

CARA Minutes – February 2010

Date & Time: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 10:00am

Host & Location: Golden Community Center
1470 10th Street
Golden, CO 80401

- I. Recognition of Host:** Jill thanked the City of Golden and Becky Richmond for hosting this months CARA meeting. Becky welcomed us and mentioned that they have renovated the building since the last time we met and offered to show everyone around after the meeting.
- II. Roll Call: Full Members (23):** Apex, Boulder, Brighton, Broomfield, Colorado Springs, Denver, Evergreen, Foothills, Golden, Highlands Ranch HRCA, Highlands Ranch Metro, Lafayette, Lakewood, Longmont, Louisville, Loveland, Northglenn, Parker, Reunion, South Suburban, Thornton, Wheat Ridge, Windsor
- Associate Members (0):**
- III. Associate Member Updates:** none

Jill asked Annette Hoepfner from Colorado Springs how things were going down there. Annette reported that all pools and community centers will be closed as of March 31. Sports are being audited for cost recovery every 60 days and have lost 30 positions. Therapeutic Recreation is getting help from US Para-Olympics to cover their costs so they are good as of now. Forestry was moved to Fire. All trash cans in the parks have been removed and users are being asked to pack out all trash. Parks cut all the chemical budget, so no fertilizer, etc. and will cut watering down to likely once a week. 1/3 of the outdoor lighting has been turned off. Some retired businessmen have come in and offered to help the City. It's very touch and go right now.

- IV. Introduction of Guests:** Denver introduced an intern working for sports
- V. Approval of Minutes:** Lenore Knox (Boulder) motioned and Bob Bullock (Parker) seconded that the minutes be approved as sent. Motion passed
- VI Reports and Discussions:**
- A. Adult Sports – Lenore Knox (Boulder):** no report – will have a meeting within the next couple of months.

Lindsey from Foothills asked what everyone's policy was on illegal bats for adult softball – if they are older than 2000 and don't have a BPF 1.2 stamp are they legal or not? Jill Nunes (Highlands Ranch Metro) said that she lets the umpires make the decision, if it is obviously an old, cheap bat, they are legal. Butch Reich

said that in South Suburban, if the bat doesn't have a stamp, they are not legal – mostly for consistency. Bobby Warner (Windsor) said that they don't check bats any more because they use the new balls from USSSA (12" - Classic M, COR of 40 or less and a compression of 325 pounds or less). Other agencies use the USSSA legal bat list.

- B. Gymnastics – Misty Gowdy (Commerce City):** Laura Rocchio from Foothills reported for Misty that the committee is finalizing the meet schedule. They are having problems finding a gym to host the state meet, but are still working on it – there are so many competitors, that it can't be held in a small gym anymore, because of seating issues for the spectators and big gyms are not readily available. The committee will meet Monday, February 22 at 12:00pm in Commerce City.
- C. Hershey Track – Marc Rademacher (Ft. Collins):** Reed Davis (South Suburban) reported for Marc that the Hershey state meet is in Fort Collins on June 19. An email has been sent to all previous local hosts on how to register a local meet – he will send a snail mail to all who haven't registered by the end of February. Marc sent out letters to 44 agencies in Colorado who haven't participated in Hershey, hoping they will host a meet this year. Posters and other marketing materials will be available at the March CARA meeting in Boulder. The committee will meet in conjunction with CARA Track on March 2 at noon at CB & Potts on 120th.
- D. Tennis – Michele Crouse (Apex):** no report
- E. Track – Reed Davis (South Suburban):** The committee will meet on March 2nd at noon at the CB & Potts on 120th to discuss meet hosts, the coaches meeting and training and the upcoming season. Three new agencies have expressed interest in being part of CARA Track – Evergreen, Highlands Ranch Metro District and Boulder.
- F. Youth Volleyball – Nicole Stehlik (Castle Rock):** the committee will meet at Whitlock Recreation Center in Lakewood on February 25 at 1:00pm.
- G. Youth In-Line Hockey – Becky Richmond (Golden):** the spring season will begin the end of March. The scheduling meeting will be after the CARA meeting in Boulder on March 17 – please bring teams and rink availability to the meeting. Three new agencies have expressed interest in maybe joining in on the season.
- H. Youth Sports – Bobby Warner (Windsor):** there will be a committee meeting after this meeting to discuss the Youth and Adult Sports Surveys, Continuing Education Units and a presentation at conference.

