

MINUTES OF MEETING

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – February 22, 2017 Ada County Parks and Waterways Administration building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Keller, Kari Kostka, Chris Cook, Marc Grubert, Julia Kertz-Grant, David McKinnon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Suderman

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg and Candy Hahlbeck

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Maneely

INTRODUCTION:

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

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

Motion: C. Cook moved to approve the December 2016 and January 2017 meeting minutes. K. Kostka seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

PENITENTIARY CANAL GREENBELT:

S. Koberg provided an update on the Penitentiary Canal Greenbelt. Preliminary design will be completed by March 1st for review by the County and The Bureau of Reclamation. M. Grubert inquired as to the length. S. Koberg responded that it is about 1.8 miles.

S. Koberg also discussed access at the Ben's Crow Inn. He mentioned that he has received communication that the private property dispute is in the process of being resolved. That should allow for connectivity between the development and the Greenbelt. He thinks this will allow for a better ADA accessible pathway which was recommended by the Parks Board when the Ben's Crow Inn development application was submitted.

REH HAWK:

S. Koberg provided an update on Red Hawk. KM Engineering, through Avimor, has agreed to propose a design for the trailhead. The intent is to survey the location of the trailhead and provide design alternatives. The limiting factors are the site slope and size of the area.

S. Koberg went on to say that he met with Mark and Jason from Development Services to follow up with concerns on work flow time frame. Scott is confident this project will be able to move along faster than originally thought, given that Development Services originally provided a timeline that was the worst case scenario.

S. Koberg discussed 4 separate alternatives for the trails. There are 2 alternatives heading north from the parking lot. The first uses primarily Avimor property, right out of the trailhead and may use a couple of the drainages that connect to Fiddleneck Ridge trail. This is the easiest at this point and the number 1 priority. The second option includes a route that crosses BLM property and will require an Environmental Assessment. This will take more time to complete. The 3rd option that includes the connection between Hidden Springs and Avimor would require securing a private property easement. Scott has called the property owner and sent a letter with no response. He will follow up in person. The 4th option is potentially something that could help if the connection through the private parcel can be made. It is proposed by Tim Brewer and Hidden Springs that would utilize Red Hawk and Hidden Springs property and create and extension of the Red Tail trail. The reason it's in the discussion is

because a portion of the Red Tail loop as it exists, is already on the land owner's private property with a trail easement. If the trail can be relocated in exchange for something going north/south, it might be worth discussing in more detail with the landowner. M. Grubert inquired about option 1 above and the minimum number of parking spots that the county is considering. S. Koberg responded that there is not a number yet, as that will depend on the design alternatives. Possibly 8-12. K. Kostka inquired as to horse access. S. Koberg responded that he brought the parking examples provided by equestrian users and they are aware of what is trying to be accomplished to accommodate horse trailers. C. Cook inquired if the road is wide enough to park 2 trailers. S. Koberg replied that yes, it is wide enough at the proposed trailhead but not on the road past this location.

FACTS/JPD GREENBELT:

S. Koberg provided an update on the FACTS/Judy Peavey-Derr Greenbelt. This pathway did not receive much winter maintenance this year. Scott made sure the FACTS folks understood why. The spring objectives are sign creation and installation which will include signage entering JPD pathway segment, management authority and contact information. There are also FACTS educational kiosks signage that will be improved upon on both ends in conjunction with FACTS. In addition, mutt mitt dispensers will be installed, center line skip striping will be done for lane of travel separation and a donation from a member of FACTS for a bike repair station will be installed on the south side of the west bridge. The parties also discussed Japanese Yew that some residents thought was on Ada County's portion of the property when in fact it was on Garden City's side, on private property, adjacent to the Greenbelt. County Parks staff determined where it was, and notified Garden City.

