The regular meeting of the Foothills Park & Recreation District was held at Peak Community and Wellness Center, 6612 South Ward Street, Littleton, Colorado 80127.

I. CALL TO ORDER: Director Bradley called the regular meeting to order at 6:05pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director Bradley led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

III. ROLL CALL:
- Director Maulik: Present
- Director Bielkiewicz: Present via conference phone
- Director James: Present
- Director Sutton: Present
- Director Bradley: Present

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ronald Hopp, Executive Director; Paul Rufien, District Counsel; Derek Eberhardt, Manager of Recreation Facilities; Patricia Parkin, Director of Administrative Services; Colin Insley, Director of Parks Planning and Construction; Tom Woodard, Director of Golf; Barb Butler, Manager of Recreation Programs; Richelle Riley, Recording Secretary; other Foothills staff and members of the public.

Potential conflicts of interest were disclosed pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 18-8-308(2), 24-18-109(3)(a), 24-18-110, and 32-1-902(3).

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Director Maulik moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve the February 24, 2015 agenda as submitted. Director Sutton seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

V. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 27, 2015 MINUTES:

MOTION: Director James moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve the minutes of the January 27, 2015 board meeting as submitted. Director Maulik seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

VI. COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

A. Staff Introductions – Children’s Programs

Amber Stow introduced Leslie Green who has been hired on as traveling site director and travels between all the different sites. Kendy Doolen, our new site director who will be working at our Hutchinson location and running our Kids on the Move Camp was introduced as well as Abbie Myers, our new site director who will be placed at Ute Meadows during the school year and on our Teen Camp in the summer.

Jonah Davis-Bigelow introduced Angela Gajefski, our new All Day Care and Preschool (ADCAP) teacher. Also introduced was Beth Burke, our new ADCAP teacher housed at Ridge Recreation Center.

Community comments regarding the BMX issue were prefaced by Director Bradley’s instruction for how they will take place, and a brief overview by Ronald Hopp.

Mr. Hopp reminded the Board that this has been a discussion of this Board and this agency since 2011, and over the course of the last three years it was an agenda item or part of discussion through updates in the executive director’s report. Mr. Hopp indicated the Board approved a license agreement with Mile High BMX on February 28, 2012. The site was selected based on the fact that it was part of the site approval process in 2005 for Schaefer Athletic Complex which allowed this type of use. In addition, the infrastructure is already in place, Mr. Hopp explained. Mile High BMX had submitted a grading plan to the County in which part of the County process
is that they notify individuals within a certain radius of the site. It raised some concerns for some individuals who were notified and they appeared before the Board of County Commissioners on February 3rd. We had received that feedback from the County, reached out to those individuals, and subsequently scheduled a meeting on February 19th where close to 40 people attended. Mr. Hopp expressed appreciation to Directors James, Bradley and Bielkiewicz for attending that meeting. He mentioned the conversation was mostly in opposition. Mile High BMX board members were at the meeting to talk about the project.

Mr. Hopp observed that at that meeting there were some personal attacks. There was a lot of finger pointing at one of our staff members, Colin Insley, about being deceitful and lacking integrity. For the record, Mr. Hopp emphasized that in the seven years he has been with the District, he knows there isn’t anybody here that would be more honest and have more integrity than Mr. Insley.

Kevin Nielsen, who will be operator of the track, said there is nothing around for kids that don’t do organized sports and this is something where individuals can come and be a part of something.

Earl Watkins, who lives across from the park, said he is opposed to all the lights and the dust they will get from the wind coming off from the field. Any encroachment on their property he feels is a detriment to their land.

Pam Courtney, who lives across the street from the park, expressed concern with losing her view and is concerned that there will be 1,500 people there with not enough parking.

Linda Olmstead, who lives across from the park, expressed concern that the proposed bleachers will be right in front of her window, and expressed concern about dust and prairie dogs coming into her yard.

Chris Holodny distributed an information packet to the Board. He noted some of the community present tonight may not want to speak, but their presence says something by itself. Mr. Holodny talked about an existing track 18 miles away, and talked about the parking lot at the proposed BMX track site.

Chris Schumacher said he has been track operator at a couple different tracks in the Colorado BMX community; it’s one of the tightest knit communities he has been around in sports and athletics. Mr. Schumacher talked about how the tracks are well maintained.

