

MINUTES OF MEETING

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – September 27, 2017 Ada County Parks and Waterways Administration building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Cook, Kari Kostka, David McKinnon, Jim Keller

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marc Grubert, Mark Suderman, Julia Kertz-Grant

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg, Candy Hahlbeck

OTHER: Jason Boal (Development Services)

INTRODUCTION:

C. Cook called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members.

Before the minutes are approved, Scott added that Rep. King had some comments on the e-bike section of the August 23rd meeting minutes. Board members reviewed the minutes and decided to strike “P. King is thinking about rewriting this bill.”

Motion: K. Kostka moved to approve the minutes. C. Cook seconded. Motion passed

OLD BUSINESS

JPD GREENBELT:

S. Koberg provided an update on the JPD Greenbelt. Per the last meeting the signage and fencing has been installed. 3 signs are also posted that say caution, uneven surface. The signs are posted at the point of entry upstream, downstream and as you cross the West Garden City Bridge. Additionally, No Trespassing signs were installed on the construction fencing. For the last 2 days, our Maintenance Supervisor along with 2 temporary employees have been working on clearing the HESCO debris that was on the pathway to see what the surface conditions are like and to see where the significant issues are. For the most part, the path is clear of debris and it is a smooth surface. There are a couple short sections of gravel where the asphalt was cut and removed during the flood fight. A short term solution may be to reinstall asphalt to make it a consistent hard surface. J. Boal added that there is an annexation application for this area. S. Koberg responded that he was aware and that Boise City has annexed this area, and Garden City is looking to annex this piece. C. Cook inquired if there was any word from Sunroc on whether they will do any work before the next spring flood. S. Koberg responded that he hadn't heard anything but has attempted to engage with the Department of Lands. K. Kostka said she would look into it. J. Boal added that his departments take is that Sunroc is trying to unload the property to the developer as soon as possible as they are redeveloping this area to make improvements.

C. Cook inquired if county will wait for a full overlay until they know if Sunroc will redo the levy. S. Koberg responded that no, we will move forward with the patch, but he will wait on Sunroc's decision to budget a full overlay because we don't know what our stake in the path will be in the longer term. J. Keller inquired if the patchwork could be done this fall. S. Koberg responded that yes, but the contractors are very busy at the moment.

PENITENTIARY CANAL GREENBELT:

S. Koberg supplied an update on the Penitentiary Canal Greenbelt. There was a small closure last week. ITD attempted to repair the culverts and create 2 new culverts with inlet structures. We have inspected it since the week long rain event. There is still a lot of water coming off the bridge deck

seeping down the slope and it wasn't making it to the first drainage inlet. This was set too high causing ponding on the pathway. This will be fixed by ITD before we go to construction.

Yesterday the mandatory pre-bid meeting took place and a full walk through occurred with all contractors who attended. Bids are due October 6th and bids will be opened on October 10th by the Board.

S. Koberg met with ACHD and Boise Valley Neighborhood Association on their request for a potential detour. The Boise Valley Neighborhood Association was on board with the "no detour" message after hearing from ACHD and Parks & Waterways that there wasn't a detour and the best they could do was to echo that message. This will be a long closure and not a safe place to be while construction is happening. C. Cook inquired if it is possible to direct people through Surprise Valley. S. Koberg responded that they would still have to cross Highway 21.

BIKE PARK:

S. Koberg supplied an update on the Bike Park. Jason Blomquist with SWIMBA has reached out and has indicated they would like to do trail maintenance every Thursday evening in October. The trails are in good shape, so this will be a good effort to tune them up before winter. Scott is going to meet and ride with Jason on October 4th so they can prioritize areas that need to be addressed. We will provide tools and supervision as necessary. C. Cook inquired if there has been any word from BAMBA. S. Koberg replied that he hasn't heard from them.

Scott is working with an Eagle Scout named Palmer Galloway. The project will involve a closure of a social trail that extends from the BMX parking lot straight to Twisted Sister. The idea is to direct people to the Twisted Sister connector trail. This project will probably be done on the last Saturday in October possibly into November. This project will include installing 15 total segments of dowel rail fencing and busting up the entire length of the trail. Jute netting, seeding and certified weed free straw will also be placed. If it comes down to it, Palmer may only complete the fencing because of some of the equipment that is used such as pick mattocks and rototillers. C. Cook asked why this social trail has become so popular. S. Koberg responded that it's the lazy way to get to the trail because of its location.

IT wants to release the drone photography to the public. There is a potential new release for this Friday.

E-BIKES:

C. Cook inquired as to Eagle allowing e-bikes in their bike park. S. Koberg responded that they don't currently, but they did for the demo. They are interested in receiving feedback from anyone who attended the e-bike demo.

S. Koberg recommends the Advisory Board send a letter to Rep. King thanking her for coming to the previous meeting.

The Board of County Commissioners is interested if the Advisory Board has any specific input for the County regarding e-bikes. This could include concerns with the current draft legislation.

C. Cook added that Boise City is working on e-bike ordinances. They have taken down all the speed limit signs on the Boise City sections of the Greenbelt. Now they have "Authorized Vehicles Only Signs." He inquired if S. Koberg knew when this ordinance would be brought. S. Koberg said he didn't know. The input so far from the County Commissioners is that we should get on the same page with the cities.

The parties then went on to discuss the email that was forwarded to the Advisory Board from Scott regarding e-bike stores in the area and what these store employees are telling their e-bike customers.

C. Cook inquired what Ridge to Rivers is saying about BLM and Forrest Service when the topic is brought up. S. Koberg replied that when David brings it up and asks for input, they are hardline that it's not an allowable use. C. Cook inquired about signage. S. Koberg responded that it hasn't come up but he will bring it up at the next partners meeting.

E-bikes will be kept on the agenda for the foreseeable future.

NEW BUSINESS

REVENUE REPORT:

S. Koberg provided a revenue report for the summer raft & tube float season. The season was 38 days long. The final weekend was the 3rd highest 3 day total we have ever had just behind 4th of July 2016 and 4th of July 2015. There was a lot of outreach to create interest prior to the closing of the season. We took in 61-62 percent of anticipated revenue. This year was the highest daily gross revenue and it has increased the last 4 years. J. Keller inquired what this means in terms of our capabilities. S. Koberg responded that the anticipated revenue number for this fiscal year was set a year ago in June. In a typical year we are somewhat conservative on the anticipated revenue, so we accrue more funds and carry a fund balance. The fund balance in a year like this covers us. Specific to the Penitentiary Canal Project, we did receive the foregone tax funding. We had intended to allocate \$500,000 to the project from our fund. Scott was informed by the Auditor's Office that this money would not be coming from our fund balance; rather it will come from the general fund.

OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS COORDINATOR POSITION:

The position will hopefully be posted next week. Someone will be hired before the end of October. C. Cook inquired if this person will work out of the Parks Admin office. S. Koberg responded that yes, they would and that it would be an approximately 40% in the field and 60% in the office position. Seasonally there will be more time out in the field with other agencies. In addition they will work off site at other location such as the Bike Park, Five Mile and Victory, Oregon Trail and Hubbard.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Cook adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.