

**SOUTH SUBURBAN PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING NO. 852
MINUTES**

Call to order

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South Suburban Park and Recreation District was called to order at 5:35 pm on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at the Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 South University Boulevard, Centennial, Colorado. Chair John Ostermiller presided.

Present: John K. Ostermiller
Susan M. Rosser
Pamela M. Eller
Michael T. Anderson
Scott A. LaBrash

Legal Counsel: James P. Collins, Esq.

Management Staff: Rob Hanna, Executive Director
Deanna R. Heyn, Deputy Executive Director
Dave Brueggeman, Acting Director of Parks & Open Space
Brett Collins, Director of Planning & Development
Teresa Cope, Director of Communications
Jay Dikeman, Director of Hospitality Services
JoAnn Gould, Director of Recreation & Community Services
Mike MacLennan, Director of IT
Rich Meredith, Executive Director, Hudson Gardens
Bill Ramsey, Director of Golf
Clay Shuck, Deputy Recreation Manager
Steve Shipley, Director of Finance

Study Session

After the call to order, Mr. Ostermiller convened the Study Session, and the group discussed the items on the posted agenda as well as previewed information for the public meeting discussion tonight, regarding the Highlands 460 Trail. Proposed actions tonight included an easement approval over a water line (See consent agenda), and the proposed rejection of bids for Phase I construction (See Public Meeting, New Business).

Following on discussions during Study Session, staff was asked to include the cost for another updated printing of the District map in the draft 2016 Budget. Some other items have been noted by the public for potential funding request in the 2016 Budget, and those items will enter the minutes record as those requests become more formal, specific and actionable. (See the public hearing for additional requests.)

Regarding other upcoming meetings and quorum events: It was noted that there was discussion previously about cancelling the September 23 sessions due to a conflict with a conference. That conflict no longer exists, and at this time it's likely the September 23 session will take place. It was noted that the Board of Directors' regular retreat to discuss the future-year budget will occur on October 5 and possibly continue into October 6. Members talked about several proposed or upcoming meetings with local city councils, including the City of Lone Tree (with special posting per the State CRS. See announcements and emergency items below. /ds)

The Board paused briefly at 6:52 pm and returned to the public meeting at 7:01 pm.

New employee announcement: Rob Hanna, Executive Director

Tonight was Rob Hanna's first Board meeting as the District's new Executive Director. Mr. Ostermiller welcomed Mr. Hanna officially, and he provided a brief biography for the benefit of those present, noting Mr. Hanna's background as a parks, open space and golf director for the Town of Castle Rock for 17 years, as well

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as his experience in parks planning, construction management, and as a registered landscape architect (RLA). He noted that the Town of Castle Rock won a National Recreation and Parks Association Gold Medal in 2012 and is completing accreditation for an NRPA certification program this year. Mrs. Ostermiller wished Mr. Hanna a long and successful career at the District. Mr. Hanna expressed appreciation for the warm welcome that staff has extended and the accommodations staff, and particularly Mrs. Heyn, has made to answer his questions and assist him. He noted the upcoming meetings with District partners.

Mr. Ostermiller also took this opportunity to recognize Mrs. Heyn for her work as Acting Executive Director (March–July 2015): She went above and beyond the call of duty and performed with excellence. He thanked her for all she did and continues to do for the District. Mrs. Heyn acknowledged the efforts of the senior management staff present during the transition.

Legal Counsel's report

Jim Collins referred the Board to his confidential written report in tonight's Board packet. Water rights matters are continuing to move forward slowly. Later during Executive Session tonight, he planned to update the Board briefly on the Jamison property sale. For those in attendance in the public meeting, he noted:

- The Jamison property buyer has made an application for an asbestos removal permit, demolition is beginning to move forward, and the subdivision plat has been submitted.
- Legal counsel and senior staff had a meeting today pertaining to the proposed assisted living facility by Goodson Recreation Center and deKoevend Park.
- The process of including some properties in the District, that are located on the west side of the City of Lone Tree, is moving forward. Mr. Collins believes the process will be completed soon.
- There are some ongoing additional matters for followup and discussion.

Minutes approval, July 2015

July 8

Mr. Anderson asked Shephard to delete a sentence on page 5 of the draft, regarding the Park Planner position, beginning with, The new Executive Director probably will have some thoughts ... He believed it wasn't his comment, and he placed it in Mr. LaBrash's testimony. **With no objections, the minutes of regular meeting no. 849, July 8, 2015 stood approved as corrected.**

July 21

Board members had no corrections, additions, or changes to the minutes copy. Therefore, **with no objections, the minutes of meeting no. 850, July 21, 2015 (a special meeting), stood approved as presented.**

July 22

Board members had no corrections, additions, or changes to the minutes copy. Therefore, **with no objections, the minutes of meeting no. 851, July 22, 2015 (a regular meeting) stood approved as presented.**

Citizens' comments

No public came forward to speak tonight.

