

Minutes of Foundation for Ada-Canyon Trail Systems
COMPASS Conference Room
February 15, 2017

Attendance:

Mark Eubank, Citizen
Jay Gibbons, Meridian Parks
William F. Gigray, F.A.C.T.S. President
Leo Hennessey, Idaho Parks and Recreation
Scott Koberg, Ada County Parks and Waterways
Tom Laws, COMPASS
Paul Mann, Caldwell Path and Bike Committee
Robert Minch, Citizen
Patricia Nilsson, Canyon County
Steve Noyes, City of Eagle
Gary Payne, F.A.C.T.S. Vice-President
Phil Peterson, Nampa Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Colin Schmidt, Garden City
Gary Segers, Citizen
Don Stockton, Eagle Parks and Pathway Committee
Cody Swander, City of Nampa Parks and Recreation
Charles Trainor, Citizen
John Wasson, ACHD

1. Call to order at 3:01 PM by President Gigray.
2. President Gigray asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. Paul Mann said he would like someone to talk about the real estate value benefits accruing from pathway access from an Urban Land Institute meeting on February 8, 2017. Tom Laws said he would cover this in his presentation. With that addition, Gary Payne moved and Paul Mann seconded to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved on a voice vote.
3. Administrative Action Items
 - a. Secretary's Report
 - i. President Gigray said the minutes of the January 18, 2017 meeting had been disseminated, and he asked if there were any changes. Paul Mann had a concern on item 4.c.8.iii, with the phrasing in that it implied most of the corridor has state-owned easements. The group accepted the change to "Easements are required to the confluence, and some already have been acquired by the state." There was also a change to item 7.f to state "...researching a potential mountain bike route from McCall..." With those changes, Paul Mann moved to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Gary Payne and approved on a voice vote.
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Bank Account Report. Phil Peterson provided a bank statement indicating that the current balance is \$12,280.62. Don Stockton moved to approve the Treasurer's report. This was seconded by Phil Peterson. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

c. President's Report

- i) President Gigray reported that he sent a letter to Brooke Green of ACHD, a copy of which was included in the packet. Tom Laws recommended a separate letter be sent regarding the Fairview Avenue pathway connection to the City of Boise. Patricia Nilsson noted this issue had been discussed by the COMPASS Regional Technical Advisory Committee as one of 86 projects submitted for funding consideration. Phil Peterson moved and Gary Segers seconded to authorize a letter be sent on this topic to Boise City. Motion was approved on a voice vote.
- ii) President Gigray said Cathy Ward, Star City Clerk and planner, had sent a copy of the Star plan, which he would transmit to members.
- iii) President Gigray introduced Patricia Nilsson as a representative from Canyon County.

d. Other Officer Reports as Needed.

- i. Gary Payne said work on the web site was continuing. He added his kudos to Boise City for keeping the pathways open with all the snow.

4. Special Information Items

- a. Future F.A.C.T.S. Projects. Gary Segers distributed a list of eleven proposed projects/items of concern for the coming year. These had been discussed at the January meeting. He asked if there were any other projects. Others were suggested, including Lake Lowell pathways, legislative involvement, and fund raising. Some of the items were regrouped under a broader topic. There was extensive discussion about past planning, including the 2009 Boise River Trails Plan, the desired role of F.A.C.T.S. in planning, and developing a vision for going forward to the west. Part of this involved pursuing a Joint Powers Agreement. There was also discussion about F.A.C.T.S. getting involved in lobbying on issues related to pathways, with President Gigray cautioning this role given the organization's 501(c)(3) status. After discussion by the group, Gary asked people to use their three stickers to indicate their priorities, noting that they could only put one dot per topic. The results were:

Top three projects

- I. Pathway to Eagle Island
- II. Update 2009 Boise River Trails Systems Plan. Include the following as part of the Plan:
 - o Public Health Benefits
 - o Joint Powers Agreement
 - o Pathway planning and standards
- III. Boise River Easements

