

MINUTES OF MEETING

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – April 26, 2017 Ada County Parks and Waterways Administration building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Keller, Chris Cook, Julia Kertz-Grant, David McKinnon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kari Kostka, Marc Grubert, Mark Suderman

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg and Candy Hahlbeck

OTHERS PRESENT: Commissioner Rick Visser, Doug Hardman (Ada County Emergency Management), Meghan Basham (Development Services)

INTRODUCTION:

C. Cook called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members.

Motion: C. Cook moved to approve the minutes. J. Keller seconded. Motion passed

Agenda change: J. Grant would like to add a discussion about Ag land preservation in the Treasure Valley including Ada County and a new organization that has come on the scene. S. Koberg would like to add that Amanda Hoffman from Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey has extended a site visit offer.

OLD BUSINESS

PENITENTIARY CANAL GREENBELT:

S. Koberg reported on the project status. We have received feedback from Boise Project Board of Control based on the design and material for piping that will increase costs estimate. They have also asked that the county warrants the construction. Currently, we are having difficulty with Boise Project Board of Control and their input based on the fact that we are offering to replace the canal with pipe that will enhance their operation. These costs will increase the project beyond the existing budget. It is currently over 2 million dollars with all the improvements. The timeline to start the project was this coming fall. \$848,000 was set aside for this project from the Capital Expenditures Program. \$500,000 was set aside from the Parks Department fund balance to make up this project. With all the flooding and issues with the Greenbelt downstream, there may be better use of funds elsewhere. D. McKinnon inquired as to the kind of pipe they're looking for. S. Koberg replied that they are looking for PIP pipe or concrete pipe due to maintenance concerns. R. Visser inquired if there is an option to repair just the higher risk sections rather than the entire length. S. Koberg responded that it is all high risk to users from a safety standpoint.

BIKE PARK TRAILS MAINTENANCE:

S. Koberg updated the Board on the Bike Park Trail Maintenance. The scheduled maintenance for this week was cancelled as well as the week prior because of weather. It is rescheduled for April 29th. All prior maintenance needs to be reworked because of the recent weather conditions. One successful trail maintenance day was D. McKinnon's group. J. Grant inquired if someone was hired part time for the Bike Park. S. Koberg replied that he wasn't able to make it happen because of the flood issues and lack of funds in the budget. J. Keller inquired as to compliance from people staying off wet trails. S. Koberg replied that yes, it's been an issue especially on the downhill trails. S. Koberg noted the new trails map on Facebook. C. Cook inquired as to scheduling a trail maintenance day with the Parks Board. Scott mentioned that if they had dates in mind, to let him know.

NEW BUSINESS

BOISE RIVER FLOOD UPDATE:

D. Hardman updated the Board on the Boise River flooding. He mentioned that we are still receiving snow above 6000 feet. Doug went over the reservoir capacity on the Bureau of Reclamation site and the hydrograph. He noted that 2 million acre feet still need to come out of the watershed with only 300,000 acre feet of capacity in the reservoirs. Doug went on to discuss the Sunroc gravel pit and the pit capture issue at the JDP Greenbelt. Because of the severity of the issue, the Army Corps decided to approve doing a flood fight and to bring in Hesco barriers. This is a 3ftx3ftx3ft that holds a ton of sand or more. These can be hooked together. 4300 feet of these were run from one end of the pond to the other to protect the pit from water overtopping it. These barriers are now sitting on top of the Greenbelt which has destroyed this portion of the Greenbelt. J. Grant inquired if the Federal Government was paying for this. D. Hardman replied that yes, that it cost between \$150,000 to \$200,000. There is an agreement between Ada County and Army Corps that these barriers now belong to Ada County and that the county will be responsible for cleanup. D. McKinnon inquired if the barriers were reusable. D. Hardman said they were and that the sand just drops out of the bottom and they fold up. An issue that recently arose was this past weekend when the county engineer was out at this property and some of the bank was failing. Army Corps put 2 pallets of sandbags in this area. A long term plan is to purchase a 600 foot bladder that will be filled with water. The bladder would help stop water cutting across and coming through the farmers field. Doug also went through portions of his website that the public can access if they have questions.

GREENBELT PATHWAY CLOSURES:

S. Koberg provided an update on the Greenbelt Pathway closures. He mentioned the Boise River Safety pamphlet that was put together by the City of Boise with help from other agencies including Ada County. It outlines portions of the Greenbelt that are currently closed. Chadd Crippe did an article in the Idaho Statesman to let people know about some of the problems with this section, such as the Penitentiary Canal Greenbelt. He covered this topic knowing that we would get more volume on that particular section of Greenbelt. J. Keller inquired if Scott was going to talk about anticipated damage and funding for restoration efforts. S. Koberg replied that he hadn't planned to but is unsure what we will be left with. J. Keller also inquired if the Governor's Disaster Declaration opened up funding. S. Koberg was unsure but he mentioned with the Winter Declaration, all expenditures were tracked and submitted to FEMA, but this was denied the first time around. This is currently be appealed. R. Visser explained that this was quite discouraging because a lot of effort went into working with other local government agencies.

PLANTATION ISLAND BRIDGE REMOVAL:

S. Koberg provided an update on Plantation Island. Since the last meeting, the Plantation Island Bridge has been removed. This reduced the potential threat of the bridge washing out, going downstream, and wedging on Glenwood Bridge.

JPD GREENBELT FLOOD FIGHT:

D. Hardman went over this section in the Boise Flood Fight section. He went on to say that obtaining the section of Greenbelt may have been a blessing in disguise. Ada County Parks staff were the first to report the initial slough in a different pond. After this was discovered, Sunroc and Boise River Flood Control District 10 were contacted. If this had not been caught in time, there is a good chance it would have been caught too late.

BARBER PARK FLOOD FIGHT:

S. Koberg provided an update on the Barber Park Flood Fight. There was concern from members of the public about the use of sandbags in Barber Park. This was addressed via Facebook with photos clarifying what was happening. He added that we are trying to make the most use of the riparian area

for flood control. Scott noted that ACHD came out to the park to assist with filling the Super Sacks and park staff placed them. ACHD will also come out Thursday of this week to pump out the parking lot. C. Cook inquired if the event center will still be usable. S. Koberg responded that yes, it will.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS:

S. Koberg provided an update on the Supplemental Budget Requests. Personnel Budget numbers were due last week and his included 2 supplemental requests for Ada County positions and seasonal positions. The first Ada County position that is being requested is an Open Space and Trails Coordinator that was, at one time, a position in the department. This position will help organized off site trails maintenance and other efforts in the county. The second position is an Education & Outreach Specialist to help enhance out outreach here at Barber Park using the Education and Event Center to do school activities as well as other activities.

AGENDA CHANGE: BLM FIELD TRIP:

Amanda Hoffman with the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey has offered a field trip for May 24th. R. Visser inquired as to the time frame for this. S. Koberg responded that we would need to leave the park at 8AM and would return around 1PM. C. Cook, D. McKinnon, and J. Keller would be able to make it.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Cook adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.