

*Minutes of the Wednesday, September 10, 2009
El Paso County Park Advisory Board Meeting
Board of County Commissioners Hearing Room
27 E Vermijo, 3rd Floor
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

	<u>Members:</u>	<u>Staff Present:</u>
Present:	Jane Fredman, Chair Ed Browne, 2 nd Vice Chair Kimberly Tyler-James, Secretary Jim Mariner Chris Meyer Barbara Remy Robert Altenbernd	Jerry Westling, Parks Div. Manager Debra Reid, Administrative Supervisor Todd Marts, Recreation & Cultural Serv. Mgr. Dana Nordstrom, Comm. Outreach Coord. Jason Meyer, Parks Planner Tim Stickel, East District Supervisor Shawn Carpenter, Park Maintenance III Sandra Daughtry, Staff Liaison
Absent:	Warren Hill, 1 st Vice Chair Martha Johnson	

The following minutes are a summary of the proceedings. An audio duplication is available upon request at the El Paso County Parks Administration Office.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Jane Fredman.
2. Approval of Agenda: **Jim Mariner made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Kimberly Tyler-James seconded the motion. Jerry Westling requested a revision to the meeting agenda to indicate Jason Meyer as the presenter under Item # 6 Sub-division recommendations in place of himself. Members voted unanimously to approve the agenda including the change.**
3. Approval of Minutes: It was decided to table the approval of the August minutes until the October meeting in order include some necessary revisions.
4. Introductions: Introduction of new Parks Administrative Supervisor: Jerry Westling introduced Debra Reid, the new Parks Administrative Supervisor, and shared some of her history with El Paso County prior to coming to the Parks Division.

September Staff Spotlight: Shawn Carpenter, Parks Maintenance III, was chosen as the Parks September Staff Spotlight recipient . Mr. Carpenter was introduced by East District Supervisor, Tim Stickel, who highlighted Shawn's many skills and contributions to the Parks Division.

At this time District 2 Commissioner, Amy Lathen, addressed members to emphasize the value and heritage of the County Fair and to ask members for ideas to help make the Fair sustainable. Commissioner Lathen related that she had received various citizens' comments and talked about some ideas such as: possibly reducing or eliminating gate fees, shortening the week, adding additional activities, involving the eight local municipalities along with the Air Force Academy, Fire Departments and others.

PAB Members were encouraged to provide input and to bring additional vendors. One member suggested charging one entrance fee that would cover everything, similar to how a theme park operates. It was also suggested that perhaps a PAB Member could join the Fair Board should an opening occur, or be a liaison to the Fair Board.

5. Citizen Comments / Correspondence: It was decided that Cheryl Pixley from the Black Forest Trails Association would address members during the Cathedral Pines Item #6.A. later during the meeting.

Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition, informed Park Advisory Board Members that the coalition is continuing with their Sustainable Parks Initiative. This initiative is an effort to formalize funding in order to provide maintenance costs for county and city parks through sales or property taxes. Ms. Davis stated that PAB Members' input is welcome and invited members to a pot luck dinner on October 22nd. Members were also invited to attend their Sustainability Committee Meetings.

6. Sub-division Recommendations

For Endorsement:

A. Cathedral Pines Filing 5 – Final Plat

Parks Planner, Jason Meyer, reviewed staff recommendations requesting the execution of the amended Parks Land Agreement of 4/27/06, in which the County is to receive 145 acres of open space, Metro District to receive 24 acres, \$300,000 for park improvements and \$100,000 for mistletoe mitigation. A period of discussion followed.

Cheryl Pixley from the Black Forest Trails Association asked members to take into consideration a concern about a fence that has been placed across the regional trail in Cathedral Pines. Ms. Pixley asked members to consider tabling the item until the fence can be looked at.

Developer, David Jones pointed out that the location of the trails has nothing to do with the item that is being presented to PAB Members for recommendation and objected to delaying the item.

Mr. Jones explained that they eliminated one trail because there were two trails running beside each other. Extended discussion followed pertaining to trail locations, routes, use, conditions, maintenance, easements, fences, etc. Hank Hoover of the Black Forest Trails Association spoke briefly about who constructed the originals trails, their condition and their usage.

Jim Mariner moved to approve staff recommendations for endorsement of Filing 5 as stated and to have Jerry Westling set up a meeting. Barbara Remy added, on the condition that the developer, the Black Forest Trails Association, and county parks staff meet on the site to look at the fence and to determine where the trail should be. Ed Browne added that it should be a Tier 1 Trail. Robert Altenbernd seconded the motion including the additions. Members voted unanimously in favor of the motion with the exception of Jane Fredman, who abstained from the vote.

For Information:

B. Cathedral Pines Filing 5,6,7 & 8 – Amended Preliminary Plan (included in Item A)

C. Sterling Ranch PUD – PUD Development Plan

Jason Meyer gave members information about the Sterling Ranch PUD Development Plan in order to let them know that county parks staff is working with the City of Colorado Springs to look for a way to connect the city's Cottonwood Creek Trail and the county's Sand Creek Trail. This item was brought to members' attention for informational purposes and will come back before the PAB at a later date.

D. Sterling Ranch ZCP – PUD Zoning & Conceptual Plan (included in Item C)

7. Monthly Reports

The monthly reports were reviewed and a period of questions and answers followed. Robert Altenbernd brought up the idea of marketing to increase the number of weekday park facility rentals. Kimberly Tyler-James congratulated Dana Nordstrom for a job well done in surpassing the goal of 10,000 volunteer hours by 6,316. Discussion ensued about service groups and how to examine the feasibility of using them when considering the staff time involved. Various project updates were given by Mr. Westling.

Mr. Westling reported that the parks tour for PAB Members is scheduled for October 3rd and that the yearly Park Board Retreat would take place immediately following today's meeting. Jane Fredman reported that a box containing the needed park lands acquisition records has been located.

8. Information / Action Items

A. 2009 El Paso County Fair Report

Todd Marts gave a comprehensive Fair Report in a visual format and described the Fair as being a community event mixed in with special events. Various topics relating to the Fair were talked about and it was related that a Fair Workshop is scheduled to be held in the near future. When the discussion centered on the idea of a PAB Member being a liaison to the Fair Board, Robert Altenbernd volunteered to serve in this capacity.

B. Park Fee Advisory Committee Member

Jerry Westling asked for recommendations from PAB Members for someone to serve on the Park Fee Advisory Committee.

Jim Mariner made a motion to nominate Robert Altenbernd to serve on the Park Fee Advisory Committee. Ed Browne seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously in favor of Mr. Altenbernd serving on the Park Fee Advisory Committee.

9. Board/Staff Comments

Jane Fredman shared a need to find a winter home for three ducks that are residing in Fox Run Regional Park. Barbary Remy expressed an interest, so they will get together to work out the details.

Todd Marts invited members to come to the Fountain Creek Nature Center Art Show on September 25th and 26th. Jerry Westling will send an e-mail to members giving them the specifics of where to meet for the upcoming park tour. Lastly, Mr. Westling informed everyone that he will be out from September 18th through the 28th.

10. Adjourn

Jane Fredman adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Kimberly Tyler James, Board Secretary