



Snyderville Basin Special Recreation District
Board Work Session Minutes
Wednesday, March 23, 2011
Schefter Conference Room - Trailside Park
5715 Trailside Drive
Park City, Utah

Board Members in Attendance: Tracey Douthett, Ron Perry, Kevin Simon, Marilyn Stinson, Jay Burke, Jim Magruder, Dawn Vibert Bowes

Absent: None

Staff/Employees Present: Rena Jordan, Bonnie Park, Senta Beyer, Bob Radke, John Miner.

Attending Guests: Eileen Galoostian (Silver Creek), Bill DeMong (Sun Peak), Val Langan (Sun Peak), Liz Hecht (Silver Creek).

The work session of March 23, 2011 was called to order by Chair Douthett at 6:09 pm. She explained to attending guests that the agenda tonight is a work session between staff and the Board. Input from Bill DeMong was invited this evening to provide insight on trail development specific to the Kimball Junction open space parcel. She asked staff to open the discussion.

Senta Beyer said she will present the 2011 trails program of work along with her staff.

Rena Jordan interceded to request that Board members plan to stay after the work session in order to have discussion on District personnel matters in executive session.

Jordan also stated that, in response to input by the Board, this work session will be less structured to foster Board discussion. Staff is prepared to facilitate the Board with resources, but this format is intended to be interactive at the request of the Board.

Douthett asked that the Board stay on track with respect to discussion on community-wide trail system improvements.

Senta Beyer introduced trails staff members, including Trails Maintenance Coordinator, Bob Radke, and Trails Lead Worker, John Minor. Michael Everett is the fourth member of the team and unable to attend this evening.

Beyer presented plans for the proposed trails on the Kimball Junction open space. They contemplate Nordic trails, in addition to improving transportation trail connectivity in the Junction area. She described the approach to Nordic trails and the work with Army Corps. In the aspen forested area, environmental baseline data showed the impact of the UOP road

construction on the aspen forest. The Nordic trails plan proposes to selectively harvest the dead trees, based on information from the baseline data, as a part of trail construction.

Beyer went on to describe the paved Millennium Trail that will connect Bear Hollow to both the SR 224 Underpass south of the Olympic Parkway to Redstone, and will also connect to the I-80 overpass at Kimball Junction. In the District's Trails Masterplan, the Millennium Trail connection has been identified as a paved transportation trail to also connect Bear Hollow to Crestview to avoid intersections at Kimball Junction. This alignment will be dependent upon grading for the Park City Research Park.

Beyer described the explosion in the Nordic ski community in Park City. Nordic trails are proposed to support public recreation and youth programs at the base of the Utah Olympic Park. The Nordic plan expansion has been supported with a fully funded Restaurant Tax Grant. These trails will also provide for some beginning mountain bike terrain in the summer. She described the existing link from the base of the UOP jumps to the upper portion of Sun Peak and Rob's trail that takes users to the Mid-Mountain Trail and Wasatch Crest Trail. It is a vital link for all trail users - without interfacing with the traffic at the Kimball Junction. In response to a question by board member Bowes, Beyer said the standard is 10' hard/ 4' soft, but that equestrians don't typically enter into the urban environment and congestion of the junction. Bowes noted the equestrian properties at the Canyons and asked how they would be served. Beyer said equestrians do use Rob's Trail, Colin's Trail, Mid-Mountain and Wasatch Crest Trail. Bowes acknowledged the proximity of Canyons horse properties to those trails inquired as to the standard for Nordic trails. Beyer explained that the Nordic use was not contemplated for standards in 2006. The winter grooming program has grown to accommodate multiple winter trail users in recent years.

Jordan described progress on the conservation easement being prepared for the Kimball Junction open space. With multiple entities contributing to the financing, interests are varied and conservation values are being established. A six month process has contemplated uses on that property including the vast gamut of interests from trails to a cemetery. Utah Open Lands has studied the conservation values. With all input, the conservation easement will take into account all of the needs/wants/wishes to approve the conservation values. Jordan said there is some sentiment that proposed trails are not consistent with the conservation values. Beyer said these transportation links have been contemplated since the trails master plan was envisioned well before the Kimball Junction open space was acquired. Jordan said in the drafting of the conservation easement the provision for Nordic and transportation trails should be included.