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Consent Agenda items

Mr. Ostermiller explained that Consent Agenda items are provided for study in the Board's study packets and introduced in Study Session for the Board's review. They can be adopted by a single motion. All resolutions and proposed actions must be read by title prior to a vote on the motion. Any consent agenda item may be removed at the request of a Director and either tabled or heard separately.

- A. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE FOR JULY 2015 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,021,184**
- B. ACCEPT A REVOCABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF AURORA FOR THE FUTURE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIGHLANDS 460 TRAIL, OVER AN EXISTING WATER LINE EASEMENT HELD BY THE CITY OF AURORA.**

MRS. ROSSER MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEMS A–B. Mrs. Eller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. **Consent agenda items were approved unanimously (5-0).**

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING: 2016 Budget. Citizen comments

Mr. Ostermiller opened the public hearing.

Steve Mueller, 7358 South Ridgeview reported he is a 33-year resident in his current home. He appeared before the Board of Directors 25 years ago to speak in support of the Jackass Hill Park acquisition. He also served on the Arapahoe County Open Space and Trails Advisory Board, and the citizens have benefited from that program.

He was speaking tonight in support of two items for funding from the 2016 Budget, to:

- Improve Jackass Hill, a natural open space park, to include a formal, maintained walking path located around the perimeter and giving more public access to the view of Longs Peak and Pike's Peak. The path should be far enough inside the park so that there's a buffer zone between walkers and local residents. He noted a controversy surrounding a proposed development of 4–6 athletic fields on the property years ago, which was rejected by the residents, and which resulted in the park being maintained as undeveloped natural open space. He suggested this modest development would be a way to start again, and to create a neighborhood park that all the residents could use and enjoy.
- Fund steps to battle the current Japanese beetle infestation aggressively. He reported the infestation surge in his neighborhood and around the metropolitan area generally. Lawns and grasses are the primary breeding ground for Japanese beetle. He reported on a solution he found, a milky spore treatment which is toxic to the beetles at the grub stage, and which is applied to grasses and stays on lawns for 15 years. He reported, it is safe to humans and animals. He stated that if parks are not treated, the problem will migrate on the private properties, affecting property values.

He plans to mount an information campaign about both issues on NextDoor.com to educate his neighbors.

No other public came forward.

In addition, citizens made requests by phone and email. Below is the summary, through August 6, 2015.

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From	Request/comment summaries	
Bill Depew	a.	Wants a dog park behind Goodson in the open space, east of wildlife area but just west of Canal on property with the Creek, away from neighborhoods.
Robin Dickerhoof	a.	Supports Bill Depew's proposal to create off-leash dog area in deKoevend Park.
Laura Nelson	a.	Supports proposal on NextDoor to create off-leash dog park in deKoevend Park.
Melissa Miller	a.	May not support proposal for off-leash dog park in deKoevend, because of Arapahoe High School cross-country events in park. Conflict?
Kathleen King	a.	Supports neighbors' proposal for off-leash dog park in open space adjacent to deKoevend Park.
Tiffany Hansen	a.	Supports and has interest in dog park behind Goodson in the open space, east of wildlife area and just west of Canal on property than has a Creek; the open area away from any neighborhoods
Kate Woodard	a.	Supports request for off-leash dog park in a portion of open space at deKoevend Park.
Ashlel Somers?	a.	Request to build an imaginative playground in the District. Has developed plans for "Dessert Dreamland."
Eric Carlson	a.	Requests improvements to Willow Creek Trail: Build bridge across Creek just north of County Line and West of Yosemite. To improve his commute to work at IKEA.
Steve Mueller	a.	Crusher fines path for Jackass Hill Park. Safety improvement.
	b.	Treat parks and golf courses aggressively for Japanese beetle infestation.
Peter	a.	Bike park or bike pump rack. Suggested near deKoevend Park, or south along Big Dry Creek Trail near Cherry Knolls Park.

Mrs. Rosser stated she believed that Eric Carlson lives in her subdivision. Staff will review the communication and update the record if needed. (Shephard checked Mr. Carlsen’s original email, and he lives in Aurora. /ds)

There will be two additional opportunities for public to give input, on September 9 and November 11, per State Statute.

