

Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board

Agenda

**October 4, 2023
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:30 PM**

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to **+1 408 638 0968 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)**, Webinar ID # 885 1622 9475
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: www.louisvilleco.gov/pplab

The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at AMcneal@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- VI. Staff Updates
- VII. Design Concepts Playground overview
- VIII. Board Updates
- IX. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

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X. Adjourn

Parks & Public Landscaping

Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2023

Library Meeting Room

951 Spruce Street

6:30 PM

- I. Call to Order – Co-Chairperson Laurie Harford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call

Board Members:

Laurie Harford (Vice-Chair) – present
Ellen Toon (Chair) - present (remote)
Cynthia Corne – present
Shannon Mihaley - present
Patricia Rogers - present
John Webb (Acting Secretary) - present

Board Members Absent:

Signe Buck (excused)

Staff Members Present:

Abby McNeal (Parks Superintendent)
Bryon Weber (Project Mgr. Louisville)
Adam Blackmore (Director P&R)
Bryce Linn (Horticulture Supervisor)

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Guests:

Eric Spring (Design Concepts, Lafayette)
Carter Marshall (Design Concepts, Lafayette)
Deb Fahey (Mayor Pro-Tem)
Sherry Sommer (Louisville, Mayoral Candidate 2023)
Randy Carnival (Louisville Resident, son of Joe Carnival (Joe Carnival Park))

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved yes Seconded yes Passed - unanimously

IV. Approval of Minutes

Moved Laurie Seconded Cynthia Passed - unanimously

Laurie as “Vice-Chair” to be shown in Minutes, necessary for consistency with other Louisville Advisory Committees

V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Sherry Sommer running for Louisville Mayor, with the priorities of increasing communication with Advisory boards, Community Sustainability, Affordable Housing

VI. Staff Updates

Bryce Linn – Supervisor Streetscapes Horticulture. Bryce has an amazing background in horticulture and applications of mycelium (aka: fungal species)! Lived, studied, and worked previously in Kansas and Denver, enabling communities to restore soil and increase sustainability by with modern soil and municipal waste

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management techniques (including mushrooms). Previous project for City Denver, filtering reclaimed water, reducing nitrates and salts in that have become hazardous to city and residential plantings of conifers. Other projects include Microbial processing of food waste, mitigation of reduction of beet blight and powdery mildew on agricultural and landscape plantings.

Staff priorities for Bryce include current renovations of golf course and median work, cleaning up neglected areas, adding horticulturist to staff. Favorite project in Louisville: Via Apia and McCaslin area, found out that there is a giant spring and in the immediate area, a possible resource for the street scape.

Other comments:

Ellen noted three trees located east of Louisville Public Library suffering, may be dead or dying

Deb Fahey asked about Fire Hazard mitigation in parks. What can the use of native plants contribute to fire reduction/resistance for Enclave and Sunflower parks, and neighboring open space areas?

Parks Dept. will select plants rated for {USDA} vegetation zones and fire resistance, continuing to add to our plant list, and employing mycelium to mitigate slash on open space.

Question regarding sourcing of native plants? City is focusing on gathering seeds of native and heirloom plants, indoor seed starting at city greenhouse under construction, linking to downtown businesses for food waste as resource for soil improvement.

Staff reported Hwy 42 improvements project funding at 60%. Cynthia updated PPLAB on Hwy 42 expansion, multiple

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improvements planned, State and Local Highway/Street involvement, from Steel Ranch to Empire Rd. See project scope in City Council packet from last night. Objectives include safer routes for bicycles. Project not starting this year (looking at 2024).

City Budget to include item for additional support staff member for communications team.

Continuing maintenance efforts for Right of Way and Median pruning of Dead/Dying ash trees along S Boulder Rd and Cherry St.

Stinging “bees” at playgrounds a reported problem.

Mayoral candidates should communicate with City Clerk rather than board members for specific issues.

Next Tuesday City Council will delve deeper into budget issues, with meeting to be held in Library Meeting Room, reviewing budget and work plan, 6:00 p.m., next Tuesday.

PPLAB awarded Kudos to Parks Dept. for communication with Louisville community during removal of historic cottonwood tree at Dillon and 88th, and installation of two replacement trees.

Parks and Public Landscaping Advisory Board member suggested returning families need additional communication.

