

MINUTES OF MEETING

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – January 23, 2018 Ada County Parks and Waterways Administration building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kari Kostka, Mark Suderman, Karen Danley, Hilarie Engle, Emily Reaves, Scott Frey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Miller

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg, Candy Hahlbeck, Mike Edwards

OTHER: Chris Daly (Development Services)

INTRODUCTION:

K. Kostka called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members.

All Board members introduced themselves.

Guest Andrea Kowalski introduced herself.

K. Danley noted a change she would like for December's minutes. Change will be made and an update posted to the website.

Motion: K. Danley moved to amend the minutes to include “equestrian clubs” under Education Item. M. Suderman seconded. Motion passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Two new Commissioners were sworn in on January 14th. Kendra Kenyon, Chair of the Board, is on a 4 year term and Diana Lachiondo is on a 2 year term. S. Koberg will be meeting with Kendra later this month to discuss a few items. K. Kostka inquired if Commissioner Visser will still be assigned to this committee. S. Koberg responded that he will remain our Department liaison at this time.

S. Koberg displayed the new Ada County website that launched earlier this month. He encouraged the Board to check it out and provide any comments.

We are about to start the fixed asset inventory process. This happens every 2 years and required by law.

S. Koberg added that Expo Idaho's Director has resigned and will be leaving in early February. S. Koberg may be asked to step in and assist the with director duties as needed and to help in a smooth transition process for the new Director.

OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS COORDINATOR REPORT:

M. Edwards supplied an update on what he has been up to in the last month. The survey for Ada/Eagle Bike Park is ready to be deployed with the help of Ada County IT. We are just waiting for the time of year when people start to use the Bike Park. M. Edwards will send out the link for the Board to look at the survey.

M. Edwards has been working on the Oregon Trail Park Improvement Plan. A site inventory is also in the works as well with where we are now and where we want to be with a project improvement plan. Once the Park Improvement Plan is in draft form, M. Edwards would like input from the Parks Board and possibly get a letter of support to submit to the Board of County Commissioners to move forward. M. Edwards met with one of the homeowners at Echanove Ranch to discuss a fence that the homeowners have built. The focus for this trail is the trail easement and not the conservation

easement. He assured the homeowner that where the fence was would not interfere with where trail would be, although it was within the conservation easement.

M. Edwards contacted Idaho Power and Boise Fire to speak with them regarding their requirements for access in this area on either end where the trails run through. He will report back once he knows more.

Regarding the Bike Park survey, K. Danley inquired which questions on the survey would determine if they knew where the boundaries were. M. Edwards responded that he would provide a link to the survey. He went on to say that the purpose is to find out if users know the boundaries for E-Bike usage and if they know where the dividing line is between the Bike Park and the Ridge to Rivers trails.

ADVISORY BOARD FIELD TRIP REPORT:

S. Frey noted that he visited the Bike Park entering from the Veteran's side which wasn't bad, but as he ventured further in the muddier it got. He won't return until it has dried out completely.

E. Reaves tried to visit Oregon Trail but was rained out. She will try again later this week. She mentioned possible dumping of large tree branches, but this may have been a dog that is known to drag items off the trail.

NEW BUSINESS

BARBER POOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (BPAC) UPDATE:

At the first advisory council meeting that S. Koberg attended the list of 50 potential actions was narrowed down to 10 high priority short term actions. These actions were then taken by Brandy Wilson to the Idaho Foundations for Parks and Lands Council for consideration. The revised list was accepted. The 3 priorities that are being focused on for Barber Pool are environmental enhancement, education/outreach and coordination/access. The education/outreach and coordination/access will be the emphasis of Parks and Waterways because of the Greenbelt alignment and access through that property.

Another objective for the environmental portion was a complete new baseline of vegetative inventory. S. Koberg has brought in the IT Department drone program to help facilitate this. H. Engle added that she started out on this committee but has since stepped back. A concern she had was access.

S. Koberg suggested inviting Brandy Wilson to a Parks Board meeting since she is the Chair of the Barber Pool Advisory Council.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP) SUPPORT:

S. Koberg is working on Capital Improvement Project proposals for our department. He has identified 3 projects that he plans to submit. These are the Expo Idaho Greenbelt, FACTS/JPD Greenbelt and a Barber Park Enhancement Plan. After he is able to present these projects to the Parks Board next month, he will be soliciting input and a letter of support from the Board.

S. Frey inquired what the role of the Parks Board is when it comes to Capital Improvement Project process. S. Koberg responded that this is where the most value is, when we can bring these types of projects we are seeking support for and ask for review. For larger projects, it's a perfect example of how the Advisory Board can participate, engage and feel involved.

S. Frey inquired where the Expo Idaho Greenbelt was located. S. Koberg explained that it was from Plantation Island Bridge to Marigold Lane behind the fairgrounds.

K. Kostka added that the County does open budget hearings for public testimony or to present a letter of support from the Board.

CONFIRM UPDATED SITE VISIT SCHEDULE:

S. Koberg noted that the site visit scheduled needed to be updated. The schedules is as follows
February 27th -office meeting

March 27th-Ada/Eagle Bike Park

April 24th -office meeting (elections/other business)

May 22nd - Hubbard Reservoir

June 26th - Oregon Trail

July 24th Barber Park site visit, possible office meeting in addition to tour if the Board would like to have a guest speaker and handle other business

K. Kostka added that M. Suderman suggested previously that the Hubbard Reservoir meeting be held in the later afternoon because of location. She went on to say David Gordon with City of Boise is on the agenda for the February and Eddie Freyer with NICA is on the agenda for the April meeting.

S. Koberg inquired if the Board would like lunch to be provided for site visit meetings or would they like to bring their own? The Board is fine with bringing their own lunch. Parks staff will also cover transportation if needed.

S. Frey suggested an equestrian speaker after our site tours are complete. K. Danley added that she could suggest a couple names.

ADJOURNMENT

K. Kostka adjourned the meeting at 1:02p.m.