

MINUTES  
CPFAN MONTHLY MEETING

July 7, 2015

Ford Warren Library  
2801 High Street, Denver.

Attendance: 12 CPFAN members. A quorum was present (a quorum consists of at least 12 CPFAN members).

Notice: The meeting was properly noticed to the membership by email.

The position of Secretary of CPFAN is vacant. Maria Flora volunteered to take minutes of the meeting.

President's Report: Louis Plachowski did not attend the meeting. Hank Bootz, Vice President, conducted the meeting.

Paul Weiss had requested to address the group regarding naming the new recreation center, but did not appear at the meeting.

Hank reported that he had purchased the CPFAN banner. The dimensions are 2.5' x 6', and the cost was \$70.

Hank also reported on the City Park Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting. One of the topics was citizen involvement in the selection of the new director of Parks and Recreation. Councilman Brooks said there was no vehicle for citizen involvement but those with concerns should contact him or the mayor. Hank is optimistic that the CPNAC will provide a counterbalance to the institutions operating in City Park, i.e. the Denver Zoo and the Museum of Nature and Science. The suggestion was made that Alice Kelly be consulted regarding the City Park Alliance history, success and failures.

Minutes of CPNAC meetings will be posted on the CPFAN website. The meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the museum. Officers will be elected at the September meeting.

Scott Gilmore, interim director of Parks and Recreation, attended the meeting. Mr. Gilmore was asked about the selection process for the new director of Parks and Recreation. He indicated that the mayor had assembled a search committee comprised of representatives of Denver Water, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the mayor's

chief of staff. Mr. Gilmore had been reappointed to his current position. He indicated that the Director position would not be publicly posted, but is a political appointment.

Nancy Francis provided a copy of A *Platform for Denver's Urban Parks* by the Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) Parks and Recreation Committee and approved January 8, 2011. This document is a guideline for "public policy discussions toward broad solutions to conflicts that have emerged over the use of urban parks." It is suggested by CPFAN that the *Platform*, as well as questions for Mayor Hancock written by Nancy Francis, be used by the selection committee in interviewing candidates.

Mr. Gilmore also discussed the updating of the Parks and Recreation Game Plan for community planning and development, and the updating of the Blueprint.

Mr. Gilmore gave a progress report on the new recreation center at Colfax and Josephine. He stated that a dog park would be located on the recreation center site, not in City Park. Concern about off-leash dogs was expressed. Mr. Gilmore suggested a call to 311 regarding off leash dogs, or call to him with a photo (phone 720 837-0489). He handed out a report on the Central Denver Recreation Center.

He reported that a budget of \$1.7 million had been set to repair the Sullivan Gateway in two phases beginning early 2016, including fountain and sculpture repair. The Sullivan Gate is one of the ten top endangered historical structures in the state.

A discussion was had of water in City Park. Mr. Gilmore stated that the parks were designed to flood, and that Parks and Recreation had received \$700,000 from public works for flood-related expense. The lights in the fountain in Ferril Lake are shut down due to water in the system. Replacement parts are difficult to obtain because they must be ordered from Germany. The light system in the fountain needs to be replaced.

Mr. Gilmore described the shortfall in the Parks and Recreation budget, resulting in a reduced number of employees and difficulty in maintaining the parks.

Further discussion was had regarding the process of appointment of a Director of Parks and Recreation and citizen involvement in that process.