City of Louisville Service Finder button can be found on city website, upper right-hand corner. This is where community can report problem/issues related to trees and bushes, burned out trees or landscaping remaining in place.

City is applying for matching grant for natural disaster reclamation at Enclave and Sunflower parks. First pass at information and initial

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application have gone well. This would be a great boost to recovery of these parks and facilities.

VII. Design Concepts Playground overview

Carter Marshall (Design Concepts, Lafayette) presented a summary (supported by exhibits in PPLAB Meeting Packet).

Remediation of fire damage and facility improvements at Joe Carnival and Meadows parks. Design elements are pretty well-established design at this point:

Joe Carnival Park – Good structural bones to work with. Low-key, smart design aesthetic will keep existing trees in place, with no major modifications, focusing on playground replacements.

Hardscape areas and shelter in design are unchanged, expanded play footprint. Play equipment to be updated, including ADA harness swing and traditional slides and swings (which the community enthusiastically requested). Playground to include more natural style play and materials, with stumps and boulders as play features, spinner play equipment with rubberized under structure. Existing swing set to be moved closer to plaza, local elevated area to create hill slide area for smaller folks. Will refresh landscape, with expanded Play Area and Willow Street plantings.

Worked to be within Parks budget along with Meadows Park.

Comments from PPLAB: Accessibility overlay needed, could park include sensory/sound features, meditation areas, double swing, mini-labyrinth or stones, include art in the park? Meditation space appeals to wide age range, including aging adults in the population. On play structure, metal slide if used, needs to be shaded. Kids love the Little Digger toy. Randy Carnival requested Tulips around the park sign, a family favorite.

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Ryan Weber noted that trash cans would be relocated from play area to move dog waste disposal facility away from Play and Shelter areas!

Plantings to feature ornamental grasses, landscape beds, hoping to preserve and pass roses forward, enhance look and feel of existing beds, no new beds, but using more appropriate plants.

Design not final, cost estimates need to be applied, looking to receive General Contractor estimates. Reclamation Budget approved by Council, so if we are under budget, no need to go back to Council.

Accessibility will be preserved and enhanced in final design.

City Council member Most, communicating with Deb Fahey, Mayor Pro-Tem, noted that this park hasn't been touched in 30 years, so it has priority, let's do it right, keep vision clear, prepare for future.

Meadows Park – A little more straightforward. Plaza area, hard scape remains in place, no additions. Play pit layout unchanged, group swing to be refit for ADA use, new seesaw feature, ADA accessible. Play structure, clubhouse, future nature play area, logs/boulders, different grass regime, shaded areas theme.

Basketball court repainted, adding three point line, with possible painting for other uses. Seating benches added, enhanced landscape beds like at Joe Carnival Park. Annual plants (a frequent community "Ask") for color in addition to water-wise and native perennials.

Other features include Swings, 2 for school age and some bucket swings for little kids, observer seating near play areas.

Trash cans to be located away from play and shelter areas.

Path has been added to enhance accessibility, along with rubberized play spaces.

Board Comments on Meadows Park Design: Looking to have integration of sand play area, Little Digger feature a favorite!

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Laurie offered a motion for a Vote of Confidence for the Design Concepts plans for Joe Carnival and Meadows Parks, Ellen seconded, PPLAB Vote of confidence unanimously approved.

VIII. GOCO Support letter – Action item

Great Outdoors Colorado program – presented by Bryon. GOCO Grant is specific for fire reconstruction of Sunflower and Enclave parks.

Grant could be as much as \$500K, to be matched by Louisville. Louisville worked through preliminary round, has prepared requested items: Narrative of project, Council affidavit of previously approved capital funds, letters of support from residents and PPLAB.

Parks Dept. and Council support the Grant application, working on design, may see approval in early December. GoCo committee has provided good feedback.

Motion to approve PPLAB Letter of Support by Laurie, Seconded by Patricia, Motion unanimously approved.

IX. Board Updates

Bee City

John (and Josh) attended Louisville Planning Board meeting 2 weeks ago, spoke in favor of Lighting Ordinance (Dark Sky) on behalf of our night-flying cousins, 5 other community comments were presented, Planning Board approved ordinance for submittal to Council.

Resource Central Gardens in a Box were picked up Friday, Aug. 25th at Stazio Fields. Currently folks can sign up for Garden in Box for delivery in spring 2024. Resource still offering free 200 sq ft gardens for Marshall Fire replanting.