Bowes asked if a non-paved trail precludes use by bikes. Jordan explained that in the opinion of some users it does, using the example of a biker trailering a burley. Beyer explained hard surface trails are more expensive to construct; soft surface trails are more expensive to maintain over time. Bowes asked if this is something that needs to be updated in the capital plan. Jordan emphasized that the District is aware the 2006 capital facilities plan needs to be updated. Beyer explained the practical realities of implementation of the trails plan in the field. Bowes questioned if, of the current 12 miles of paved trails, any adhere with the standards, as she is not aware of any. Beyer said that the District always tries to adhere to the standards, but it depends on the nature of the development being approved and site constraints as trails are improved. Bowes said she is not aware of any of the twelve miles of hard surface trails that comply with the standards. Beyer offered to take Bowes out and show her.

Jay Burke asked for Bill Demong to provide his insight on the UOP Nordic trails for the benefit of Basin Rec Board members serving on BOSAC. Demong said his experience has been in the area of Lake Placid, NY. He praised the successes of the Park City community in trail planning and development and has reviewed generations of the proposed UOP Nordic trails. Several alignments have been flagged in working through the process. He believes the Nordic market has grown to the level in recent years that options between venues are needed. A void that the proposed UOP trails would fill would be a free, public, non-dog skiing venue for Nordic skiing in the winter. The UOP could hold junior Nordic and Nordic combined events. It could provide both training and competition venues resulting in a strong addition to the Nordic portfolio, in a little different setting than what is already available. He said the design would need to meet international ski federation standards with respect to grades. Discussion followed on potential parking areas. Jordan said event parking would likely occur up at the UOP utilizing shuttles. Beyer said the Restaurant Tax Grant committee was very supportive of the plan as Nordic events would drive visitation. Jordan said operationally the intention is to work with the UOP. This venue is intended for public use by the community while providing a Nordic training ground so that the need to travel to Soldier Hollow for athlete training is less. Bob Radke said another aspect that was considered in the summer season design is how it would serve constituents as a beginner level mountain bike venue. This is a niche that could be better served with a 4' wide natural dirt, fairly flat undulating beginner mountain bike loop. Jordan said an agreement between the District and UOP for operation and maintenance would spell out how this venue would be managed, and that a future Restaurant Grant application could fund the purchase of grooming equipment.

Beyer outlined the next steps. A BOSAC subcommittee will work toward reviewing and recommending the trail plan so that there is an understanding of how cuts in the landscape and visual impacts of the trail will be minimized to abolish fears of BOSAC. In response to a question from Bowes, Beyer clarified that no bond funds will be used on this project. Jordan said the District is at the tipping point with BOSAC to determine if the UOP system can be completed this year. The design has been in the works for over a year while the environmental impacts have been studied and conservation values have been discussed. Other proposed uses on the open space include some required road improvements and a cemetery. Simon stated he wants the opportunity to clarify his opinion on the Nordic trail plan with BOSAC.

Discussion followed on the Olympic Parkway pedestrian underpass. The RFP is out with submittals due March 29th, after which a short-list of contractors will be approved. The contract will be approved at the May 11th Board meeting. The County is taking the lead on project management. Beyer is working with the Army Corps and on the acquisition of easements on the east side by Redstone. Easements on the west side of SR 224 have been acquired.

Beyer went on to describe the existing trail system along north mountain and how the proposed East Canyon Creek trail will connect the Jeremy Ranch trail head on Blue Bird Lane to the Spring Creek subdivision. She is in the process of meeting with eleven different land owners and East Canyon Creek Watershed Committee. Some easements have been acquired; others will need to be negotiated. A list of owner incentives to provide easements is being created. The benefits of this trail will be to function as both a transportation and recreation trail. The ability for trail users to create loops off the existing back country trails, and its proximity to a water course makes it unique. This trail may lend itself to grooming in winter. Bowes asked what the surface will be. Beyer said it will be paved, 8-10 feet, depending upon site constraints. It will be advantageous to construct this trail when stream flows are low in late July or August, if easements are in place by

