

## *INC PARC NOTES for January 20, 2015*

INC PARC (Park and Recreation Committee) met January 20 at 6 p.m. at Brookdale University Park (formerly called Heritage Club), 2020 S. Monroe Street. Present were co-chairs Maggie Price and Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Hank Boots, Nancy Francis, George Mayl, Kathleen Wells, Patty Ortiz, Sonia John, Cindy Johnstone, Marlene Johnson, Ronnie Crawford, Susan Bardwell, Greg Sorensen, Bridget Walsh, Louis Plachowski, Kathleen Rust, Jay Rust, Diana Helper.

Katie reported that at PRAB (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board), DPR asked for two reps from INC PARC, and two from PRAB, to be on a committee working to add to DPR rules and regulations items requested by the Park Rangers. Other items may be requested dealing with sound, wildlife, trees, safety, etc. Discussion centered on need to know this committee's process, and need to have a series of work-sessions with feedback. PARC will send a letter to DPR's Jeff Green asking for clarification. Hank and Cindy offered to attend a first meeting.

PRAB also talked about new mountain bike sites at Ruby Hill and elsewhere, the need of more bathrooms in parks, and the hours parks might be open to the public.

Cindy presented a statement on Washington Park Passive Recreation Use Areas Amendment to Park Use Rules and Regulations and Administrative Citation Rules and Regulations. This will be on the PRAB agenda February 12, and groups from RNOs are encouraged to attend and speak to this request that there be marked park areas for sports, and for general (passive) use by the public, especially at the park's busiest times. If this is accepted, residents near other parks will have a precedent to request as well. Those present decided that there was not time to draft a motion, vote, and get it to the full INC membership for vote before the next PRAB meeting. To speak at PRAB, one must sign in at 5:15 p.m. Comments then will be on record at PRAB. Proposed regulations can be found here [http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PRUA\\_Regulation\\_12-18-14.pdf](http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PRUA_Regulation_12-18-14.pdf)

Jay stated the need for a complete study of the Park Ranger program, including which parks may be under-served, and the likely need for a larger number of Rangers.

PARC's draft of Questions for City Council Candidates was presented. PARC members are asked to rank questions by order of importance, adding other questions as well, and email to Cindy by end of weekend. Maggie will send out separate email to INC PARC regarding the questions. Feedback must be received by the weekend of Jan. 24. Greg offered to help chart the replies when they have been received. Proposed questions can be found here [http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/DRAFT\\_2015\\_park\\_questions.pdf](http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/DRAFT_2015_park_questions.pdf)

Hank stated that City Park Friends and Neighbors have found the support of PARC very helpful. A neighborhood advisory committee is being planned with neighbors of the park, zoo and museum reps. There are many questions regarding the zoo's gasification project, which appears to be an industrial use in a park zone. Bridget and Nancy have troubling information, and Bridget has filmed a short program which can be seen on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?x-yt-ts=1421782837&v=s-2LfLeMmVg&x-yt-cl=84359240> or on the front page of [denverinc.org](http://denverinc.org). PARC will reach out to the Zoo and ask them to provide speakers again on this topic for a future meeting (March)

PARC members agree that park water is an important topic to continue to study, and are urged to email other major topics to consider this year to Maggie and Katie.

Jay said Park Designation is in Phase 6, to conclude by April, and mentioned a number of ways in which the PARC members of this DPR committee have greatly helped with the process.

Susan spoke about Emerald Ash disease in parkways and private property. This is also a parks topic as Forestry is under DPR. Her next EA meeting is in Feb. For info visit [www.denvergov.org/forestry](http://www.denvergov.org/forestry).

Next PARC meeting Feb. 17, with Katy Strascina Executive Director, Office of Special Events –

*Diana Helper, PARC member*