Jim Herdener acknowledged the kids need this but it has got to be in the right spot, and talked about traffic at the proposed site.

Bill Shaw said he has been a part of the group that is trying to find a location for the track and is very pleased with this location. He said they tried to follow the rules and this location has been slated for a BMX track since 2005. Director Bradley ascertained that if there were no lights at the track, it could exist.

Matt Semko said BMX is a very family oriented sport. The BMX community is not rowdy or disrespectful in any way.

Burch Pinkerton talked about bicycles on the access road and people parking on the roadway, and traffic issues; it becomes a dangerous situation.

Bill Turner, a member of the board of directors for Mile High BMX, pointed out that currently a BMX track does not exist in the District, the next closest track is 18 miles away and beyond that, the next track is in excess of 50 miles. They are offering an amenity where there is already sports traffic, sports lights, like minded people and like activities. He talked about having fenced in unstructured parking within their confines that would hold about 40 spaces.

Lawrence Hamel mentioned BMX is a very small community. The 1,500 number is one weekend a year. Only a couple times a week there would be extra traffic.

Colin Hancock said he is for the track for convenience in location.

Gino Wilson said putting this track four miles from his house would allow his son to probably reach his goal, and allow kids who can’t go 18 miles to a track to get involved.
Carol Turner expressed favor for the BMX track; it’s fun, it’s exercise, and it’s healthy.

Eric Bress expressed favor for the BMX track, and understands the community that’s there and the encroachment that they feel. He suggested it is an outstanding sport for the community; it fits a multitude of categories of kids that might or might not be able to be involved in a team sport.

Marrian Herdener asked about the plans for the prairie dogs, and talked about traffic issues.

Andy Glass said he is for the track and understands the residents who live near the complex. It is not going to be open all the time, it’s going to be controlled and it will be a good thing.

Richard Gordy said thousands of people use the Frisbee golf course – catering to 150 people doesn’t seem logical.

Director Sutton observed it sounds like we have a parking situation out there already, should we be addressing that? Mr. Hopp acknowledged that it is a busy complex; it is a matter of scheduling, and explained. Regarding parking on the frontage road, Mr. Hopp said we have not heard of that being an issue. There was discussion about the existing disc golf course. Director Bradley asked if it would be potentially possible to move the BMX track to Fehringer Ranch. Mr. Hopp indicated there is land there – it is not currently zoned for that. It would go through a new site approval process with the County because it’s not part of the master plan. Mr. Hopp talked about County approval requirements, and indicated there is no infrastructure in place, no water, no electricity, and no parking. There was discussion about location.

In answer to Director Maulik’s inquiry about the agreement, Paul Rufien said it will need to be reviewed. Director Bradley expressed there have been a lot of points that have been brought up and would like to know more about Fehringer with the County as well as have staff look at some of these other issues that have been brought up, particularly in terms of mitigation. In answer to Director Sutton, Mr. Hopp explained there are no lights in this project. He said there would be less dust associated with the BMX facility than the current facility. Director James described an expanded parking scenario and asked what cost impact it would be to the District and how many spots we would need on a maximum event type of day to get traffic away from Garrison, Ithica and Jefferson. Director Bradley concluded this can be considered and brought up at the next board meeting, including legal issues.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Clean Energy Collective Proposal/Agreement

Mr. Hopp indicated we continually look for opportunities for saving energy consumption. We feel this Clean Energy Collective community-owned solar array is a great opportunity for the District, not only to mitigate costs, it will also be part of a public green project, as detailed in the packet. Using a power point presentation, Kevin Morse of the Clean Energy Collective provided details of how community solar works and specifics of the proposal. He pointed out a benefit with the community solar is the fact that it is an off-site solution, and the arrays are maintained by Clean Energy Collective. Mr. Morse answered questions from the Board and explained their warranties and insurance. He mentioned there are about 314 panels remaining in the Jefferson County array; about 73 kilowatts, $258,000, and said the first year we could expect about 13 percent return on our initial cost investment. We will recoup the initial purchase price in less than seven years. Referring to the proposal, Mr. Morse also pointed out the environmental benefits.

