

**TOWN OF NEDERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:
March 15, 2011, 7:00PM**

NEDERLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
750 Hwy 72 Nederland, CO 80466

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 7:04 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sumaya Abu-Haidar, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Gierlach, Trustees Rob Joseph, Chris Perret, Kevin Mueller, and Marci Wheelock. Trustee Keith Nowicki was absent.

Also present: Alisha Reis, Town Administrator, Teresa Myers, Town Clerk, and Town Attorney Carmen Beery.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of March 15, 2011 Accounts Payable
- Approval of March 1, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Trustee Mueller, seconded by Trustee Perret, and approved unanimously.

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Alisha Reis, Town Administrator

Reis had one addition to her staff report, concerning a new draft of Resolution 2011-03, with some minor changes for the Mayor's signature. The Board agreed to the changes.

2. Teresa Myers, Town Clerk
3. Eva Forberger, Town Treasurer
4. Ken Robinson, Town Marshal

5. Hank Richardson, Public Works Manager

Trustee Wheelock had questions concerning the clean-up of Frozen Dead Guy Days, particularly in Chipeta Park, around the playground equipment.

6. Dawn Baumhover, Community Center Coordinator

E. BOARD OF TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Mueller reported that the Planning Commission had discussed the sidewalk enhancement plan and would be forwarding comments to the Board.

Trustee Perret reported that the Sustainability Advisory Board met with Scott McCarey from the Boulder County Department of Transportation about a community eco-pass. The County is willing to subsidize 60% of the eco-pass initially, and is working to encourage Eldora to also support the pass. The community would be defined as the Library District or the Fire Protection District. At first, only the N route would be included, but plans are underway to include the Skyride, as well.

Trustee Wheelock reported on the next Art at the Center, which will be a late afternoon tea focusing on youth and seniors. The show will feature art from children and seniors only, and all the elementary school students have been invited. The CCFB is also looking at Direct TV broadcast events in the auditorium for special events, such as the Super Bowl, March Madness, or the British Royal wedding. The CCFB is also working to bring bingo to the community center at some point in the future.

Mayor Pro Tem Gierlach announced that the next PROSAB meeting is next week.

Trustee Joseph reported on the DDA crosswalk slogan contest, the results of which will be announced on Thursday. The winning design will receive a \$100.00 NedBucks certificate. The DDA is also requesting a work session with the Board to receive guidance on which projects to prioritize. There was nothing to report from the Chamber of Commerce. The Mayor's Economic Development Task Force has completed its preliminary recommendations to the Board with suggestions for improving the Nederland economy. The Task Force considered the Envision process

and amended its recommendations to reflect that consideration, and hopes to bring the report to the Board on April 5th. The Chamber of Commerce will be reviewing the report on March 16th. The Chamber board will be reviewing the report on March 16th and the DDA board will discuss it on March 17th. Finally, the Town website announced the report on March 14th while making electronic copies available for citizen review and comment.

Mayor Abu-Haidar updated the Board regarding the Envision Nederland 2020 process. Fundraising has yielded \$4800.00 in donations, plus Town contributions in the amount of \$2500.00. The group will now go about hiring a facilitator to work on finalizing the results of the community meetings, but may not be able to afford to conduct and synthesize the results of a survey as they had planned. Digital photo projects are being conducted at the high school and the elementary schools, and the Community Storybook project is also on-going. Envision Nederland will be meeting again on March 28th.

The Mayor also reported that the Town is still in the running for a grant from the Front Range Roundtable for a significant amount to address fire mitigation. Town officials will be involved in an “interview” with members of the Front Range Roundtable on April 26th.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Speakers limited to 3 minutes)

There was no public comment.

G. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Board of Trustees Goals Update
2. Mayor’s Proclamation concerning the Nederland Community Library

The Mayor presented the Nederland Community Library Board with a proclamation of appreciation for bringing a beautiful, functional, and sustainable facility to our community. She thanked each member of the Facilities Committee by name.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion of Public Works vehicle purchase/lease plan.

Reis explained that the funds to be used for this purchase plan have been earmarked from the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and that some of the previously delineated sustainability goals around vehicle purchases were not met with this plan due to fiscal and other considerations. Public Works Manager Hank Richardson was on hand to address questions about this plan. Trustee Mueller asked why diesel vehicles weren't considered, and Richardson explained that a couple of Town residents have severe chemical sensitivities and he was trying to account for that. Trustee Joseph asked about some of the mechanical features of the vehicles, and the Mayor Pro Tem asked if any of the Town fleet could be used to haul slash to assist in and encourage wildfire mitigation efforts.