then. While the trail corridor will provide fisherman access, there will be fencing to protect the stream restoration efforts. Jeremy Ranch homeowners association has a continued interest in providing land for a passive recreation as discussed with the Board on a site visit last summer. Ron Perry said he still is under the impression that the Jeremy Open Space is restricted under a conservation easement. Beyer said the area would lend itself to development of a linear parkway. Bowes asked what the definition of a passive linear parkway is, and for the definition of active and passive recreation. Jordan gave several examples to distinguish passive vs. active. Bonnie Park said definitions of active and passive can be provided. She said the District has been most successful in combining active and passive uses at park sites such as at Trailside and Willow Creek Park with developed park space in combination with open space and trails. In the case of a linear park idea, that would be categorized as passive providing area for activities like picnicking along a trail corridor. Bowes questioned if passive areas are conducive to events. Park said that some conservation easements held on land purchased for open space specify events as an allowed use.

Chair Douthett suggested Beyer describe what is occurring with transportation trails along Rasmussen Road from Gorgoza to Summit Park. Beyer said these connections are not contemplated until next year, and a vital connection along that corridor will be dependent upon the Discovery Core Rezone project.

Beyer went on to describe the Highland Drive Connector Trail. She said that she has interfaced with the Highland Drive neighborhood for a period of four or five years. This trail will be improved in conjunction with Summit County. Great feedback was received at the open houses, and County engineer Derrick Radke attended an additional meeting with the HOA. Bowes questioned the District standard for paved trails. She said a number of people have contacted her to say if the trail is paved they will not have access they currently have today - they cannot ride on paved trails because it is unsafe. Beyer said typically trail construction has a soft shoulder that will accommodate equestrians, but this segment will be programmed as an urban trail due to constraints by existing development. Bowes referred to the map to point out all the equestrian neighborhoods including Highland Estates, Old Ranch Road, Silver Creek, Goshawk, Red Hawk, Nob Hill and Promontory. Beyer said all District trails are public trails open to equestrians. Bowes disagreed stating that these trails are not open to equestrians because equestrians have to trailer their horse to access the trails. Jay Burke said that he has to put his mountain bike on his car to access the trails. Bowes said there are no trailheads that service horse trailers. Rena Jordan intervened to request that Chair Douthett not allow staff to be put on the defensive, stating this work session is feeling antagonistic. Bowes said she is trying to explain the position of the equestrian community. Chair Douthett explained to Bowes that the District deals with all kinds of recreational interests and recreationalists, and that she is representing one interest. Beyer reiterated that all Basin trails are open to the public, and equestrians have access to all. Bowes maintained if trails are paved equestrians are prevented from using them. Beyer said equestrians have access to Round Valley at Quinns and she has seen equestrians on Rob's and Colin's trail accessing from the Park City Community Church. Beyer said there is a lack of understanding of process and how the District gets things done. Bowes said the District is not listening to the equestrian community and that is a problem. She said if this is not open for discussion now, she suggests at some point the equestrian needs be addressed. She stated the District is proposing to pave all around where equestrians live and this will prevent access. Burke said the District needs to consider the needs of multiple user groups.

Douthett went on to review the trailhead proposed in combination with a Mountain Regional pump house location, UDOT right-of-way and possibly the Aspen Glen HOA at the end of the

Highland Drive Trail. Jordan said this trailhead will hopefully alleviate concerns of the neighbors with parking issues that have surfaced since the opening of the Silver Quinn Trail. Beyer said she will communicate with the HOA's in the area. The number of parking spaces is undetermined at this point. This trailhead will be maintained by the District. Jordan re-stated that the County is providing project management for the Highland Drive Trail project, and will advertise the bid and manage the contract. Beyer said based on feedback from Highland Estates Homeowners, the trail on the north side is preferable from the Burns underpass to Old Ranch Road. From Old Ranch Road to Silver Summit Parkway a trail may be accommodated on both sides of Highland Drive. Safety of users along this transportation trail is a priority. Beyer said the Highland Estates HOA is reviewing their neighborhood bridle easements for access through their subdivision. Bob Radke explained the access that residents of Highland Estates typically use to access Round Valley, a portion of which is on private property.