Mr. Hopp discussed we could take the $258,000 from reserves and mentioned other options. Given the ROI, the fact that over 20 years we will have savings of $720,000, Mr. Hopp suggested we could justify spending $258,000. Board discussion ensued and questions were answered. Mr. Hopp mentioned we could have been the first to do this about three years ago. At that time we didn’t have the comfort level but we’ve seen other governmental agencies do their due diligence and see that they are satisfied with the service.

MOTION: Director Maulik moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 15-003 authorizing the Executive Director to execute all required Clean Energy Collective and Xcel documents as required subject to review by Legal Counsel as discussed. Director Bielkiewicz seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.
B. GOCO Grant Application

Referring to the memo in the packet, Colin Insley said last fall we applied for a grant from Jefferson County Open Space as part of the Clement Park redevelopment project for the irrigation system and possibly look at some additional projects if funds could become available. Since that time, thanks to the Board, we could contribute $1 million to the Local Government grant and thanks to Jefferson County Open Space Advisory Committee and also the Jefferson county Board of County Commissioners who agreed to support that grant with $1 million. Early on, Mr. Insley said staff met with representatives from Jefferson County and also Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) at Clement Park to see if there could be some possibility for a grant to provide additional funds to go to the park in the first phase of the redevelopment. Of the project possibilities that were looked at, rebuilding of the children’s fountain was chosen, Mr. Insley explained. A possible concept drawing along with the GOCO grant application was included in the packet. Mr. Insley indicated we would be applying for a grant for $350,000 from GOCO to match funding as outlined in the memo.

MOTION: Director James moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 15-004 for the purpose of submitting a grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the Spring Local Government Grant round to seek additional funding for the Interactive Water Feature at Clement Park. Director Maulik seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Purchase & Sale Agreement Wadsworth & Columbine SWC

According to the attached memo, Mr. Hopp gave a brief history and status of the six parcels of property for potential sale and development since May, 2011. He noted we have had fairly minimum interest in the southwest corner of Wadsworth and Columbine; there are some challenges with that site from a development perspective. Mr. Hopp explained we have been marketing it on our own, have received an offer and have finalized a negotiated Purchase and Sales Agreement. If it is approved by the Board it would go through a full county process, Mr. Hopp explained. Mr. Rufien has reviewed the contract. Mr. Hopp explained it is with a different company name but the same developer that we are under contract with on the northeast corner of Coal Mine and Wadsworth.

MOTION: Director Maulik moved that the Foothills Board of Directors authorize the Chair of the Foothills Park & Recreation District to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the SWC of South Wadsworth Blvd. and Columbine Drive as discussed subject to final approval from District Staff and Legal Counsel. Director Sutton seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

B. Execution of County Documents

Mr. Hopp indicated that for the Simms and Ward parcels and also for the northwest corner of Wadsworth and Coal Mine the County had asked for a specific resolution authorizing the executive director to sign whatever documents come available to execute this process. Attached is a resolution to do the same for the northeast corner of Wadsworth and Coal Mine as well as the southwest corner of Wadsworth and Columbine that was just approved.

MOTION: Director James moved that the Foothills Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 15-001 and Resolution No. 15-002 authorizing the Executive Director to execute County documents related to these parcels as discussed. Director Sutton seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Adding to the attached memo, Mr. Hopp said we want to install lights at the Foothills Sports Arena (FSA) and there is a process we are going through now to install some lights in that parking lot. In order to get maximum coverage, we needed slightly higher lights than what the site approval process would allow which was a 20’ parking lot light. We are asking for a variance to allow for 28’ parking lot lights. That is going before the planning commission tomorrow night
and it required a notification process. They are not going to be putting them in the parking lots with the intent of illuminating the BMX track. They are for safety at FSA.

Mr. Hopp indicated he was contacted by Gina Writz, the proponent for prairie dogs, several days ago. She wondered if there are prairie dogs at the BMX track and at the Columbine parcel. Mr. Hopp mentioned about 70 people attended the job fair; Director Bradley observed it was very professional and well done.