Other important projects and initiatives:

- IV. Web Design/Public Involvement and awareness
- V. Invite other jurisdictions/organizations/individuals to join FACTS Board
- VI. Fund raising (added)

Projects/Initiatives that FACTS will help support and be advocates for:

- VII. COMPASS "Bike-Walk Pathway" mapping
- VII. Rails with Trails initiative
- VIII. Lake Lowell pathway project (added)
- IX. Legislative involvement at state and local level (added)
- X. Wine country touring and active transportation (added)

XI. Signage on pathways and trails

- b. Eagle Island Pathway. Robert Minch and Don Stockton said they were working with the City of Eagle on this project. It is approximately 0.7 miles long.
 - c. COMPASS Map Status. Tom Laws addressed the issue of housing values being affected by proximity to pathways. A recent study by the Urban Land Institute concluded that proximity to pathways does add to home values. He also spoke about the home values in Hidden Springs and Harris Ranch being positively affected by pathways. There can be as much as a \$100,000 boost in value given proximity to trails. The question is whether there is a common place to find such studies. Tom said there is a need to have more local studies. He said the map is undergoing in-house review and whether to keep it in a prototype phase with password access. Possibly have it open for public viewing in six months. He needs to work with Jay Gibbons to get some updated Meridian information. He would like photos to post of the pathways. He has added bike shops, fix-it stations, parking areas and green bike stations. There could be some concern about having bike shops on. There is also a planning library of local plans for pathways. Someone asked about adding public restrooms. Tom said there are many things that are still under consideration. Timing could be an issue—getting it out while the bike season is still open.
 - d. Pathway Maintenance. No report.
5. Continuing Business. None.
 6. New Business. None.
 7. Reports as Time Permits
 - a. Ada County Highway District. John Wasson had no report.
 - b. Ada County Parks and Waterways. Scott Koberg said the Judy Peavey Derr pathway segment was in poor condition after the harsh winter. Ada County has stretched its resources, and there are many competing needs. He apologized for the situation, noting that they had not been able to remove ice from the trails. The signage for this trail is in process, with installation slated for this spring. The location will be near the FACTS kiosk at the Garden City boundary, which also needs updating. He noted the need for trash facilities along the path. He said there would be a bike repair station near the Garden City bridge. He went on to say the County would be striping center lines on the trails possibly next year. He said some people have complained about Japanese yew trees along the paths, but he said these are on private property.
 - c. Caldwell Trails and Pathways. Paul Mann reported that they had presented the 2040 plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission the night before. This plan will then go to the City Council for approval on April 3, 2017.
 - d. Canyon County Parks Recreation & Waterways. Patricia Nilsson reported that Tom Bicak would be retiring.
 - e. Canyon County Highway District 4. No report.
 - f. Idaho Transportation Department. No report.
 - g. City of Eagle Parks and Recreation. Steve Noyes said the Trails Master Plan is going forward. The Dry Creek underpass at SH 44 has been obligated. The City has increased pathway maintenance staff. The Parks and Recreation director has resigned.
 - h. Eagle Parks and Pathways Development Commission. No report.
 - i. Garden City. No report.
 - j. Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation. No report.

- k. Idaho Oregon Snake River Water Trail. No report.
- l. Boise River Enhancement Network. No report.
- m. Meridian Parks & Pathways. No report.
- n. Nampa Parks Department. Cody Swander said the City would be considering a pathway repair project on February 21, with work slated for this spring. The City is planning for the extension of the Grimes Creek pathway to the east, connecting to the Idaho Center Boulevard.
- o. City of Kuna. No report.
- p. Other. Gary Payne noted there is an excellent book on the Greenbelt written by David Proctor titled "Pathway of Dreams: Building the Boise Greenbelt." It is available on Amazon.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m. Next meeting was set for March 15, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Trainor, Secretary

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