Town staff was directed to proceed with the purchase and lease plan, and the Board thanked Richardson for his research and thorough report.

2. Discussion of Resolution 2011-08, concerning special event parking fees in public parking lots.

Reis explained that the goal of the resolution is to recoup some of the maintenance expenses on public lots in Town, all of which are heavily used during special events and incur additional damage as a result. Trustee Joseph explained that special event organizers will not be required to charge the fees, but could work with local nonprofits to do so. He noted that he envisioned that 20% of the fees collected would go to the Public Works maintenance budget. Trustee Wheelock had some questions about the fee structuring and parking lot staffing. Trustee Joseph and Reis explained how the 80/20 fee split was set, and that the non-profits receiving the benefit of the fees would be obligated to staff the lots. Mayor Pro Tem Gierlach talked about the wisdom in keeping the resolution broad and relying on the Administrator to hammer out the details, including ear-marking the collected funds. Trustee Perret made some suggestions about measures to insure collected funds were properly accounted for, and to provide the parkers with some verifiable receipt of their payment and their right to park in a given lot. Trustee Mueller raised questions about how to actually manage the parking situation and charge fees for

special event parking, regardless of where they park.

Alicia Larsen, 502 N. Bridge Street, talked about parking on Bridge Street and the likely tendency of visitors to park on the streets, blocking driveways and streets, before they will park in the lots. She reminded the Board that neighborhood roads are narrow and could easily become blocked because the visitors will shun the lots even more than they do now. Finally, she believes that an 80/20 split is not fair to the Town considering the wear and tear that special events take on the Town.

Randy Lee, 171 E. First St., spoke on behalf of the Town's non-profits, and told the Board that if they want the nonprofits to staff the lots, they need to make it worth the non-profits' time.

Gail Eddy, 14 Sundown Trail, called the resolution "a good start" and noted some changes that she thinks should be made to the resolution, particularly in terms of being inclusive of community members who do not live within Town limits. Finally, she argued that a 50/50 split would be more appropriate given the infrastructure needs of the Town.

Trustee Joseph explained that his motive in bringing forward this resolution was to begin a conversation on this issue and to begin to develop a policy around it, after years of non-specific discussion.

Trustee Wheelock reminded the Board that the special events in Town are varied and it is better to remain flexible and allow the event coordinator and Town Administrator to fit the parking plan to the event.

Trustee Perret noted that the Town needs to know the actual number of public parking spaces available in Town in order to construct appropriate parking plans. He also noted that when parking is seen as profitable, many private individuals are likely to turn their yards into parking lots.

Trustee Mueller stated that he is against ear-marking the money for a particular budget and that he strongly feels that we should consult with another municipality

or individual with experience developing parking plans for large-scale events. Finally, he suggested that charging in public lots should not be implemented until there is also a plan to charge for street parking, so that visitors do not park up the neighborhoods streets.

Mayor Abu-Haidar agrees that ear-marking would be a mistake and that, when the item comes back to the Board, it should be accompanied by the forms and the policies that the staff will be using to develop parking plans with event organizers.

The Board agreed that no funds should be ear-marked and staff needs to provide more firm plans to address the neighborhood parking issues and the accounting issues.

3. Discussion of emergency access to and from the Community Center through N. Fifth St., West of Bridge St.

Reis explained that the Fire Chief and Town Marshal both have strong concerns that the back gate be open during large events at the Community Center to facilitate better access to and from the Community Center parking lot during emergencies and crises.

The Trustees asked questions concerning the existing access and the necessity for having the additional access. The use of signage designating the area as a emergency access area and better training of event volunteers to handle emergency situations in the Community Center parking lot were discussed.

Linda Glasser, 490 N. Bridge St., spoke about the promise that was made to the neighbors surrounding the Community Center regarding use of the gate only for emergency access purposes. She asked for clarification of what will be considered a “large event” and who will be responsible for closing the gate once it is open. She noted several problems and concerns associated with increased traffic on Bridge St., including noise, pollution, and the presence of two deaf children in the area. Glasser asked that if traffic is to be increased on Bridge and Fifth St., the streets need to be paved, speed bumps installed and better road signage placed.

