

**DOUGLAS COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2026, PUBLIC MEETING**  
**9651 S QUEBEC STREET, LITTLETON, CO 80130**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:29 p.m.

**a. Roll Call**

**PRESENT**

Amanda Budimlya, Chair  
Lynn Moffett, Vice-Chair  
Collin Cacchione  
Charisa Smaldone  
Kristy Thomas

**ABSENT**

Sean Duffy  
Jessica Johnson

**STAFF**

Steve Shoultz, CPRE, Assistant Director, PT&BG  
Nick Giauque, Parks Program Manager  
Arielle Denis, Assistant County Attorney, Remote  
Megan Grandsard, Parks Business and Financial Administrator  
Luke Thornton, Parks Program Coordinator  
Morgan Morehart, Parks Operations Manager

**GUESTS**

Jay Sage, Chair, County Open Space Advisory Committee  
Eric Sprint, Design Concepts

**b. Approval of the Agenda**

Amanda Budimlya asked for a motion to approve the February 11, 2026, Public Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Approve the January 28, 2026, Public Meeting Agenda.

MOVER: Lynn Moffett

SECONDER: Charisa Smaldone

RESULT: APPROVED

AYES: Kristy Thomas

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: Collin Cacchione

**c. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Amanda Budimlya motioned to approve the January 28, 2026 Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Approve the January 28, 2026 Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

AYES: Kristy Thomas, Charisa Smaldone, Lynn Moffett

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: Collin Cacchione

## **2. Citizen Comment**

Only general comments will be accepted at this time. Comments related to specific topics will be accepted when those topics are discussed.

No citizen comments.

## **3. Honoring Larry Ziegler**

a. The Board reflected on Larry Ziegler's service and life, noting his long tenure on the Parks Advisory Board (original appointment January 12, 2016) and his decades of pastoral service in Castle Rock. Staff and members shared personal remembrances, including his community focus and love of Castle Rock. Recognition Action (informal): Staff proposed installing a memorial bench in Larry's honor (Parks Division to cover pad and bench), with a suggestion to embed a symbolic brick from his longtime collection into the bench pad; location to be thoughtfully selected with input from Parks Advisory Board and, potentially, family.

## **4. Other Business/Discussion**

### **a. Highland Heritage Regional Park - Playground Replacement**

Staff and the consultant described planned upgrades to the playground area and restroom facility, including an accessible, inclusive design, consolidated grand entry, Plaza overlook, potential tower/bridge play structure with ramp access, relocation of the existing shelter, repurposed fitness equipment, synthetic turf play areas, and new restrooms with multiple individual rooms and covered seating. Targeted construction start in fall 2026, weather permitting, with a goal to open by spring soccer season the following year.

### **b. Review of By-Laws**

Staff walked through proposed edits to the Board's bylaws. Highlights included: updating references to the Parks & Recreation Department; changing "chairman elect" to "vice chair"; allowing 48 hours' notice to reschedule regular meetings; capitalization/formatting clean-up;); discussing Democratic Rules of Order vs. Robert's Rules of Order (consensus favored retaining Democratic Rules for informality and ease of use); and adjusting bylaw amendment threshold to majority vote rather than two-thirds. Approval of changes will be scheduled for the next meeting; the Board also discussed streamlining future amendment processes to allow introduction and approval within a single meeting.

### **c. 2025 Parks Advisory Board Annual Report**

Staff presented the draft 2025 Annual Report for Board review. Members expressed strong support for the format, readability, visuals, and succinct synthesis of Board input. The Board

agreed to provide any final feedback via email; if changes are not substantial, staff will proceed.

**d. BOCC Parks Updates**

Staff is reviewing synthetic turf replacement options, meeting with vendors and comparing materials, installation methods, maintenance requirements, safety testing, costs, and newer infill alternatives; field visits and data analysis will guide the final selection. The 2027 budget process has begun, and Board members are invited to suggest maintenance and capital needs for the upcoming five-year plan. Volunteer activities have restarted, including a Boy Scout cleanup at Bingham Lake, and the annual Dougnad event is scheduled for April 24, 2026. Staff also reported progress on Zebulon project negotiations with KT, with a BOCC work session scheduled next week; engineering work is expected to begin in spring while program and design efforts continue in parallel.

**e. COSAC Updates**

Members referenced recent land use actions by the BOCC, including rezoning related to the Zebulon area and enhancements to the wildlife buffer (now referred to as the Louviers Conservation and Wildlife Corridor), as well as roadway improvements and studies (e.g., widening/ingress/egress on key routes including US-85). Members also noted recent barbed-wire removal efforts and complimented staff on park upkeep.

**4. Adjournment**

Amanda Budimlya asked for a motion to adjourn the February 11, 2026 Parks Advisory Board Public Meeting.

MOTION: Approve to adjourn February 11, 2026 Parks Advisory Board Meeting

MOVER: Kristy Thomas

SECONDER: Lynn Moffett

RESULT: APPROVED

AYES: Charisa Smaldone, Amanda Budimlya

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: Collin Cacchione

**The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.**