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John and Helen attended Native Seed Collection workshop at Louisville Library, presented by Peggy Hansen, Front Range Chapter of Wild Ones Native Plant Society

Labor Day Parade needs a Louisville Bee City contingent, possibly also an information booth at Memory Square! The Bee City QR sign was at Memory Square Park but could be more prominently displayed at an information booth.

Outreach to Schools – Patricia has prepared a letter to elementary schools with details about the Pollinator Art Contest and other possible school programs.

X. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Cynthia is interested in exploring intersections with other committees, improving communications between Advisory Boards and City Council members.

Procedures to report problems to City Departments and Staff

Budget follow-up

Ginger will be available in Oct/Nov for meeting with PPLAB

Master plan update coming in future

XI. Adjourn

Moved yes Seconded yes Motion Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

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Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board

Bee City USA Subcommittee

Agenda

September 6, 2023

Louisville Library Board Room

951 Spruce Street

5:30 PM

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- I. Meeting Called to Order
Chair John Webb called the meeting to Order at 5:34 PM

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- II.** Roll Call
 - John Webb, PPLAB, Chair
 - Josh Cooperman, SAB
 - Susan McEachern, OSAB
 - Jean Morgan, Community (absent, excused)
 - Helen Moshak, OSAB (absent, excused)
 - Amy Yarger, Butterfly Pavilion (Acting Secretary)
 - Signe Buck, PPLAB (absent, excused)
 - Abby McNeal (Staff Rep, not present)
 - Patricia Rogers (PPLAB)

- III.** Approval of Agenda
 - Amy Moved Susan Seconded Passed - unanimously

- IV.** Approval of Minutes
 - Patricia Moved Josh Seconded Passed - unanimously

- V.** Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
 - None

- VI.** Staff Report
 - None
 - A new senior horticulturist, Bryce Linn, has been hired for the City of Louisville – He will be introduced at today’s PPLAB

- VII.** 2023 Work Plan Discussion and Review

Mosquito Control vs. Pollinator Protection

General discussion regarding poor knowledge of current practices and request for additional information from Parks Department (check City website for Integrated Pest Management program)

Pollinator-Friendly Planting Initiative

Can we promote and execute a series of talks aimed toward informing our community about Pollinator-friendly Re-planting?

Sponsor a January Public Event_– Speaker program “Best Practices for Water-wise and Pollinator-friendly landscaping”
Possible speakers from CSU extension, Butterfly Pavilion, Resource Central

Amy will reach out to Michaela Truslove at CSU, Boulder County, seeking an hour-long program at the Louisville Public Library, Rec Center, or Louisville Art Center; 3rd week of January, according to her availability (Wed or Thurs evening).

Amy is available for a February program (or January if Michaela can't make it).

Northern Water presents its home landscape design palettes, possibly in March?

Possibility a community presentation by the new senior naturalist about pocket prairies and city initiatives?

Our presentations should include a survey for feedback – seeking suggestions for future topics, asking if attendees are willing to volunteer and share their email address or other contact information.

Other events

The Bee City team could hand out stickers (featuring kids' artwork), wear pollinator gear at the Labor Day parade/ Fall Festival in 2024. This would probably be a better venue for a booth than Taste of Louisville.

Farmer's Market Pollinator Outreach, Spring, 2024 - Bee City could also have a booth during Farmer's Market in June (maybe during Pollinator Week, 3rd week in June), perhaps with a plant giveaway; need suggestions for materials – plants and seeds to give away, landscaping plans from Northern Water, display framed pollinator posters, "Design-a-habitat" felt cutout activity for walk-up kids, distribute flyers (or QR images) from Resource Central for Fall Gardens in a Box; **Amy will send PDF of native bee guide to John;** paper handouts or QR codes (can we capture people's email so we can follow up?)

The Eco-tober event will be at Community Park, another possible venue – Sat Oct 7, 2-6 pm (Josh will be helping with the sustainability booth at this event). **Susan and Patricia are available to staff the booth.**

Northern Water is putting together landscaping plans for Marshall Fire rebuild/replanting homes – a great resource to share in the next Louisville newsletter (Ginger) and as flyers during the Fall festival.