Alicia Larsen, 502 N. Bridge St., asked about the practicalities of using the gated throughway for an emergency entrance and an emergency exit. She noted that the street signage at the bottom of the hill is not clear that there is no Community Center access from Bridge Street.

Trustee Mueller noted his concerns that the management of parking in the parking lot greatly impedes emergency vehicle access to the Community Center. He explained that he doesn't see enough reason to change the way the gate is currently used.

Trustee Wheelock spoke to the need for better signage and training of event staff, but does not think the gate should be kept open for all special events.

Mayor Pro Tem Gierlach wants to see the signage and access improved to allow for emergency vehicle access and potential evacuation.

Corporal Larry Johns and Public Works Manager Hank Richardson were on hand to offer multiple suggestions for Board consideration in place of and in addition to keeping the gate open.

Trustee Joseph agreed that no major changes need to be made, but thinks placement of emergency exit signs, designation of an emergency fire lane, use of a high-backed curb, and more specific training for theater and event staff would be advisable. If resources permitted, he reiterated the Mayor Pro Tem's suggestion of parking an emergency vehicle in the gate to preserve the use of the egress in emergencies. Finally, he stressed that the Community Center Foundation Board should be encouraged to move forward with expanding the main ingress and egress near the West Wing.

The Mayor agreed with Trustee Joseph, but also noted that the Boulder should give due consideration to the concerns of our safety officials. She reminded the Board that the main driveway ingress and egress issue will receive attention as part of the West Wing renovations.

The Board directed staff to compile and review the various options discussed in order to address the concerns of the Fire and Police Departments.

4. Discussion of Adopt-a-Park program.

Mayor Pro Tem Gierlach explained the origin of the program concept and how it would be administered and asked for Board guidance in creating a resolution to implement the program.

Trustee Mueller questioned how the program would work when special events used parks and who's responsible for clean-up post-event. Scott Hammers, PROSAB member and the program designer, was available to answer questions. He and Town Clerk Teresa Myers explained that the event organizers would be required to work with the Town and park adopters to restore the park to a reasonable condition. Hammers clarified that both parks and trails would be available for adoption, as well as possibly the cemetery and R.I.N.K.

Mayor Abu-Haidar asked who would administer the program – Town staff or PROSAB? Staff and PROSAB members will have on-going conversation about this and report back to the Board.

The Trustees unanimously supported the concept of the program and asked that staff develop a resolution for Board consideration at a future meeting. The Trustees directed that the resolution include the one-year adoption period, training for volunteers, and the presence of a sign recognizing the adopters.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration of Ordinance 692, concerning proposed sidewalk display permit amendments.

Myers explained that the ordinance before the Board incorporated the Board's request that a sidewalk definition be included.

Motion was made by Trustee Joseph to approve Ordinance 692, seconded by Trustee Wheelock, and approved by a vote of 5 to 1 with Trustee Perret abstaining due to

being called out of the room. He later expressed his verbal support for the measure.

2. Consideration of appointment of Kris Larsen to the Planning Commission.

Motion to appoint Kris Larsen to the Planning Commission was made by Trustee Perret, seconded by Trustee Mueller, and approved unanimously.

J. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Wheelock thanked Randy Lee for donating his time to help her get her Town email working. He spent a considerable amount of his personal time rectifying her IT issues.

Trustee Joseph encouraged the Board and Town Hall to continue to involve different local caterers and vendors, if possible, for Board and Town sponsored functions.

The Mayor asked for Board interest in conducting a work session with the Front Range Roundtable prior to the Board's April 5th meeting to discuss the Roundtable fire mitigation grant. The Board would also spend time reviewing and discussing Board meeting procedures.

The DDA has requested a work session with the Board, and the Mayor asked for the Board's sense of whether now is the best time to hold the work session or to wait until the Envision process has been completed. The Board agreed that the work session would be more appropriate following the completion of the Envision report.

Trustee Perret questioned a large check reflected in the Accounts Payable report, and Reis explained the reason for the check and from where the funds would be drawn.

Mayor Pro Tem Gierlach apologized to the Glassers for their frustrations around the use of the Community Center emergency gate and explained that each Board is capable of undoing promises made by previous Boards, so this Board can't promise that these conversations won't occur again in the future.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Perret, seconded by Trustee Mueller, and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 PM.

Approved by the Board of Trustees.


Sumaya Abu-Haidar, Mayor

ATTEST:


Teresa Myers, Town Clerk

