

MEETING MINUTES

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – February 22, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Miller, Hilarie Engle, Emily Reaves, Eric Plotkin

ABSENT: Kari Kostka, Chuck Vertrees

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg, Candy Hahlbeck, Brent Moore, Robbie Sosin, Commissioner Ryan Davidson

INTRODUCTION:

C. Miller called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Oregon Trail: H. Engle is going to step back from being the Chair of the Oregon Trail Subcommittee. E. Reaves will take her place.

Bike Park: C. Miller reminded the group that a trail connection out to Avimor is still in the works. C. Miller attended a meeting last week with ACHD, ITD and the City of Eagle. S. Koberg represented Ada County. The initial idea is to make a safe crossing at Beacon Light but there isn't a good way to do that because Beacon Light doesn't continue across Highway 55. One of the issues is getting this trail connectivity so at least everyone that is on the east side of Highway 55 will never have to cross 55 to get to the Bike Park. The question at the meeting about which of the various entities at the meeting could put pressure on Boise Hunter Homes to prioritize making this trail connection happen. R. Davidson suggested that the Parks Board come up with a formal letter to the BOCC explaining the situation and a specific ask. This will trigger discussions and a decision will be made where to go from there. C. Miller is happy to write this letter. S. Koberg went on to say that ITD initiated this meeting. It would have been beneficial to have Development Services representing that segment of the County in oversight of the Dry Creek Ranch Development. B. Moore added that Development Services meets with Boise Hunter Homes now and then about these trails. The way the original planned community was approved makes it hard to for changes at this stage. As they continue to plat the area where the trailhead connections are proposed, we could get something at that time. He will try and get a more detailed answer for next meeting. C. Miller inquired if there is way to open that Agreement and make amendments to it? B. Moore said that yes, that Comp Plan amendments are common. C. Miller went on to say that we would need some lever to agree to the change stating that before they finish their plat area they would need to designate the trail area and we will build it. We don't have a lever to make them sign the agreement, correct? B. Moore responded that no, they would be under the current agreement that was signed. It would be hard to add extra conditions at this point. S. Koberg added that this was something that came up from Eagle's perspective. He thinks the County could educate the city on what has been done because there was a perception from Eagle representation that the County hasn't been holding Dry Creek Ranch's feet to the fire for what is required for recreation and trails. C. Miller went on to say that Avimor has committed the land necessary to build a trailhead and connection from Hidden Springs but they aren't willing to convey that because to get to the trailhead we need an easement from Boise Hunter Homes. S. Koberg clarified that we have an unsigned draft agreement but the trigger in that agreement with Avimor is that Avimor would gift this to the County with the assumption that there would be access through Dry Creek Ranch in 2-3 years or it would be taken away. C. Miller went on to say that Eagle seemed dismissive of the notion that they need to address this problem. Their attitude is that most of Eagle will cross at Floating Feather where it is safe. C. Miller will work on a letter for the BOCC with feedback from the Parks Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

E. Reaves moved to approve the January 25, 2023 minutes. H. Engle seconded. Motion passed.

GREENBELT SAFETY:

H. Engle and E. Reaves put a letter together and sent it to S. Koberg.

MARCH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING:

C. Hahlbeck will send out an email to gauge the Parks Board thoughts on when they would like to have the March meeting. It will either be March 15, 22 or 29th. She will follow up with an email letting everyone know the date that is chosen.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

S. Koberg met with David Gordon and County IT staff on the interactive Ridge to Rivers map. Parks & Waterways staff now have access to update trail conditions this map.

S. Koberg and Davey Brown met with Martha Brabec from City of Boise recently. We now have a strategy for moving the donated bridge that was in Veterans Park. It will be dismantled and staged at Hubbard until permits are acquired.

S. Koberg and D. Brown will be meeting with D. Gordon on Monday to evaluate all weather trail conditions at Ridge to Rivers, Greenbelt at Bethine Church and Oregon Trail. Recent weather has prevented this meeting from taking place.

Parks & Waterways Master Plan-C. Hahlbeck has been contacting Focus Group and Stakeholders to get them scheduled to participate. C. Hahlbeck will send Focus Group list to Parks Board members, as requested by C. Miller

E. Plotkin inquired about the intended cross section. Focus Groups include senior centers, youth groups, mountain bike groups etc. The parties went on to discuss this.

PROGRAM & EDUCATION SPECIALIST REPORT:

R. Sosin has been working with BerryDunn to create the Social Pinpoint website for the Master Plan. He provided them with photos. R. Sosin and S. Koberg also put a welcome video together for the site.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Miller adjourned the meeting at 12:33p.m.