Littleton Golf & Tennis facility, public art placement approval

Joyce Volp and Jessica Willcox from the South Suburban Public Committee and Melissa Reese-Thacker, Senior Park Planner presented. Committee members expressed their appreciation for the Board’s ongoing support of these art projects. They asked the Board to keep the Committee’s work in mind, for the proposed 2016 Budget.

They reported on the proposed art placement.

The current proposed piece, *Balance in Motion*, is 15 feet high, 7 feet wide and 7 feet deep. They are proposing to place it in the garden space near the Littleton Golf Clubhouse front door (west side, near Federal Boulevard). One of John King’s pieces, also a kinetic sculpture, was placed in Cornerstone Park entryway several years ago.

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Mr. King enjoys a great local reputation, and the design (which includes a ball and racquet) fits with the use of the property.

They have discussed the placement with facility staff, and the garden in front of the clubhouse may be modified a bit to accommodate the art piece and the entryway. The kinetic piece is run by the wind. The Art Committee will be allowed to choose the final colors of paint on the sculpture.

An RFP for proposed projects was issued for completion and placement no later than February 2016. Following Board approval, the group will work with Mr. King to negotiate a final schedule.

Maintenance on the piece will be needed every 20 years and can be performed inhouse.

The bottom-most moving parts on the sculpture cannot be reached, and so people won't be able to interfere with the piece's motion or to be hurt by it.

MRS. ELLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE SOUTH SUBURBAN PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO COMMISSION JOHN KING'S KINETIC SCULPTURE, *BALANCE IN MOTION*, FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATION AT LITTLETON GOLF AND TENNIS CLUB. Mr. LaBrash seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (5-0).

Highlands 460 Trail, Phase I construction. Staff request to reject all construction bids

Brett Collins presented. The proposed trailway is a network of small trails in the mostly residential neighborhood south of East Dry Creek Road and east of South University Boulevard, and bound on the east and south by Otero Avenue, including several loop trails, connector trails, and some current habit paths for improvement. He requested that the Board consider rejecting all Phase I construction bids at this time and to allow staff to develop plans to build and improve sections of trailway in one larger project during a future year. Following up on previous Board presentations, he referred the group to an updated map of the proposed trailway sections that includes a new trailway section along Otero Avenue (included per the recommendation of the Centennial Trails Master Plan).

Brett reviewed the costs. Staff has been unable to raise additional funds for the current phase; staff is continuing to talk to the City about more funding in 2016. Staff is applying for an open space grant, to finish several additional trailways and install two bridges. If additional funding is not acquired, then as much as can be built with current funds will be completed.

Noting Brett's reports about previous and upcoming communications with the neighborhood, Mrs. Eller cautioned Brett to add the language, "If the grant is awarded ..." to various communications. To her question about reporting the change in plans, Brett responded, staff would work with homeowner association representatives to get the word out. He added, the District will be able to build the phase they expected for 2016 without the grant funds, as it is already designed, engineered and ready to go.

The group talked about a series of habit trails in the south and west corners of the map, to be improved. Brett reported there will be neighborhood meetings to talk about the exact placement in this section, as some come fairly close to neighbor fence lines; overall, the neighborhood has been in favor of the project.

MRS. ELLER MOVED TO REJECT ALL CONSTRUCTION BIDS AND DIRECT STAFF NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE HIGHLANDS 460 TRAIL (PHASE I) IMPROVEMENTS IN 2015. Mr. LaBrash seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously (5-0). Mr. Ostermiller summarized, the Phase I construction project has been put on hold.

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Goodson Recreation Center pool deck, award of contract and request for funds

Melissa Reese-Thacker presented. She explained the scope of the project, the current deck and drainage materials and how they are deteriorating, and the anticipated improvements construction schedule. In summary, patrons are complaining about the deteriorating pebblecrete floor around the pool. In addition, there's a need to replace the deck trench drainage system, and to improve drainage and eliminate standing water by the spa. Staff hired an architect to review the matter, produce drawings to submit to the City of Centennial, and provide some options with costs.

Staff put the project to bid and collected bids. They are suggesting the Board approve the highest-cost option, which includes a sandcrete finish for the pool deck, which was used at the Buck and Lone Tree pools.

Mrs. Reese-Thacker noted one correction to the comments in the Board packet that reported a swirled broom finish had failed on another local public project: She reported the surface had failed only once, 20 years ago. She explained, however, that a broom finish tends to wear down over time and leave behind a slippery surface, and the effect is more noticeable for inside pool decks with airborne pool chemicals; and a sandcrete finish stands up well over time. To Mr. Anderson's question, Mrs. Reese-Thacker reported the sandcrete finish has held up well at the Buck and Lone Tree pools over the last 10–11 years.