Mr. Hopp reported he had a meeting and a phone conversation with Darrell Windes, who is the manager of Ken-Caryl Ranch Metro District. Regarding conversations that were had about the joint dog park project, Mr. Hopp and Mr. Windes talked about locations and the desire for Ken-Caryl is still close proximity. Mr. Windes’ thought is that Sledding Hill Park is a great site because it is adjacent to Ken-Caryl, which has no sites to consider. When we had the conversations about joint effort, neither agency had any funding available to commit to that. Concerning a potential joint application to Jefferson County Open Space, we have committed to a three-year moratorium. The earliest Ken-Caryl felt they could commit any funding towards a joint dog park was the fall of 2016 when they might pursue a Jefferson County Open Space grant which would realistically put the project into 2017. Mr. Hopp said both agencies are open to advocacy or community groups who would want to tackle that type of project and we would be more than happy to cooperate with those efforts especially if they brought funding to the table, and we want to promote that fact. Mr. Hopp suggested maybe the Board consider endorsing the fact that a dog park would be beneficial to our communities and ask if there are entities or individuals will to spearhead opportunities for raising funds. Based on that, Mr. Hopp said they felt it is not necessary to have another public meeting. If we just promoted the fact that if there are groups or individuals who want to do that we would be happy to talk with them.

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Clement Park Core Building

Mr. Hopp prefaced his power point presentation saying had the mill levy been successful, the core building at Clement Park is definitely an item that we would have addressed. We have been talking about efficiencies related to this building for many years. The building is sinking, there are efficiencies that need addressed, our funding mechanisms have not allowed us to do so. Mr. Hopp acknowledged it has come to demise and discussed how we arrived at that, some short term operational solutions, and some long term thoughts. He pointed out the engineer’s Ball Field Building (Core Building) Structural Observations and Report is included in the packet. Going over determinations from the report, Mr. Hopp said because there is a risk to public safety if the building remains open, their recommendation is to not occupy the building any longer.

We are right around the corner from opening ballfields and utilization of the park with an expectation for a provision of restrooms, and concessions somewhat. Staff feels strongly that our revenues from leagues and tournaments will be potentially significantly damaged if we don’t provide some sort of short term solution for restrooms and concessions. Mr. Hopp detailed some short term solutions that we are likely going to pursue for concessions which include the vendor obtaining a trailer, and for restrooms which include trailer rental or purchase. Concerning long term solutions, Mr. Hopp talked about findings from the engineer’s report and went over next steps.

Mr. Hopp recommended we need to close the building and move forward with the short term solutions which is the concessionaire trailer, working with our vendor to accommodate his needs. We also need to accommodate the restroom facility and it is staff’s recommendation to pursue purchasing the trailer. It’s an asset we can utilize internally and possibly sell it down the road. Staff believes that we should consider hiring an architect to look at the two long term options. If we decide to move forward with either a retrofitting of the existing building or replacement of the building, we could utilize funds from reserves to address the problem. We could utilize anticipated land parcel proceeds from the northeast corner of Coal Mine and Wadsworth to address the problem. We could use future SB-35/land development fees to address the problem, Mr. Hopp explained. We could wait for a potential mill levy election for revenues to address the problem, or we could use a combination of all the aforementioned funds to address the problem. Board discussion ensued. Director Bradley suggested we look at redoing the whole building and make it better for the way we work today rather than how it was when it was built 30 years ago, and in the mean time, close it. Director Sutton agreed to get an architect and look at the building’s functionality. Director Bielkiewicz agreed that the...
way it is, it is not very functional and this is an opportunity to do something good with it. There was discussion about impact to revenue streams during construction; Mr. Hopp discussed how we could try to mitigate those impacts. The Board agreed the way to proceed is to go ahead with the architect, go ahead with the buying of the trailer and closing the building.

B. Finance Update

There were no questions from the Board, and no need for discussion about the finance update through January 31, 2015 as presented in the packet.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Personnel Matters per 24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S.

MOTION: Director Maulik moved that the Foothills Board of Directors move into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402(4)(f). Director Bielkiewicz seconded the motion. Poll of the Board: Director Maulik, aye; Director Bielkiewicz, aye; Director James, aye; Director Sutton, aye; Director Bradley, aye. The motion was approved.

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:06pm. Executive Session started at 9:11pm and ended at 9:23pm. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:23pm.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm. The next regular board meeting will be held at 6pm on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at Peak Community and Wellness Center, 6612 South Ward Street, Littleton.

Submitted by:

Richelle Riley. Recording Secretary