



Planning Department

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MINUTES

ARROWSTONE PARK BOARD TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Trails Sub-Committee met in regular session on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. in the Hospital Board Room.

Members Present: Bob Rase, Marlene Swant, Patrick Moody, Jeff Johnson

Members Absent: Gail Eide, Gary Swant, Laurie Duncan

Staff: Carl Hamming

Guests: Cathy Costakis

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

Member Jeff Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:30am and with four members present, a quorum was established.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of Minutes

Member Rase motioned to approve the meeting notes from last meeting, September 20, 2017, with Member Marlene Swant seconding the motion. The Members approved the minutes by a vote of 4-0.

Agenda Item #3 – Old Milwaukee Railroad Property Update

Mr. Hamming updated the Board on the potential acquisition. The Buy/Sell agreement has been signed and runs through February, 2018. Mr. Hamming has coordinated with NRDP to initiate the Public Comment period (runs through Nov. 3rd) and is scheduled to present to the Advisory Council at their November 14th meeting at which the Council should vote on the potential acquisition. Thus far, comments have been mostly in favor of acquisition.

The Board also discussed the hopeful next step of holding a stakeholder meeting at which RCCC, DNRC, County Parks/Trails, perhaps a Land Trust and FWP as well could sit down and discuss the best possible uses and management for the property and try to minimize concerns about livestock management and trespassing. The Board discussed the importance of having a concept and plan organized before the meeting so that the County has a singular vision to work towards.

Mr. Hamming will send out the 1-page summary of the proposed acquisition to the group as well as Julie Schroder of the Powell County Chamber of Commerce to solicit more comments and letters.

Agenda Item #4 – Johnson Creek Connector

Mr. Hamming updated the Board on the connector. The culverts are being installed this week all thanks for the County Road Crew and Commissioner Sager. The fencing contractor should be installing the fence in the next 1-2 weeks and the timing should work to submit the grant paperwork in a timely manner. Funding for the connector trail is provided by AARP. After the fencing is completed, it will be important to promote the trail with signage and marketing. The County will need to draw up some trail maps and have visual aids available online and in-person. Member Rase suggested calling Amanda Bohrer of the Anti-Tobacco group to see if there are any potential funding mechanisms through her group.

Agenda Item #5 – Cathy Costakis

Cathy Costakis of MSU, visited the Trails Committee as a follow-up of the BACI conference last May in Butte. Cathy was interested in hearing what the Deer Lodge valley had been working on recently as well as to update the group on some upcoming events. Cathy publicized a health conference taking place in Helena on November 1-2 as well as the next BACI conference in Livingston on May 15-17th. At this time, the organizers are still trying to determine conference size and if they can invite all interested parties back to the conference.

Agenda Item #6 - Public Comments

None

Agenda Item # 7 – Scheduling of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 10:30am on November 15th. This date may need to be moved as a couple of members voiced existing conflicts.

Agenda Item # 8 – Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.

X

Laurie Duncan

Trails Sub Committee President