwy 1/Cleveland improvements. Chuck Mayhugh would be the person to consult about bike lanes.

Sandra Wolf's update on the new skate park: 1) It will be named the Torrie Memorial Skate Park. 2) The people working on the skate park design will be trying to obtain a grassroots GOCO grant. 3) High quality skate parks are an economic boon to a town as many professionals are skateboarders.

Member Billington invited Ms. Wolf to present her information at the next Friends of the Parks meeting and possibly use their 501(c)3 status to apply for grants.

Member Singewald asked if the Economic Development Committee had been in touch with Ms. Wolf and the skate park group. They had not. The skate park is not dangerous in her opinion and is regularly used by many residents, not to mention the Boys & Girls Club which will be at that location for the next few years.

Member Billington will ask the Meadows HOA for contributions towards the shade structure at their park.

The next PAB meeting is scheduled for April 19th.

MEMBER WYDALLIS MOVED AND MEMBER COX SECONDED to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathy Wydallis".

Kathy Wydallis, Secretary



Playful City USA 2016 Update

The first draft of the Playful City USA 2016 application has been submitted. So far we have 15 letters of support, a strong narrative showing off Wellington's top 3 ways it contributes to playability, a slideshow, 22 attachments of fliers and documents, numerous pictures of events and structures and we have been interacting with the Map of Play. We should receive feedback from Playful City in the next couple weeks and will make any adjustments and updates needed. The final will be due on April 1st but we are hoping to submit about a week early. I am hoping to add pics from the upcoming ribbon cutting at the underpass since walkability and bikeability contribute to playability.

I want to take a moment to thank Angie Billington and Sarah Rice for their continued commitment and assistance with the application for Playful City USA for the second year. Sarah has done an incredible job putting together a slideshow that showcases all the fun things that happen in Wellington throughout the year and has organized two play days. Angie for her amazing ability as an editor that makes the narrative so much better. And thank you to all the members of the PAB for being so supportive of this program.

Playful City USA designation honors all the groups in town that make Wellington fun. The PAB, the CAC, Town Trustees, Town Staff and Public Works Department, the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Program, the Recreation Department, Library, Boys and Girls Club, church youth groups, HOA's, local businesses, and the many residents and volunteers. While mostly PAB members have been involved in the application process so far, it's bigger than just one group. I'm hoping the application committee for Playful City USA next year will include members of the many groups listed above as they all have provided letters of support and make Wellington playful.

I will send an update after our final is submitted and then we will have to wait until possibly early June to hear back if Wellington was chosen this year.

Thank you,

Lorilyn Bockelman

P.S. If you haven't already please go to the Playful City USA site to learn more about this wonderful program.

https://kaboom.org/playability/playful_city_usa

MEMO

TO: Parks Advisory Board

FROM: Larry Lorentzen

DATE: March 15th, 2016

RE: Staff Update

Public Works crews put in a handicap curb cut ramp, signage and striping at the Park Meadows Park:



They are putting up Park Rules and Regulations signs in all the parks and will get a bike rack at Park Meadows Park, more dog waste stations at the Community Park and curb cut ramps at Ron Reagan and Jefferson for the Boxelder Commons trail this week or next.



Bath has been working on landscaping at the Community Park for several weeks and ECI should be back on site around the first of April weather allowing to finish up the rest of the outstanding items.

Parks Advisory Board
Wellington, CO

March 16, 2016

Larry Lorentzen, Town Administrator
Wellington, CO

Dear Larry,

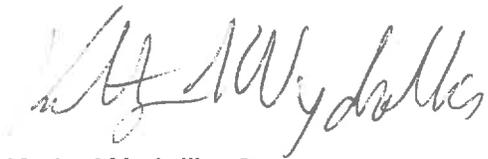
The following are questions and observations from the Parks Advisory Board (PAB). Some have been posed by Wellington residents to PAB members and some are issues noticed personally by members.

- 1) Why are the barbeque-grills on the north end of Wellington Community Park (WCP) close together? The plan was to have them at opposite ends of the picnic area so 2 separate groups could barbeque at the same time.
- 2) The WCP multi-purpose field is uneven. The PAB hopes it can be leveled before it is reseeded. The unevenness would be a hindrance to games like soccer or volleyball.
- 3) Why are the irrigation valve boxes in the WCP dog park placed in the pond's access road where maintenance vehicles will have to run over them?
- 4) MANY of the valve boxes throughout the WCP are in deep depressions and some already are cracked.
- 5) When and how will the poured-in-place surface at the WCP playground be fixed? Is it possible to remedy that situation before the June 4th Grand Opening?
- 6) A slide on the south side of the playground equipment at WCP is bubbled and warped and needs to be replaced.
- 7) Quite a few people have noticed that the parking lot lights and trail lights at WCP are on during the day.
- 8) Can the bathrooms at WCP please be unlocked from 6am to 10pm? The PAB also would like to know who to notify for resupplying soap, toilet paper etc., and who to notify for plumbing, vandalism or other emergencies. Can the hours and emergency number be put on a sign? Also what will be the cleaning schedule and who will be responsible for that?
- 9) The Porta-Potties at some of the other parks are a mess. Is that Wellington's or the company's responsibility?

Thank you for checking on these issues, remedying what you can, and letting the PAB know what can and will be done.

The next meeting of the Parks Advisory Board will be April 19th, 2016.

Thanks again,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Wydallis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kathy Wydallis, Secretary