Stinson asked how the Basin Recreation projects will be communicated to the public this summer. Beyer said this will in-part occur with the Mountain Trails updates on KPCW, and information will be included in the spring newsletter and on the new website. Burke said the District should clearly communicate the connectivity the proposed projects will create through the social media outlets the District will have. Jordan said this communication will be important with disruption to traffic along SR 224. Because it is a design build project, the traffic management plan will be forthcoming, but UDOT has placed restrictions on the timing and number of allowable lane closures. Marilyn Stinson said members of the Kimball Junction Business Alliance are very excited about the underpass project.

Bob Radke described the approach to completion of Phase I of the Trailside Bike Park and the beginning of Phase II. The contractor will be back this spring to complete Phase I and a grand opening will be planned. A budget allocation of \$75,000 will allow for construction of the second phase to include an all-mountain loop intermediate trail and more technical downhill, along with a skills park referred to as a "session zone."

Beyer said another 2011 project is the backcountry trail from mid-mountain to Pinecone Ridge and the Wasatch Crest Trail at the top of "puke hill." The City portion of this trail will be from Silver Star to Mid-mountain scheduled to be complete by July 1. Jordan said one District focus is to complete trails projects tied to restaurant tax grants before applying for more.

Jordan asked staff to describe the seasonal trails team. Bob Radke described the role of seasonal staff beginning May 1. Scheduled maintenance is planned for magnesium chloride application, based on timing of weather. The mag chloride is a dust inhibitor and soil hardener that aids in compaction. Man hours in May - early June are also devoted to weed spray. While soil moisture is high in the spring, trail tread repairs are made on natural surface trails. Mid-June - July crews are out clearing deadfall on the upper elevation trails. Bowes inquired as to the District's involvement with National Trails Day. Radke described the National Trails Day project on June 4th. This year the event will center on the Gorgoza trail.

Radke went on to describe June - July repairs which typically occur on soft surface road base trails, and patching of asphalt. Early July staff spends up to three weeks cutting back side vegetation. There will be a focus on Princess Di Trail, located in Promontory, this season. Sign installations and repairs are ongoing. Currently there are 350 signposts to be maintained. Fall rains provide opportunity for additional tread repair. There are three new dams along the McLeod Creek that Radke has been observing this winter. Staff is on watch for potential trail

flooding. There will be three seasonals for a period of 23 weeks on staff this summer. Radke said the Bike Park requires flow checks and regular safety and maintenance. He said Mutt Mitt station maintenance is also ongoing; the District used 180 cases of mutt-mitts with 800 bags in a case last year. Burke said this is a good factoid for the new web site, in addition to possibly featuring trail sections such as Princess Di. Staff profiles could also be included. Jordan said guided hikes will also be ongoing this summer.

Forthcoming bid awards will include the Olympic Parkway underpass on May 11 and possibly the change order for the Trailside Bike Park, phase II. Brief discussion occurred on the potential for grants and sponsorships to fund additional bike park development. Burke suggests one good partner, rather than multiple small sponsors, would be preferable.

At 8:00 pm Chair Douthett called for a motion to adjourn the trails work session.

MOTION: To adjourn the work session of March 23, 2011. [Perry/Simon].

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL

At this time members of the public and staff were excused. At 8:07, Chair Douthett called for a motion to enter into executive session.

MOTION: To enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. [Perry/Stinson] All in favor: Tracey Douthett, Ron Perry, Kevin Simon, Marilyn Stinson, Jay Burke, Jim Magruder, Dawn Vibert Bowes. None Opposed. Absent: None. Motion carries.

At 8:46 pm Chair Douthett called for a motion to close executive session and adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: To close the executive session and adjourn the meeting of March 23, 2011. [Perry/Magruder] All in favor: Tracey Douthett, Ron Perry, Kevin Simon, Marilyn Stinson, Jay Burke, Jim Magruder, Dawn Vibert Bowes. None Opposed. Absent: None. Motion carries.

Minutes prepared by Bonnie Park

Clerk/Board Member Approval: _____