The low bidder is Bryan Construction, a new contractor for the District. Mrs. Reese-Thacker attempted to reach five references and collected responses from two; and there were no negative reports.

Previously, staff had broached the matter of the District's purchasing the trench drainage system in advance and to have the chosen contractor to install it, in order to speed up the order turnaround and eliminate one construction delay (and therefore have less impact on the swimming programs schedule). Since then, acquisition of the trench drainage system has been added back to the contractor's tasks. She believes the system can be acquired and installed by the contractor in a timely manner. There will be a seven-day delay to the previously-anticipated completion date.

To Boardmembers' questions regarding impacts to staff swim program schedules, Ms. Gould reported that Recreation staff will adjust to the construction schedule. Getting this project done is a greater benefit to the District than some lost revenue. She believes there are no sign-ups yet for this particular session, and staff will remove it from the program calendar. The group agreed there could be other unforeseen construction delays, particularly as the project improves an old facility. Mrs. Reese-Thacker added, if there are other construction delays due to the contractor, the District has the usual option of imposing \$500/day for liquidated damages. The contractor has stated they can start demolition work on August 26. There is some additional cost for night labor to speed up the project and minimize impacts to other facility programs; and staff has decided that it's a reasonable cost.

Mrs. Rosser asked if the noise from night construction work might be in violation of Centennial city code. Mrs. Reese-Thacker believes that since the work is inside Goodson Recreation Center, the noise will be fairly well contained. A contractor performed similar construction activities in the pool locker rooms in past years with no negative response.

MR. ANDERSON MOVED TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO BRYAN CONSTRUCTION, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$305,500 FOR THE GOODSON RECREATION CENTER POOL DECK REPLACEMENT PROJECT INCLUDING ALTERNATES #1 AND 3; ALLOCATE AN ADDITIONAL \$84,610 FOR THE PROJECT FROM THE 2 MILL OPERATING FUND CONTINGENCY; AND APPROVE A TOTAL BUDGET NOT TO EXCEED \$350,610 INCLUDING DESIGN FEES, OTHER EXPENSES, AND 10% CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY. Mrs. Rosser seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (5-0). The group agreed, this is a much-needed project.

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Board of Trustees (employee benefits oversight), Board appointments

Mrs. Heyn presented. She referred to District policy: The Board of Trustees includes the Treasurer for the Board of Directors (currently, Mr. Anderson); the current Executive Director; and the Employee Representative. She expressed appreciation for the time and service provided by Tim Johnson, an employee at the Family Sports Center ice arena, who is retiring in fall 2015. Following Tim's retirement as well as Executive Director Dave Lorenz, staff requested two appointments this evening.

Mrs. Heyn had shared a document with the Board, explaining the duties of a Trustee, earlier this year: Mainly, the Trustees manage the retirement plans, though they address other personnel benefit matters as they arise.

Particular to the choice of the employee representative, Mrs. Heyn reported on the selection process this summer. The pool of eligible (full-time) employees received numerous notifications regarding the position over the last few months. Five applicants submitted themselves for consideration; one withdrew subsequently. The Board interviewed four candidates and decided to recommend Cullen O'Brien, Irrigation Foreman in the Parks & Open Space Department, to the Board of Directors for approval. Mr. O'Brien has been reviewed and cleared recently for District positions of trust.

Mrs. Heyn offered to answer any questions. There were none at this time.

Mr. Anderson added, the process of selection went very well through the solicitation and responses (and candidates included a range of difference experience levels); the Board interviews were an opportunity for the Trustees to evaluate the employees' communication skills; and all were good candidates. The Board felt the best candidate is Mr. O'Brien, and Mr. Anderson requested the Board of Directors move forward at this time.

MR. ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ROB HANNA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND CULLEN O'BRIEN AS EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. Mrs. Rosser seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

Hudson Foundation Inc. Board appointment

Mrs. Heyn also asked the Board to approve Rob Hanna tonight, to one of the two Foundation seats appointed by the District Board of Directors per the Foundation's bylaws. To Mrs. Eller's questions, Mrs. Heyn and Mr. Meredith reported that historically, these two positions have been held by a District executive director and a District board member, and not necessarily the District chairman. Currently, Mr. Ostermiller holds the other seat.

