

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – December 15, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kari Kostka, Chuck Vertrees, Emily Reaves, Chris Miller, Hilarie Engle, Eric Plotkin

**ABSENT:** Helen Carter

**STAFF PRESENT:** Scott Koberg, Candy Hahlbeck, Robbie Sosin

**OTHER:** Commissioner Ryan Davidson

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

K. Kostka called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

E. Plotkin introduced himself to the Board.

C. Miller inquired if we had any agreement about new speakers. The group went on to talk about speakers and site tours on a schedule. The group discussed other municipalities we may want to hear from.

No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members. C. Vertrees moved to approve the November 17th minutes. C. Miller seconded. Motion passed.

#### **SUBCOMITTEE REPORTS:**

C. Miller shared with the group that the Bike Park Subcommittee plans to have a volunteer day in the spring. E. Plotkin inquired what size group we need. C. Vertrees responded that about 30 people.

H. Engle commented on Oregon Trail that the all-weather trail is looking really nice.

#### **OPEN SPACE & TRAILS:**

No Report.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Scott supplied an update on several items.

S. Koberg discussed the website and the ongoing modifications. R. Sosin is in the process of revising the structure of the website. S. Koberg invited the Board to check the website and give Robbie feedback. R. Sosin went on to talk about some of the changes he is working on.

America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Ada County has been allocated \$93 million in ARPA funds. Currently \$46.7 million is on the books for the county to allocate toward projects. The county has gone through a review process to present a suite of recommended projects to the BOCC for consideration and potential approval. Our Department has submitted one and queuing up a second that will be considered in the first round. The first one is the JPD/Sunroc Greenbelt replacement. This pathway segment is where the 2017 flood fight was waged. It was flooded and used for heavy construction equipment to prevent pit capture, creating quite a bit of damage. We are hoping to fund this project through ARPA using concrete as a replacement surface and repairing streambank erosion issues. This is a \$3 million project request. Depending on the construction environment and approval from the Board of County Commissioners, we would intend to put this out on the street for bid this spring or summer. E. Reaves inquired if there have been concrete procurement challenges? S. Koberg responded that yes, in expense and materials.

Barber Park Plaza and Pathways project. The bridges, pathways and fishing pier portion of the Master Site Plan still need to be completed. Currently the fishing pier is under construction. We are asking for ARPA funding for the replacement of the two foot bridges, removal of the asphalt and replacement with the Staloc product. This product is also ADA compatible, which is an important component. R. Davidson inquired as to the durability of this product. S. Koberg responded that it is expected to hold up and retains integrity as you would expect concrete or asphalt. C. Miller inquired if it requires any

ongoing maintenance. S. Koberg responded that from time to time, but its minimal. E. Plotkin inquired if the durability was impacted by summer temperatures. S. Koberg responded that no, temperature wasn't expected to be a concern. This project completion will allow us to continue moving forward with educational programs in the park by inviting kids, families and schools out to the park. C. Miller inquired how wide the new path will be. The path will be 10-12 feet wide. E. Plotkin inquired about how far into the water the fishing pier goes. S. Koberg responded that it will extend further out into the water than the previous pier but will not impact floater activity. S. Koberg went on to talk about the pre-fabricated bridges that will replace the wooden bridges that are currently in place.

Barber Pool. Yesterday was anticipated to be the final Master Plan revision among the group organized by the Foundation for Parks & Lands. The group landed on a model of usage whereby much of the Pool is intended to be set aside for wildlife use only. S. Koberg and R. Sosin have met with the County Public Information Officer. She has been spearheading an effort to involve the Board in some sort of public outreach event related to the former Board of Commissioner's resolution and sign installation. The date for this is tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2022 immediately following the next Advisory Board meeting.

R. Davidson added that the Commissioners will be voting on projects for ARPA funding. The first round will be the most pressing projects. Round 2 will be by priority. Later rounds will go until the funds run out.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

E. Reaves inquired about the tree wrapping at Barber Park by Boise River Enhancement Network (BREN) and if this was ARPA funded. S. Koberg responded that it wasn't funded by ARPA. After noticing beaver activity and several downed trees S. Koberg set his staff on wrapping trees then BREN also obtained permission to continue with another volunteer wrapping effort. E. Reaves added that in the Wood Duck subdivision, they have removed 2 beavers because of the damage they were doing. This has gotten worse over the last 2 years. There was a program where beavers were captured and relocated. This program has been reinvigorated and the beavers are sent out to Owyhee County. K. Kostka added that BREN does a lot of work up and down the Boise River, in the Barber Pool and in Diane Moore Park. If help is needed, E. Reaves can contact them.

#### ***ADJOURNMENT***

**K. Kostka adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.**