



TOWN OF LYONS

Monday, June 10th 6pm-8pm

Parks and Recreation Commission

Final Approved Minutes

Lyons Historic Train Depot

432 5th Ave. Lyons, Colorado 80540

Attendance: Chris Cope, Dave Cosgrove, Greg Lowell, Randy Pollard, Yelena Hughes, Claudia Kean, Veronika Gaia, Jeff Christy, LaVern Johnson

- I. **Approval of Minutes** Approved unanimously

- II. **Audience Business** - Limited to 15 minutes - All comments will be limited to 4 minutes per person

III. General Business

1. Visitor Use at the Ponds

Contractors are needing to tighten up the site to keep public out so work can continue. Wetland zones are now staked out on banks of ponds, upper and lower. These are critical to Army Corp permit in acreage and restored according to previous growth and new growth in agreements with Corp and DOW. Dogs off leash and kids swimming in ponds, jumping off bridge are a problem.

Stencils for bridge rails will say "No Parking" "Do Not Jump from Bridge". Enforcement will be the issue.

Signage- this park will be different in usage.

Public process – no parking in this area, park at Black Bear Hole and Second Ave. (front side of treatment plant) Money will need to be found for this, and for fencing on back side so debris from parking lot will not flow in to rivers/ponds.

Recycling area that is currently dirt will be surfaced and graded.

People must stay out of seeded areas. Huge shrub zones need to be left alone to thrive. There will be many hundreds of plants and public must stay ON TRAILS, and access only through appointed spots.

Weeding is going to be a challenge. The landscapers will try their best to minimize chemical use, and staff will work with Ecology Board to make sure best practice is followed.

Biggest challenge is limiting public impact until growth is established. Rope, signage, and so on will be a joint effort.

We will get signage out BEFORE park opening for Lyons Valley River Park. Enforcement will be crucial. 36"x48" signs as well as signs with icons only.

For LVRP: Items that are specific to this park:

Staying on trails, and only using access points.

No picnicking. There are no tables, grills, trash cans, deliberately. No open fires, etc.



Remote Control boats – loud and dirty with fuel mixture. Controversy – and no previous policy on ponds.

Fishing – ponds are not stocked. Before flood, people would throw random fish into ponds. That could be very hazardous to health of ecosystem.

Conflict between kayakers and lines, for instance, could happen.

Upper pond – fishing is prohibited, and there is no access there.

Greg – naming this a River PARK is a problem, “Natural Area” would have been better. Yelena – signs can still make a difference for this issue, make it look like a Nature Preserve area. This can work on the upper pond.

The lower pond – swimming will be allowed. Not in Upper Pond.

Fishing in either pond is not allowed at this point.

We should institute a dawn to dusk policy as well, since there will be no lighting.

Trident security will be coming through here as well as LaVern and Bohn.

They are the first point of contact.

Date – most likely a moving date, but mid-August is possible for being ready to open to public.

2. LOG Update

a. Prelim money, attendance, impression by attendees

Meeting tomorrow 6/11 with AdventureFit for more detail. 3120 tickets were sold, most to date. Estimate over 4500 total people in attendance. Working to get revenue and expense numbers. Positive comments on music, and a lot of social media presence and regional/local media. Professional photography available on Adventure Fit and Burning Can.

b. Post-mortem

Chris – did not think messaging on this was that good – kayakers may be pulling away from us, low water cancelled events. Their websites talked about this. Dead links on Google for this event. Lyons Outdoor Games did not have a strong presence, it is all about Burning Can and not the games.

Dave – agreement was that it is Burning Can at Lyons Outdoor Games. 3 year contract. Also, since flood, it's been difficult due to lack of parks/ponds. Basics of LOG not there. On kayakers, not much we could do about low water. Chris feels that Burning Can has taken over the name and marketing, and maybe that is acceptable at this time.

St. Vrain Water Commissioner needs to approve a release of water – and they won't if that water is not able to be stored or benefitted from. This could be a perennial problem.

This storage issue downstream has gotten much more serious and strict. This takes working on in January and February. Recreational water rights



are NOT something we have, unlike Durango or other areas.

3. Lyons Outdoor Games Kayak competition discussion

- a. Should we adjust the date of Burning Can to align better with peak flow averages?

No – we are doing the best we can, it's an anomaly.

- b. Can we work with Longmont and/or water commissioners to help ensure this competition can continue?

Relationship is fine with these entities, and we will stay on track as we are now. Can Oskar Blues help with that? Unlikely – it's not the city of Longmont that makes these decisions.

We will try to keep communications improving.

4. Flood Recovery Project Updates

- a. Skatepark update

1. Progress

Pour on verticals is done, and decks are being poured now.

Irrigation Mainline for Bohn Park phase II is happening. Internal irrigation is coming in the next couple of weeks. Early September work should be completed. Pump house may take longer, and the custom Pavilion could create a slow-down.

Some of the area will be native grass, or bluegrass/perennial rye grass. Pure native grasses are difficult for people to use (multi-use fields.)

No update on 2nd Ave bridge – finalizing design. New town engineer – will be a consulting firm. Final selection this week.

There is also a request out there for a Utilities Director.

2. Future maintenance issues - ie. graffiti - try to stop it, or work with skaters to make it nice.

Graffiti is part of skater culture, and we could embrace this.

Channel it to make it quality and controlled. Dave – build or designate a special area for this if we do it. Trying to stamp it out could make things worse, while giving skaters some responsibility for policing themselves could improve the situation.

Cameras will be installed in LaVern park soon, and Bohn later.

Veronika – modeling for young children? Is this working with the idea of a natural park environment? How does this mesh with public art?

5. Traffic Calming at Recycling Center

This will remain non paved – will be road based, graded, rolled. Mid to end of July.

Recycle entrance is directly across from Bohn Park entrance, and people shoot



across in vehicles without stopping. Can we put speed bumps to slow people down before they get to stop sign, so they obey it? This is a safety issue for kids and others on walkways across these entrances. Dave will bring this up with staff. Pedestrian safety signs should also go in. Second Ave. Bridge project will replace west side sidewalk. The goal is to start that in the fall.

6. Partnership with Leave No Trace

Yelena – LNT is a non-profit organization. It would be a great idea for us to be a partner of theirs. \$150 per year gives us logo use and support with signage, and has an internationally recognized icon. Respect Wildlife is one – Pack it In, Pack it Out is their slogan. We have worked with them on events, but don't have this partnership yet. They also have a great education program, Traveling Trainers – for kids and adults. They come to class rooms.

Dave is receptive to this. Let's continue dialogue on this. LNT.org. Based in Boulder.

IV. **Meeting Actual End:** <8:00 PM>

V. **Post Meeting Action Items**

| Action | Assigned To | Deadline |
|---|---------------|------------|
| <Action Item> | <Assignee> | <mm/dd/yy> |
| Checking on County Buy Out properties – status? | Dave Cosgrove | |
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VI. Decisions Made

VII. [Document any decisions made during the meeting]

VIII. **Next Meeting**

County properties on Apple Valley

Dog park shallow end?

IX. Next Meeting: <Depot> <July 8th, 2019 > <6:00 PM>