



Open Space Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2015

Attendees: Chuck Vertrees, Lisa Ahrens, Ken Winer, Tim Breuer, Bill Junk, Ron Fehringer, Eddy Petranek, Sam Warren, Janine Reynard, Steve Clay, Kahle Becker

Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.

Meeting minutes of the Open Space Meeting of September 1, 2015 were approved as submitted.

The order of business for the Open Space Committee meeting was as follows:

1. Open Space Committee Charter

Second draft of the Open Space Committee Charter was reviewed and discussed by the group. Suggestions were:

- Identify Firewise in Responsibilities.
- Identify Conservation Easement Management Consultant as an ex officio member of the committee.
- Identify what constitutes quorum ie, more than 50% of the total number appointed members.
- Add to responsibilities of appointed members a voting requirement either in person or by proxy email on recommendations and/or decisions put forward to the Town Council.
- a core committee for continuity, decisions and voting on recommendations.

Committee to review the Draft via email so the Charter can be put before the Town Council at the next Town Council Working Meeting.

2. Staff Report

Goats have finished grazing in the community for 2015. Committee suggested that goat grazing and other fire fuel reduction methods be explored further.

- Are there more viable options for reduction in order to address larger areas of the community?
- Is there any research on the success of goat grazing vs. other methods?
- Can the goat grazing be done early in the season (Late May/early June).
- What about llamas?

Intermountain Aquatics will be submitting a bid for application of pre-emergent on Schick's Ridge Draw and Andy's gulch. Intermountain Aquatics suggested not spraying Dry Creek Road area. Re-seeding of these areas is recommended for Fall 2016.

Future review of common space in particular the areas that adjacent to homes should be reviewed.

3. Daniels Creek Update

The trail is complete. It has not been publicly promoted or identified on a map however word has spread via social media channels.

- No Parking Signs along the East side of Cartwright were installed
- Bill Junk suggested that additional No Parking Signs be installed where trail crosses Cartwright / blind turn. Based on traffic count, ACHD has not identified a need for No Parking signs in this location at this time.
- Post rail fence trail access points have been identified and scheduled with Element Fencing. Access points will have a cross bar to slow / stop pedestrian and biker traffic prior to crossing the road.
- Stop signs at the access points, trash cans and Mutt Mitt stations are also planned.

Ridge to Rivers is working on a Trail Management Plan. They are currently conducting a survey – visit <http://www.ridgetorivers.org/> to participate.

Currently there is not an identified time-frame for the second trail route discussed with Ridge to Rivers. Committee agreed this would be a great Community Project.

- Currently a “social or unofficial trail” can already be seen.
- Chuck Vertrees is working with Sam (last name?) on a date for trail maintenance lead training and will discuss the possibility of hosting the training on this route.
- Consider signing the “social or unofficial trail” with information about the Community Project and request hikers abstain from use until a trail route is identified to mitigate restoration in addition to construction.
- Signs identifying the transition from Ridge to Rivers to Hidden Springs trails should also be considered.

The need for an Open Space Management / 5 Year Plan was discussed.

- Kahle Becker suggested that once the committee is appointed in December that in 2016 a sub-committee form to review the previous plan, survey the community and a 2016 – 2021 plan be drafted. The group agreed and supported this suggestion.

4. Wetlands

A long time Open Space member emailed the Town Office regarding the Wetlands, over growth, cattail encroachment on homes and over growth and possible blockage in ACHD channel from Wetlands under Hidden Springs Drive.

- The HSTA Office has met with Army Corps of Engineers – They thought the Wetlands looked and smelled very healthy.
- InterMountain Aquatics suggested burning part of it. Burning can be effective if you can burn to the root and that would depend on how marshy it is out there. To prevent cattails from expanding you have to stop them at the root, meaning cut them off below the surface, and spray them when the brown fuzzy part is green. We would have to be very diligent for many years to contain what has expanded
- Additional research and maintenance plan to be researched and discussed early Spring 2016.

5. New Business

A number of residents from 5th Ave and Banker attended the meeting inquiring about the status of the Bike Jump Project proposed by Kim Lyons and Kids for Healthy Recreation.

- Chuck Vertrees summarized events to date.
 - The idea generated from the need for a location for kids to have a location to dig in the dirt and build bike jumps.
 - Any bike jump area would be probationary and the privilege would exist until abused.
 - After hearing the presentation at the September meeting, the Open Space Committee was in favor of the project concept.
 - Recommendations for next steps at that time included: identify rules and guidelines for use, tighten up proposal, address weed and goat head management, confer with residents and schedule a formal meeting to share with community for additional feedback.
- Lisa Ahrens confirmed that the project was shared with the Town Council at the August Working Town Council meeting. Town Council members were in favor of finding a location in the community where kids could dig in the dirt and construct bike jumps. Town Council agreed with the parameters that any area would be probationary and the privilege would exist until abused. At the September Working Town Council meeting and based on 5th Avenue residents' concerns the project and proposed location off the farm access road was tabled.
- Currently there are some bike jumps located off the access road south of Dry Creek in the fallow farm field. Kids interested in digging in the dirt and bike jumps are being redirected to this location – not a project or a track – just a place to dig in the dirt. Kids have been asked to be respectful of the land, community, residents in close proximity and be mindful of noise and trash.
- Residents with concerns and/or support of such a project, ideas regarding the location and/or suggestions regarding this topic were encouraged to attend the Town Meeting October 14th at 6:30pm in the Clubhouse and/or email the Town Council directly at towncouncil@hiddensprings.com.

Next meeting – November 3rd

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm