

MEETING MINUTES

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – June 22, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kari Kostka, Hilarie Engle, Eric Plotkin, Chuck Vertrees,

ABSENT: Chris Miller, Helen Carter, Emily Reaves

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg, Candy Hahlbeck, Robbie Sosin

OTHERS: Brent Moore (Development Services)

INTRODUCTION:

K. Kostka called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members. C. Vertrees moved to approve the April 27th minutes. H. Engle seconded. Motion passed.

SUBCOMITTEE REPORTS:

H. Engle reported that herself and E. Reaves went out to Oregon Trail and checked out the signs. She added that there is a sign on the cliff side that isn't accessible. She was wondering if that could be cleared out.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Bike Park- C. Miller reported to Scott, via email, that there have been people using Junkyard the wrong direction and that the information on MTB Project, Trail Forks and Boise Trails doesn't say anything about it. The Ridge to Rivers and County interactive maps do say that this trail is single direction, counter clock wise. S. Koberg responded to C. Miller that he can direct users to this interactive map. C. Vertrees added that BoiseTrails.com is marked directionally correct. He went on to say that Trail Forks has a function where you can submit to Trail Forks support to become an admin for a region. This allows the ability to edit without getting approval.

There is lane widening on Highway 21 going on and it appears that there will be a turn lane put in to access the Oregon Trail Recreation Area.

FY2023 Budget-This past Friday S. Koberg presented the FY23 Budget to the Board of County Commissioners. They are actively deliberating this week. The Parks, Open Space and Trails Master Plan Update didn't rank very highly with the Transformation Board. S. Koberg lobbied for this project to be reconsidered in ranking or to be funded if possible. This is a \$250,000.00 request. Everything else went smooth. We have a Parks and Waterways combined budget of just under \$2.2 million. B. Moore watched his presentation and was in full support of the Master Plan Update. The other item that may be of interest is the Board's consideration of cost of living adjustment and merit. The Board has been very open to this input from Department Directors. He expects a healthy increase in COLA and merit or combination of the two. Many Directors recommended 8-9% increases for their employees. E. Plotkin inquired how much our budget comes from County versus revenue. S. Koberg responded that it varies. We diversify our sources of funding and are currently wrapping up larger Capital projects. We also currently received ARPA funding for 2 large construction projects. General Fund dollars and revenue generated dollars vary year to year but typically General Fund won't account for more than half our funding.

Float Season- S. Koberg expects flows in the next hour at the Glenwood gauge will be at a floatable range. Since our last meeting we went from drought to flow augmentation for salmon migration to flood control at Lucky Peak, Arrowrock and Anderson Ranch being full with river flows at 3,000 cfs. We are just now coming off that wave. C. Vertrees inquired if there had already been a sweep of the

river. Our Department conducted an inventory when the flows were at 500 cfs. We identified 8 locations recommended for debris mitigation but now that have increased and will soon decrease again, this data has changed. Boise Fire needs to get on the river today to see what it looks like as far as hazards go. K. Kostka inquired about events at the Barber Park Event Center and Float Season. S. Koberg explained we don't have events on Friday, Saturday and Sunday anymore because there isn't enough parking for events with guests and the float season. E. Plotkin inquired if having more parking would resolve these issues. S. Koberg responded that it would help with some issues, but not all.

Barber Park encroaching- We have had issues with landowners around the park encroaching into the Park. A letter from the Commissioners went out recently to all adjacent landowners asking them to check their property boundaries as there may be steps moving forward.

Vacant position-Scott has decided to hold off posting the Open Space and Trails position for now. He will revisit this in the next couple months.

PROGRAM AND EDUCATION SPECIALIST REPORT:

R. Sosin provided an update on his activities. He is finishing up the most recent issue of the Current. There should be a video out soon about Barber Park. He has been taking care of the plants that were planted by Micron earlier this spring. He continues to update social media on where we are at for float season.

S. Koberg added that R. Sosin will be conducting interviews with local news stations.

OTHER:

K. Kostka added that the Idaho Environmental Forum puts out some good social content. The Nature Conservation is a sponsor of this event. If Ada County is participating, this may be an event to share.

B. Moore shared that there is a new development called Spring Rock. It will be located between Pleasant Valley Road and Cole Road on Ten Mile Creek Road. They are proposing a lot of pathways and park space. This will be 2,800 homes.

Lady Bird Park will be moved along the river. The County is doing a design competition for this park. They will recruit up to 3 entities putting together a design. This will be a land swap situation because of how this land was purchased.

Hilarie provided a tour of the new Fish & Game building.

ADJOURNMENT

K. Kostka adjourned the meeting at 12:49 p.m.