



Open Space Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2019

Attendees: Lisa Ahrens, Dan Anderson, David Gordon, Eric Grace, William Junk, Jay Karamales, Kim Lyons, Aimee Noonan, Raece Oakeson, Eddy Petranek, Chris Roe, Tae Swoboda, Chuck Vertrees

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

February 5th Meeting Minutes

- The minutes were unanimously approved.

Introduction – Eric Grace introduced Chris Roe, LTTV Stewardship Coordinator.

Ridge to Rivers Dry Creek Valley Trail System – David Gordon, Ridge to Rivers Division Manager

- Landslide Loop contract awarded to Cuddy Mountain Trails. Ridge to Rivers will oversee construction.
- David is currently working with his team to assess 200+ miles of trail system in the valley to prioritize maintenance for the season.
- One of the worst weather scenarios (rain on snow) this year has impacted trail conditions along with user abuse. Maintenance is a race against time as it needs to be done before the trail(s) dry out completely. Ridge to Rivers will be very busy April – June.
- David inspected Hidden Springs Ridge to Rivers trails prior to the meeting and reported they look good comparatively.
- Some maintenance work needs to be done on Red Tail and Lookout loop. Maintenance tasks are on a 2-3 year rotation cycle.
- HSTA will continue to educate residents on proper trail use/care and include trail care messaging in new resident packets. HSTA to consider season messaging for residents and include “Happy Trails Pledge.”
- Landslide Loop connection to Avimor is in the works. Complex due to multiple land owners.
- Some discussion on trail expansion in the Dry Creek Valley along the creek, Seaman’s Gulch, Cartwright and Pierce Park trail connection.

Staff Report

Community Improvement Project List

- Community Improvement Project Ideas associated with Open Space:
 - Goat head eradication on trails all around HS organic garden and creek.
 - Improve the Red Tail Trails across Dry Creek Road with sand and gravel so they can be used year-round without destroying them because of mud. Check out the improvements the City of Boise made on the trails behind Camel Back park to see an example. These improvements are making a great difference to keep the trails passable and nice when it rains or snows.
 - Extension of Dry Creek Trail all the way West to Dry Creek Road.
 - Trail around the wetland - possibly including boardwalk through marshy area(s) and benches.
 - Making the trail between Sage Creek and Deer Path an all-weather trail.
 - All weather running track around the Orchard.

Water Tank Trail Reroute

- Update on-hold until weather and ground conditions permit.

Open Space Maintenance

- **Noxious weeds** – Hopkins is gearing/staffing up for a “weedy” spring. Hopkins will begin spraying when weather conditions permit and weeds sprout.
- **Tree and shrub trimming** - Hopkins will continue with trimming, thinning and clearing out dead material in natural common spaces throughout the community. Done Rite will inspect and remove dead material along Dry Creek and the Wetlands between W. Hidden Springs Drive and Parsons.
- **Access road at the end of Long Meadow and 14th** - HSTA met with the neighbors at the end of Long Meadow and 14th. The access road will be restored this spring and the road mix and crushed gravel will be feathered into the trail connecting to the Landslide Meadow trail.
- **Wetland area between Hidden Springs Drive and Parsons** – Embankment/berm is rebuilt. Native shrub install, area restoration and clean up pending.
- **“Thank you for leashing your dog and picking up poop...”** Signage in the works for a few test areas in the community.

Trail Maintenance

- Status of LTTV trail assessment and maintenance priority list?
- Trail Crew Training?
- Trail Maintenance and Community Clean Up – Saturday April 20th

Firewise

- Received 2018 Firewise USA Certificate of Renewal which certifies Hidden Springs satisfactorily completed the 2018 renewal criteria and has maintained its *In Good Standing* status through the 2019 calendar year.
- Wildfire Preparedness Day – Friday May 3rd and Saturday May 4th
 - a. Fire-fuel reduction and debris collection
 - b. Fire hydrant painting

Committee Reports

Bike Area

- Hopkins will spray for weeds.
- Permanent signage to replace corro-signs on order.

Farm

- Currently planning the 2019 season and waiting for the ground to dry out!
- February set a new record in the Treasure Valley with 4.2” of precipitation in Hidden Springs compared to .58” in February of 2018. The farm fields are very muddy and need to dry out.
- They will begin trimming the raspberries next week and gather soil samples for testing.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

Next Meeting is **Tuesday, April 2nd**