Banning Gas-powered equipment (Josh – SAB report)

Louisville Parks Department waiting for better heavy duty equipment, but has made significant purchases of smaller equipment.

August 29 Native Seed program at Library (Helen, John)

Peggy Hanson from Wild Ones offered a great program that went over the "how to-s" and the ethics of collecting native seeds.

People and Pollinators Action Network group (Josh)

PPAN's Bumblebee Bash Friday September 8th – maybe do something like this as a possible Friends of Bee City social opportunity?

Amy will send information about the Colorado Pollinator Summit to John.

Local Pollinator/Honey Festivals

John shared information about upcoming local bee festivals: the Bee+ Boulder Festival, the Niwot Honey Festival (**John will share with Ginger to share on social media**)

Library and Colorado Native Plant Society plant exchange, Spring 2024 (Jean)

John will reach out to Jean for an update

Local School Program, Pollinator Art Contest Patricia

Student designed Pollinator gardens, Centaurus Eco-Warriors (Patricia, Josh, John)

Patricia shared a proposed letter about the 2024 pollinator art contest; can include other educational outreach information in the letter. **Patricia will share link to artwork with Bee City team.** We will need a release – John will ask Abby and City Attorney about the legal issues

Seed Paper making project, with BoCo Parks and Open Space, October (Susan)

Susan has spoken with Janet (BoCo Open Space) and they are looking for a time and venue, most likely in late October. An outdoor venue with a weather backup location would be best – the Rec Center could fit 40-50 people; supplies (from BoCo) are limited! **Susan will find out how many paper-making frames are available via BoCo.**

VIII. Budget and Funding Options

John will be working on this for next meeting

IX. Louisville Dark Sky Ordinance (Josh, John)

Josh and John attended Planning Commission meeting last week. Six or seven community members spoke in favor, none opposed,

Planning Commission approved ordinance to pass on to City Council; there were questions about expectations of Commercial facilities. John shared his great experience at Westcliff, a Dark Sky community.

X. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

John will work more on the budget.

City Council may look at Dark Sky Ordinance on Oct. 2, a Monday evening meeting, not confirmed.

Report on what herbicides/pesticides are currently being used in Parks and Open Space, and policies around chemical application. Louisville uses a IPM (Integrated Pest Management) strategy. Are there any initiatives we can recommend to the city? This is a possible topic for a newsletter article. **John will ask if someone can come present to this committee.**

XI. Adjourn at 6:25 pm

Patricia Moved

Amy Seconded

Passed unanimously

Image from local pollinator garden (Can you find the hard-working Pollinator? And what plants are they working on? :<}



Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board Bee City USA Subcommittee

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- III.** Approval of Agenda
- IV.** Approval of Minutes
- V.** Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- VI.** Staff Report
- VII.** 2023 Work Plan Discussion and Review
 - Mosquito and Insect “Pest” Control vs. Pollinator Protection
 - Pollinator-Friendly Planting Initiative
 - Speaker program
 - Eco-tober event will be at Community Park, Sat Oct 7, 2-6 pm
 - Northern Water landscaping plans for rebuild homes
 - Library and Colorado Native Plant Society plant exchange in the Spring
 - Local School Program, Pollinator Art Contest
 - Seed Paper making project, with BoCo Parks and Open Space, October
- VIII.** Budget and Funding Options
- IX.** Louisville Dark Sky Ordinance, report from City Council Meeting

X. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

XI. Adjourn at 6:25 pm



2023 PPLAB Work Plan

December 1, 2022

Priority	Program Area	PPLAB Recommendations
	Community Entryways/ HOA	Review maintenance responsibilities for community / HOA entryways Recommend Design and plants palate
	Median Renovations and Playgrounds Projects	Review and support design process for Tiered median and playground projects- McCaslin, Via Appia, Dillon/St Andrews and Playgrounds in Joe Carnival, Meadows, Enclave and Sunflower (feature)
	Bee City USA	Signage, education outreach, renewal application
	Parks and Open Space Sale use Tax	Sales use tax sun setting in 2023 collaborate with OSAB on supporting renewal
	Cottonwood Park Master Plan/Parks Master Plan support	Not currently in the 2023 budget; could be standalone request
	Parks Signage	Prioritize park sign replacement and upgrades
	Arboretum	Provide input on upgrades to Arboretum and replanting of trees

Requests are in no order of priority.