

MINUTES OF MEETING

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – February 27, 2013 Ada County Parks and Waterways Administration building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Woods, Kyle Hemly, Chris Cook, Jim Keller and Brian Baker

MEMBERS ABSENT: David McKinnon and Brandy Wilson

STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Soggs and Carolyn Nitz

OTHERS PRESENT: Ada County Commissioner Yzaguirre and Mike Aho, Eagle City Parks Director

INTRODUCTION:

Chairman Paul Woods called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members.

MOTION: Approval of the minutes from the January 23rd meeting. Brian Baker motioned to approve the minutes, Chris Cook seconded; motion passes

AGENDA CHANGE

Moved New Business ahead of Old Business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EAGLE CITY :

Mike Aho, Eagle City Parks and Director introduced himself. Mike said the budget is \$100,000 for trail maintenance; this is double what Eagle has had in the past. There are and estimated 7 miles of developed greenbelt like trails, with the bike trails added in there is approximately 50 miles.

Eagle City has two part time employees dedicated for maintenance, trail development and realignment of trails.

The sports complex has a dedicated budget. Eagle City had a meeting on February 6th with only the bike users to receive their input on what might be the beginning of a master plan for the facility. The bike users created a priority list for the trails. The next phase for this plan will be to gather information from the general users of the park for running, dog walking, sports and equestrian uses. Eagle City split the meetings so the bike users did not over power the general users otherwise Mike believes he would have not have seen a solid or holistic approach to the property there would have been an isolated approach which would have been a determinate to the property.

Mike has met with Ridge to Rivers but they are not interested in moving West of Hwy 55 in terms of their management. We created a group that has met with them and has talked to the about a Foothills West type of approach. This will take a different management approach then the City.

Mike has met with Avimor but is trying to get in a little heavier. There is a move toward Eagle to annex the area. The connectivity to Avimor trails is paramount to the success of the whole linear system from the west side to the east even if Eagle doesn't annex this is a key component to the development of the trails. The Advisory Board asked if Eagle was committed to funding Ridge to Rivers West, Mike said if something like this was to happen then another entity would need to be

created whether through a taxing authority or another funding mechanism. Mike said he doesn't think there would be a direct contribution from Eagle City in the current climate.

Mike said it looks like they will be getting funding for pulling all the trails from the North West/North Central down to the river. It looks like they will be receiving the funding from Transportation Alternative Programs (TAPS) for the Dry Creek trail from State Street to Hwy 44. This is key into connecting the North Western/Eastern trail system down to the river which also connects over the Eagle Island State Park and as it goes east the trail drops under Eagle Road where there is already an underpass.

HWY 21 / BARBER POOLS:

Aaron Soggs spoke with the Board of Ada County Commissioners who stated that they did not want Parks and Waterways Department to pursue a leasing option of the ITD section of the Barber Pools at this time. BSU has placed four new signs up to let users know that paintballing is not allowed in this area.

The Barber Pools area is under the Land and Water Conservation 6F boundary. There is an opportunity to convert it but it would require an updated appraisal.

AVIMOR TRAILS:

Aaron Soggs reported that Ada County does hold the trail easement within the planned community. Ada County was working on getting the easements from outside the planned community.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Chris Cook motioned to adjourn meeting at 1:03 p.m. Kyle Hemly seconded; motion passes