



City of Colorado Springs

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER WORKING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Location: 1628 West Bijou Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Date: September 19, 2024

Time: 2:00 p.m.

I. MEETING ATTENDANCE

- a. Members Present: Justin Trudeau, Liz Lopez Vaughan, Susan Baldwin
- b. Members Absent: Ann Petit, Judy McKay-Harbert, Nancy Bernard, Kathy Perry, Tena Jelinek
- c. Alternates Present: Margie Valin
- d. Alternates Absent: Sarah Grant
- e. Parks Advisory Board Liaisons Present: Greg Thornton
- f. Staff Present: Jamie Bequette, Felicia Barnhart, Anna Bingman, Mark Snow, Young Shin

II. CALLED TO ORDER

Committee Chair Justin Trudeau brought the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements at this time.

IV. CITIZEN DISCUSSION

There was no citizen discussion at this time.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

- a. Motion: To approve the August 15, 2024 meeting minutes.
- b. First: Justin Trudeau
- c. Second: Liz Lopez Vaughan
- d. Approved, unanimously.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items on this agenda.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentation items on this agenda.

VIII. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Working Committee Strategic Plan

a. Community Survey

1. Committee Chair Justin Trudeau distributed samples of the survey to fellow Committee members.
2. When it comes to the vision for the Center, Committee members don't want to set a tone of "where the Center is" versus "previous operations," but rather try to gauge what the community would like to see for the future of the Center in regards to programming and operations. Committee Chair Justin Trudeau thinks focus groups could help develop conversations about this.
3. There will be 200 paper copies of the survey at WestFest, as well as a QR code to link to take the survey.
4. Next steps after the survey will be to conduct a strategic plan. However, Committee members agreed to conduct focus groups and wait to dive into the strategic plan until after the holiday season.

b. WestFest

1. Committee members will be covering in shifts.
2. Morning shift members can fill up the goodie bags.
3. Committee Vice Chair Liz Lopez Vaughan has a gift card to give away for taking the survey.
4. Committee Chair Justin Trudeau made a layout for the event, weather permitting.

IX. STAFF UPDATES

Facility Operations: Campus ADA /Roof and Gutter/HVAC Improvement Update; Staffing Update; West Elementary/Middle School Birthday Bash – October 11, 4 to 7 p.m.; Pumpkins in the Park – October 19, 12 to 4 p.m.; programs and leases update

- a. Jamie Bequette, Program Administrator, and Felicia Barnhart, Park Operations Administrator, provided the following updates:

1. A contractor has been selected for the HVAC improvements and will be announced soon. The Center will stay open as much as possible, though there may be some intermittent closures during construction. The project will begin with the roof, gutters and ADA improvements first.
2. Jamie introduced Albert Jaramillo to the Committee. Albert is a Maintenance Technician II, and has been with the Department for many years throughout the various community centers and the City Auditorium.
3. Other seasonal positions are moving through the HR process.
4. West Elementary and Middle School are celebrating their 100th birthday on October 11th from 4 to 7:00 p.m., and Jamie asked if anyone would like to help with a table/booth at the event. Committee Vice Chair Liz Lopez Vaughan volunteered to help.
5. The Old Colorado City Association is hosting Pumpkins in the Park at Bancroft Park on October 19th. Jamie is still looking for help running a table or booth, and will provide supplies for a craft and games. Committee member Susan Baldwin and Parks Advisory Board Liaison Greg Thornton volunteered to help.
6. Jamie Bequette provided an update on programs and leases.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion: To adjourn the Westside Community Center Working Committee meeting at 2:49 p.m.
- b. First: Justin Trudeau
- c. Second: Greg Thornton
- d. Approved, Unanimously