- I. PP&K – Mike Sexton (Pueblo):** check out the story in the CPRA By-Line about this year's state competition.
- J. NSC – Brian Magnett (Northglenn):** Sectional competitions started last weekend and will finish by the first weekend of March. The state competition will be March 20th at Metro State, with tickets to the Milwaukee/Nuggets game later that night. The next committee meeting is March 3 at 5:30pm at Brooklyn's.
- K. RSC – Katie Kilbey (Lakewood):** the Rockies are giving the program \$2,500 again this year (earlier commitment than last year). The donation from the Rockies helps, but it doesn't pay for everything – we still need support. If you know of any business that might be interested in helping out, please let Katie know – they could get their logo printed on the shirt given to all finalists and recognition at the state finals. We have to make new certificates this year, because the Rockies have a new manager. There was suggestion that the hosting agencies download the certificate and make copies. Let Katie know if you have ribbons from previous years, so that she doesn't have to have as many made. Jill is afraid that the \$30 fee to agencies may keep some from hosting a competition because of the economy. At the April CARA meeting in Lakewood, Katie will hand out all the local competition goodies. We're hoping the state competition will be on August 14, with tickets to the Brewer game afterward.
- L. Fundraising – Marc Rademacher (Ft. Collins):** Marc is still working on the Poker tournament – the logistics are very sketchy. With that said, the committee is thinking of upping the suggested donation amount to Water World (June CARA meeting) to \$10. If you have any other ideas for a fund raiser, please contact Marc.
- M. Financial Report – Jayna Lang (Lakewood):** not much new, a report will be included with the minutes. Committee Chairs, please make sure that you are paying all your bills on time and stay on top of your budget – watch it closely and don't spend unnecessarily.
- N. CPRA Update – Dana Redford (Loveland):** Dana reported that:
- ◆ the board met at the end of January – the budget is doing better.
 - ◆ CPRA is implementing a new fee for credit card payments – a \$2 transaction fee will be added to all transactions.
 - ◆ CPRA would like to increase their awareness for their 60th anniversary – if you have suggestions, let Dana or Stephanie know.
 - ◆ Ashley had her baby, his name is AJ – mom and baby are doing well.
 - ◆ 2010 scholarships are now available and can be applied for on the website homepage – the deadline is April 15.

- ◆ The Directors are hosting a Leadership Forum in Evergreen on May 6 & 7.
- ◆ Several members reported on the Rocky Mountain Revenue School recently held – all reports were fantastic, the information was very focused and informational, the networking opportunities wonderful and the regents are very beneficial, active and approachable. Kudos to Katie from Lakewood for setting up the entertainment.
- ◆ The CPRA Board is very high on CARA
- ◆ The section meetings are open for anyone to attend.

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Newsletter Update:** Robin from Wheat Ridge reported that the newsletter is coming along and looks good – she needs to get agencies website addresses and an athletics/sports contact person so that she can put their contact information in the newsletter.
- B. Rule Book Changes** – have been sent to CPRA. Steph will get them put on the webpage soon.

VIII. New Business:

- A. CARA Sports Survey – Youth and Adult** – addressed in the Youth Sports discussion

IX. Discussion Items:

- A. Skate park Group/Section** – Reed reported that he is the contact, but the section is not active. We can put events on the CARA page and be a sounding board. There was discussion.
- B. Scheduling Software** – Lindsay Peterson (Foothills) asked what scheduling software other agencies were using. RecTrac and RecWare were the most common. HRMD uses QuickScores – it costs \$6 per team, but is easy and does everything you need it to and very adaptable to what your needs are. There was discussion.
- C. Drop-in Sports Programs** – Lindsay Peterson (Foothills) asked if anyone offers drop-in sports. Longmont offers drop-in indoor soccer – it has been very successful, typically drawing between 30 and 40 participants each Sunday night – the cost is \$5 per person, the only cost is a gym supervisor. Lakewood offers peewee drop-in sports and gymnastics for \$5 per session for 3-5 year olds. Longmont offers an organized playtime for kids and parents with various activities for \$2 per 2-5 year old.
- D. What are our roles in fixing America’s problems?** Reed Davis (South Suburban) said that Recreation is what benefits people – it helps keep obesity and drug use down. Others mentioned that Recreation is cheap intervention for at-risk kids, much less expensive than the alternative

intervention. Recreation is proactive, Police and Fire are reactive. Communities are adopting Parks, building relationships and tapping into resources. There was discussion.

- E. CPRA Youth Sports Coach Workshops (modeling the USTA recreational workshop)** – Frank Adams is the USTA coach that conducts the workshops for tennis coaches. He puts on a very good workshop - teaches principles and much more. Robin Lofton (Wheat Ridge) mentioned that Up2US is a resource we can use. There was more discussion.
- F. How do you handle getting sponsorships? Where do you post sponsorship logos? Do you put banners or posters on the outfield fences of ballfields? Do you have to get every sponsorship opportunity approved by a higher body/supervisor? And finally, do you have a sponsorship person or is each program responsible for these opportunities?** Michael Johnson (Aurora) asked this question. There were various responses – some agencies have banners on their outfield fences, some have signs on their scoreboards. HRMD is looking into putting sponsors on the windscreens on their outfield fences. Most agencies that responded said that they had one individual in their department/division that solicited sponsors, so that the businesses were not being hit up by more than one person – those that didn't have one person, but were on their own to get \$, said that sponsorship was harder to get. The charges for advertising on scoreboards varied from \$5,000 - \$6,000 for 3-5 years. Please respond to Michael at mjohnson@auroragov.org if you have anything to add.
- X. Presentation: Youth Sports Volunteer Coaches Program – Katie Kilbey (Lakewood)** – Katie presented what the City of Lakewood does for their volunteer coaches. They give them incentives – shirt, t-shirt, water bottle/mug, leather binder, backpack and jacket – progressive for each season coached. She makes sure that each coach has sport appropriate drills and games to play with the kids as well as all the other pertinent information to coaching youth sports (rosters, game rules, etc.). They have a coach's corner on their website (<http://www.lakewood.org/comres/page.cfm?ID=612>) and conduct clinics, an after season party and a volunteer banquet.
- XI. Announcements and Door Prizes:** everyone in attendance got a t-shirt from the City of Golden 12th Annual Turkey Bowl.
- XII. Next Meeting:** March 17th 10:00am at Boulder South Rec Center, 1360 Gillespie Drive, Boulder 80305
- XIII. Adjournment:** Dana Redford (Loveland) motioned and Steph Allen (Apex) seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed – meeting adjourned at 11:55am.

Respectfully submitted,
René Kingsley