



DRAFT AGENDA

TOWN OF LYONS

March 11, 2019 6:00 PM

Parks and Recreation Commission

Town Hall

1 ATTENDANCE

**VERONIKA GAIA, CHRIS COPE, IAN BRIGHTON, DAVE COSGROVE, GREG LOWELL,
RANDY POLLARD, YELENA HUGHES, LAVERN JOHNSON**

FAYE MARSHALL – ECOLOGY BOARD

INTERESTED PARTIES ON WEED ISSUES

2 AGENDA

- **Bohn Park Phase II Skate Spot Public Process Update/Preferred Alternate and PRC Recommendation**
- **Alternate 3** – Preferred by consensus of attendees
Ian – can we do music on the skate park? (If the outdoor classroom area goes away...)
– yes, seems possible.
 - Consensus at last meeting was Option 3, getting it done in a more complete and efficient way.
- Cost between \$60,000 and \$72,000 for half pipe addition with possible railing.
 - We could find the money for this new Option with Conservation Trust money as well. Fundraising initiatives could replenish that fund.
 - Funds of about \$41,000 could come from taking out plan for outdoor classroom.
 - Site work – would need some changes and additions surrounding. Another \$29,000 needed to Walsh Construction. This could come in a change order, zero net change.
- Dave feels this is a good compromise between the much larger original proposals and smaller ideas.
Ian – will it add more maintenance? Dave's answer is no, it will take 10-20 years before maintenance needed. We do not need to reseal for some time.

2) Lyons Integrated Weed Management Practices policy discussion-Ecology Board recent process update/recommendation-PRC recommendation

- In response to public concern, Mayor Sullivan gave approval last spring for Ecology Advisory Board to form a subcommittee to study weed management issues in Lyons with the goal of establishing a weed management protocol. Many concerns had been brought to Town staff and BOT over use of chemicals to control weeds. The EAB solicited volunteers and formed a subcommittee in June 2018. The subcommittee revised the Town's existing weed management policy and the EAB approved it



earlier this year. **The new policy still must be approved/revised by Town staff and BOT.**

- Members of the weed subcommittee were present to present their recommendations to the PRC.

The subcommittee asks for an “application” to be used for synthetic weed control, mostly for record keeping.

The subcommittee also asks for longer period for posting dates, including entry on Town website.

- Sub Committee – SOS Weeds Group “responding to public outcry” for safe weed control..Tess McDonald presenting.
 - Kelly , new member of group, has brought new examples to the subcommittee. Implement phased, measured approach - Integrated Pest Management such as Boulder city recommended.
- **Sub committee has questions for us, and presents these ideas:**
 - Willing to help educate public. Still needs budget information on costs of programs
 - Still need soil surveys, mapping of problem areas.
 - Want PRC to think of them as a resource.
 - What seed do we use? Etc.
 - Cost will go down over time.
 - Succession (of plants over time)– Cultural – need to build soil health. Composting...keeping nutrients in system.
 - First year – high quality seed and high quality fertilizer. Healthy soil is less vulnerable to weeds. This will take 4 or more years to come to full strength.
- 5-3-2 Poultry Organic waste, through RichLawn Turf Company, Platteville. Corn Gluten (?) a weed inhibitor.
- Biological – weevils eat bindweed. Weedwacking, timely mowing.
- Budget – swap out chemical costs with quality seed and fertilizer. Volunteers, and workshops once a month.
- No more glyphosate anywhere – Like City of Boulder.
- Proposing we accept agreement for insurance, and then use a measured phased approach on the aforementioned areas.
- Coco – would like a tour on the areas of most concern. Dave is working on this with county.



History – Dave:

We have only sprayed once a year – treatment concentrated on hardscape areas. Last year, we got complaints on Lavern Johnson park about weeds and contractor warranty was still in effect. Lawn care services needed to be done to keep insurance activated. That was a one time event.

We normally use aeration, deep watering, top dressing and over-seeding as normal practice in high impact and youth areas. IGA with School District demand we perform weed control. Also, HOAs and business district want weed control from us.

Last year in Lyons, we did mimic Boulder County Parks and Open Space plan – but we also needed to spray. Requested Green dye use by contractor. We do not have in-house certification – we hire contractors.

COSTS:

- All of areas treated with chemicals or fertilizer was about \$9800.00
- Organo Lawn, in contrast, \$15,695 for same area. That's only fertilizer. Their Spectacle low-toxicity weed preventer was \$8000 some. LJP, Sandstone, Multiuse, downtown toward Planet, (not mulched) and 300 block to U-Pump It.
- Contractor in Bohn Phase II is in control for another year. Ball fields will add a lot of square footage.
Greg – can we find funds (parking fees?) to help cover cost for Organo Lawn methods?
- Organic treatments are generally more expensive, for sure in the short term.
- For noxious invasive species, we have to work with county and private homeowners as well. Need to mesh practices.
Dave is looking to complete flood recovery done. Ian – let's not add more bureaucracy unless and until it's clear what we need to say in binding agreements. We are stretched for resources, still working on project management for flood recovery.

Dave – a pre-emergent needs to go on now. We need to schedule this. Our goal is to get plan in place for BOT meeting on 18th.

- Dave has agreed verbally to use Organo Lawn techniques on turf areas of Lavern Johnson Park and some other turf areas. He will also avoid using toxic chemicals in Baranway area or in riparian areas.
- For 2019, Parks Department will use natural lawn care service for turf areas only but still use recommended lower toxicity herbicides for hard surface areas: gravel, trails, mulch beds.
- Noxious weed protocol in legal agreements with Boulder County will remain in place.



There will be ongoing discussion on possible “pilot program” areas for Weed Subcommittee to work with their volunteers and experiment with more organic methods. This further discussion could involve exact location and time frame of this potential program.

Discussion between Commission members on whether to approve document now, wait, or ask for changes...

Chris – we should approve now, let’s move ahead. Ian – review it this month, but make it easier to manage for Parks Dept.

Dave – we need to be compliant with town code, which follows county and state code.

Veronika – we are still in flood recovery mode, and aberrations happen due to contractor actions.

Dave – commitment to use Organo Lawn on turf high use areas. Group is doing a lot of the work here.

Vote ensued on Eco proposal. See below.

- Main concern was that Town of Lyons staff be able to act in timely manner to address weed issues without having to ask for approval from small citizen group, or Ecology Board. With this general agreement in place, we will all be working toward the same goals in good faith.
- Vote of approval dependent on the following:
 - Approval for weed mitigation is required from Town Manager, with notification to Ecology Board. Permission or Approval for weed treatments rests only with Town Manager and staff, not Ecology Board.
 - Dave Cosgrove is comfortable with extra steps of documentation.

3) Drone Policy BOT Workshop

- Reviewed by town attorney. He is prepared to do workshop for BOT in April on these issues. April 1 or 15th.

4) Ped. Bridge Updates

- Got Safe Routes to School Grant! For FOURTH AVE bridge. We need to go through design, floodplain, and funding projects on north bank stabilization. 2020 for project.
- We have also gotten approval for 3rd Ave Bridge, abutments approved by FEMA.

Fourth Ave more important, more desired by Confluence residents and more...how will BOT balance these? Doing both would be great, but money issues and other priorities make this difficult. We’ll need plan on trail through Stacy property – that is a maintenance burden.

Fourth Ave bridge should be a priority. Maybe 3rd Ave would not have to be ADA accessible.

SRSG also includes sidewalk ...Ian wants to get involved on that.

5) Flood Recovery Project Updates

- LVRP moving along well. Upper pond shaped and formed. Lower one – completing shaping. Landscape will start soon. Trails beginning on upper side. October hole terracing will get redone. Decreasing slope. Engineer and contractor need to get



together and make it happen without town having to get too involved. Should be done before this year's run-off.

- Bohn Park Phase II starting end of March beginning of April, as well as stream work. No ball season 2019. 2020 yes.

6) PRC Member Positions/voting

Ian – Unanimous vote for Chair person.

Chris – Unanimous vote for Vice-Chair

Claudia – Unanimous vote for Secretary

3 MEETING END

Meeting Actual End: <8:15 PM>

4 DECISIONS MADE

- **Decision 1**

Recommendation of Ecology Board's document– for 2019 use. (Town of Lyons Integrated Weed Management Plan, Approved by the Town of Lyons Ecology Advisory Board 1/15/2019)

6-1 yea

- **Decision 2**

PRC recommendation vote to support Alternate 3 Skate Spot in Bohn Park Phase II. Unanimous Yea.

- **Decision 3 - Voting**

Ian – Unanimous vote for Chair person.

Chris – Unanimous vote for Vice-Chair

Claudia – Unanimous vote for Secretary

5 NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: Depot> <Apr 9> <6:00 PM>