



Open Space Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2017

Attendees: Lisa Ahrens, Tim Breuer, Jay Karamales, Aimee Noonan, Ken Smith, Chuck Vertrees

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

Quorum was not present. Notes on the discussion at the Open Space Committee meeting follows:

October 10th 2017 Meeting Minutes

- Quorum was not present. Discussion and a vote to approve the October Meeting Minutes was conducted by email November 14, 2017. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Staff Report – Lisa Ahrens

- Tim updated the group on the latest discussions with Ada County Parks & Waterways and Ridge to Rivers regarding the potential loop concepts from Red Tail. A site visit by Ada County Parks and Ridge to Rivers took place the week of November 6th and a follow up meeting with HSTA and the Land Trust is pending.
- Currant Creek extension update. The gully crossing is complete and looks great. The fence between Hidden Springs and the Ranchers property should be fixed. The old red and white Currant Creek Trail access sign with directional marker should be removed – it is no longer accurate.
- The Farm Committee
- Hidden Springs Community Farm presented an extensive overview of 2017 operations to the Town Council at the October 16th Working Town Council Meeting. A request was made by the Farm Committee to be an independent committee of Open Space instead of a sub-committee. The Farm Committee Charter (modeled after the Open Space Charter), the chair and support for 2018 were unanimously approved.
- Contracted trail inspection and maintenance was approved by and included in the 2018 HSTA Budget. Specific details and amendment of the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley agreement pending.
- Ten trail signs are ready for installation. Utilizing the Open Space Committees recommendation on placement, HSTA will move forward with installation.
- 2018 Notice of Intent to Participate on the Open Space Committee forms were handed out to those in attendance. The form is also available on the community website.
- The December Open Space Meeting will be an informal gathering at the Merc.

New Business

- A reroute of the uphill side of Landslide Meadow Trail where it intersects Dry Creek Road was discussed to improve user safety. The reroute specifics will be discussed early spring 2018.
- Jay shared the location of the historical sites in the hills north of Rolling Hills. All agreed interpretive markers would be a nice addition and should be considered in the future when funds are available.
- Topic of the level of maintenance on Ridge 2 Rivers trails was raised again. A brief discussion followed:

- a. The trail easements are granted to Ada County and therein is the responsibility to maintain.
- b. The conservation easement created by Hidden Springs developers allows access on the trails. New trails must be approved by County.
- c. HSTA owns the underlying land. And retains certain rights and responsibilities, which could mean asking for specific increased maintenance. Also anyone using the trails can contact Ada County/Ridge to Rivers directly and request maintenance.
- d. It remains HSTA's position that the responsibility and maintenance of public trails is with Ada County and association resources will not be allocated.
- e. Residents interested in volunteering to work on public trails can contact Ada County/Ridge to Rivers for direction.
- f. Idaho statute protects landowners (public and private) from liability as long as no fee is being charged. Typically, trail easements have a 'hold harmless' clause from the county absolving HSTA from liability.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

Next Meeting is an informal gathering at the Merc on **Tuesday, December 5th**

- Tuesday, December 12th (Annual Meeting)
- Thursday, January 4th