MRS. ELLER MOVED TO APPOINT ROB HANNA TO THE KING C. HUDSON AND EVELYN LEIGH HUDSON FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2015. Mrs. Rosser seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

Board of Directors items

Mrs. Rosser reported on the most recent Lone Tree Subcommittee. Subcommittee members welcomed Mr. Hanna to his first meeting and were updated on Rob's background. They discussed a City Council and Board breakfast or lunch event, date is still to be determined, but it's clear that the participants would like this meeting.

Project updates and discussions included the proposed Entertainment District Park; the completed Fairways at Lone Tree park improvements project, and a dedication event date (to be determined, probably in October); the Lincoln bridge construction update and improvements to the areas surrounding the bridge accesses, possibly including paving the Willow Creek Trail in that area; and future uses for the to be replaced and vacated library

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building on Yosemite by Cook Creek Pool, possibly to include community groups meetings and programmable recreation program space.

Particular to the library building, Mrs. Rosser reported there is a second public input meeting on August 19. She asked if staff would attend and share their ideas. Mrs. Heyn plans to attend. Mr. Anderson noted the potential recreation uses being discussed and stated it would be important for District staff to attend a meeting and share their thoughts. Mrs. Heyn assured him that staff-to-staff level meetings have been going on for some time and the District has had an opportunity to work closely with the partners.

Mrs. Rosser continued, some of the proposed meeting uses would be for the Active Aging group, which also currently has a lunch meeting at the Lone Tree Clubhouse; and for the local high school youth, who go to a number of different high schools and don't have the opportunity to get to know each other.

Mr. Ostermiller asked about a construction schedule update for the Lincoln Bridge. Mrs. Rosser acknowledged that the process of development and possibly the construction schedule is taking longer than the City originally projected; and they are working with a landowner. Mr. Anderson added, the reported completion is still fall 2016, per Timberlines (the City's newsletter). Members discussed how the access parcels north and south of the bridge had been acquired. Mr. Ostermiller concluded, the trail improvements near the bridge are likely to happen in 2017. He noted that the District is already planning to fund \$500K each for the Lincoln bridge and Entertainment District park projects in 2016.

Mrs. Rosser reported there are some changes to the Entertainment District park plans, possibly related to heightened security and other changes, required because of the nearby Meadows 12 movie house. The movie theatre is imposing some additional security measures currently on patrons, possibly responding preventively to the lawsuit filed against the Aurora theatre, after the mass shooting over three years ago.

Mrs. Eller reported that GreenPlay Inc. is the project consultant for the Sheridan "safe routes to school" planning project. The leadership retreat is on September 11; she offered to share the information with any staff who might plan to attend. It's anticipated that Eddie Kanoza, Sheridan Recreation Center Facility Supervisor will be involved.

Mr. Anderson reported that the City of Lone Tree continues to be a dynamic area for investment in infrastructure. He referred again to the monthly Timberline newsletter, and the report on the pedestrian bridge, and the standard prepared from the study on "walking and wellness", funded by Kaiser Permanente, which includes different types of paths for the City.

Announcements and emergency items

Mr. Ostermiller announced

- A quorum event: Dinner with the Board and Rob Hanna, and guests. On August 24 at Lone Tree Golf Club, 9808 Sunningdale Boulevard, beginning 5:45 pm
- A quorum event: Art-on-loan dedication at Goodson Recreation Center plaza, 6315 South University Boulevard, on August 26 at 5 pm
- A quorum event: Art dedication at Hudson Gardens, 6115 South Santa Fe Drive, on September 8 at 4:30 pm
- A special study session: Breakfast, Littleton City Council with District Board and key staff from agencies, September 10, 7:30 to 9:00 am at the City offices, 2255 West Berry Avenue
- A quorum event: National Recreation and Parks Association annual congress and exhibit, September 15-17, 2015, at the Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas
- A special study session: 2016 Budget, Board annual retreat. On October 5 at the Lone Tree Golf Course, 9808 Sunningdale Drive. Session may continue into October 6 if needed, start time TBD.

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Executive Session

At 8:10 pm, Mr. Ostermiller announced the request for an executive session this evening. **MRS. ELLER MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO, OR, AS AUTHORIZED BY... C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4), #**

(B) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFERENCES WITH DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL, TO RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE ON SPECIFIC LEGAL QUESTIONS,

AND SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING: THE JAMISON PROPERTY, THE ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY PROJECT (ADJACENT GOODSON RECREATION CENTER AND DEKOEVEND PARK), AND ANOTHER ITEM.

Mr. Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (5-0).

The Board paused briefly, continued into Executive Session with selected management employees at 8:19 pm, and returned from Executive Session at 8:45 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the group adjourned for the evening at 8:45 pm.

Donna Shephard
Executive Assistant

/ds