NEW BUSINESS

OREGON TRAIL FAREWELL BEND DEVELOPMENT:

S. Koberg provided an update on the Oregon Trail Farewell Bend Development. This development is near Micron out by the other parcel of the Oregon Trail. Scott received a draft fuel break from BLM. The developer wants to know what this looks like to help their process. They provided a draft plat map showing access for County staff to be able to access the County parcel. It appears they are ready to move forward and make sure we are ok with the access so we can help to maintain the fuel break and access the County property. S. Koberg noted that this area is part of the East Columbia Master Planning Process with Boise City. J. Grant inquired as to the status of this. S. Koberg said he didn't know but noted that the City understood our needs that included signage, sufficient access and more informational kiosks.

BIKE PARK MAPPING AND APP:

S. Koberg provided an update on the Bike Park mapping and app. The maps were installed on site, but updates are already needed. It is not known if aerial photography will be incorporated until we see what comes back from a drone flight. Scott had previously met with Eagle City Police, Eagle Parks, and Ada County IT drone staff when they had a Quadcopter drone. It was being setup to do a flyover when they decided to get a fixed wing aircraft. Right now the fixed wing flight is slated for just before or after spring break since the pilot's license does not allow for it to fly over people without their knowledge. The result from this flight could be tied to a mobile app. S. Koberg invited Board Members to attend the flight. C. Cook stated that there was not a map at the Treasure Valley View Point. S. Koberg responded that we were going to reroute that section of Treasure Valley Traverse. He was unsure if it would affect the placement of the map. But it is in the works. K. Kostka inquired if the map was available anywhere online. S. Koberg said that it has not been posted on our sites, but it has been suggested.

BIKE PARK ENDURO

S. Koberg provided an update on the Bike Park Enduro race that will be held May 6th. He explained that we have not received the application but we have been contacted by the promoter. They have

submitted an application to Eagle. S. Koberg does not see any issues on our end. The impact to our trails is minimal. What we will do for this race, in lieu of any fees associated with the race, is have the promoter and his crew provide pre and post maintenance. He noted the fee that is paid to Eagle covers much of the infrastructure that is used for the race. Our need is to make sure the trails are dialed in before and after the race. The future see's permit fees for this kind of event. J. Grant inquired as to how much the promoter pays for the race. S. Koberg was unsure but said it was a flat permit fee based on the number of people participating.

BIKE PARK TRAILS MAINTENANCE

S. Koberg provided an update on the Bike Park Trails Maintenance. Maintenance is close to starting. He mentioned that there have been some interested parties such as the Eagle Scouts and Scott mentioned that it would be good to get the Parks Board out on the trails again. Scott also mentioned bringing on part time seasonal staff support specifically for the Bike Park to lead the trail maintenance efforts for 16-24 hours per week from spring to fall. The summer activities would involve making sure we have eyes out on site, clearing, fences and signage that can be maintained. C. Cook inquired if this could be a partnership with Eagle where this person would put in time at Eagle's facility as well. S. Koberg responded that currently Eagle has a full time seasonal position and this could be something for the future, but for now he would like someone out there that works on behalf of Ada County.

E-BIKES

S. Koberg provided an update on E-bikes on the Greenbelt. C. Cook suggested this at the last meeting. He stated that there are shops around town that are selling e-bikes and telling people that they can ride them on the Greenbelt. S. Koberg reiterated that the County ordinance states that motorized-vehicles are not allowed on non-roadways including the Greenbelt. Boise City has code stating the same thing. There are several concerns from law enforcement including speed. There was proposed draft legislation circulated by Representative Phylis King regarding E-bikes during the legislative session. Part of what this draft included was defining what a bicycle was. As it stands now, City of Boise Park staff and Scott have talked about doing some outreach in the form of pamphlets to distribute to local bike shops and hotels letting them know where it's ok to ride E-bikes. This topic has also come up in Ridge to Rivers discussions. The federal agencies are very clear about the use of motorized vehicles on their property.

DEPARTMENT STAFF UPDATE

S. Koberg provided a department staffing update. C. Hahlbeck has been promoted to Administrative Specialist. We are looking to fill the space she vacated. We had 85 applicants for the Events Coordinator position. In person interviews will happen on Friday. The intent of this position is to facilitate all the bookings at the event center and help to implement off site event programs for the bike park, Greenbelt, festivals, races and runs.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Cook adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.