

Minutes of Foundation for Ada-Canyon Trail Systems  
COMPASS Conference Room  
September 20, 2017

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Attendance:

Marcus Amman, COMPASS  
Jeanne Barker, Garden City  
Mark Eubank, Citizen  
Gerald Flatz, J-U-B Engineers  
William F. Gigray, F.A.C.T.S. President  
Brooke Green, Ada County Highway District  
Leo Hennessey, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation  
Phylis King, Idaho Representative -- District 18  
Larry Maneely, Ada County  
Paul Mann, Caldwell Bike and Path Committee  
Robert Minch, Eagle Citizen  
Steve Noyes, Eagle Parks and Recreation  
Gary Payne, Citizen  
Judy Peavey-Derr  
Phil Peterson, Nampa Bike Pedestrian  
Gary Segers, Idaho Walk Bike Alliance  
Charles Trainor, F.A.C.T.S. Secretary  
Duane Wakan, COMPASS

1. Call to order at 3:03 PM by Vice-President Gary Payne. (President Gigray joined the meeting later.)
2. Action Items.  
Vice-President Payne asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. Robert Minch asked that the item for Jerry Flatz regarding the Eagle Island path be moved up. Gary Segers said he would like time to talk about his discussion with Cathy Ward of Star. With those changes, Vice-President Gary Payne asked the agenda be approved by consent. With no opposition, this was accepted.
3. Administrative Action Items and Officer Report.
  - a. Vice-President Gary Payne noted the minutes of the August 2017 meeting had been disseminated and he asked if there were any changes. No changes were proposed, and Gary Segers moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mark Eubank. Motion was approved on a voice vote.
  - b. Phil Peterson said there were no changes in the bank account from last month and the current bank balance remained \$12,240.28. He said the tax return was on a "postcard" and had been filed as necessary to retain the 5.01c.3 tax exempt status. Upon a motion by Steve Noyes and seconded by Paul Mann, the financial report was approved on a voice vote.
  - c. Presidents Report. President Gigray took over his duties as chair of the meeting. He said Matt Stoll, COMPASS Executive Director, had received the letter and presented the request (for COMPASS to oversee the update to the *2009 Boise River Trails Plan*) to his Executive Committee. This group asked for some refinement to the request, specifically to provide more details on how this plan would be different than other planning being done by COMPASS. Duane Wakan was asked what current planning might overlap with this work, but Duane said he was not yet familiar enough with

COMPASS planning to answer. He will report back at the October meeting on this issue. President Gigray said he thought the critical difference was in implementation, specifically the need to adopt a joint powers agreement (JPA) regarding, among other things, maintenance. Gary Segers agreed. President Gigray handed out the email from Matt Stoll. Gary Payne moved to authorize Gary Segers to work with COMPASS on this request. Gary Segers seconded, and the motion was approved on a voice vote.

President Gigray said he was working with staff to send letter to agencies regarding Idaho Department of Lands easements. IDOL is willing to transfer these easements he believed. He then noted the list of Board members provided in the packet and reminded attendees of the November board elections.

d. Special Ad Hoc Committee Reports

- i. Eagle Island Pathway. (Had been item 3.d.iii and was moved up per earlier action.) Robert Minch said there was good and bad news. They met with Don and Luann Newman, with Mayor Ridgeway, Tim Williams, and Lisa Bachman. There was also someone from the Corps of Engineers. It was a good meeting, and Robert said the Newmans indicated their willingness to give the land for use as a pathway. There was another safari to the land in question, and those who went agreed it was very dense vegetation. Jerry Flatz said the public liked the existing path along the levee to the east, which is also the preferred alignment to the west. The issue is that the high-water mark has changed and the new mark may make it very difficult to make the connection. It could be very expensive along the route preferred by the Newmans. Jerry said mitigation alone could run \$500,000. Steve said we need to develop some reasonable alternatives with cost estimates. President Gigray talked about getting a license agreement to note a future bike path and brought up the issue of policing the site to prevent undesirable use. The group agreed the levee route was the only feasible option given the flood and environmental issues and costs.
- ii. Rails with Trails. No report.
- iii. 2009 Boise River Trail Plan Update. No report.
- iv. Irrigation District Liaison. No report.

4. Special Information Items.

- a. E-bike Legislation. (Moved up on agenda since Representative King had another meeting at 5:30pm.) President Gigray introduced Representative Phylis King. She started by describing how she had begun with a similar document from Bikes for People in Boulder, Colorado. This document has been used in four or five other states. There are three classes of e-bikes defined, varying by how the battery power is used and speed. She explained the provisions dealing with allowing these e-bikes on paths or bike lanes. She said the manufacturers would be on board with labeling the class of bike. Paul Mann noted the issue with speeds and issues such as congestion, sight distance, and number of users. There is also an issue of speed with number of users. Gary Segers said this document appears to be more of a definition of e-bikes. He was more concerned with where they are used. Rep. King noted that people should remember that the market for such bikes will be constrained by their cost, which may run \$2,500 or more. She described the sections which empower governments to allow such bikes on paths. It would be important for local governments to have similar speed limits and allowances. She is interested in hearing about costs and issues faced by local governments in signage and enforcement. There will be some changes dealing with the number of wheels—e.g. one, two, or three. Phil Peterson raised the issue of cities putting speed limits on e-bikes, which would presume bikes have speedometers. The only requirement for speedometers is on Class 3 bikes, which would not be allowed on paths. President Gigray said there were no provisions for penalties

for violating speed limits. Judy Peavey-Derr asked what would prevent other types of motor bikes from using the paths, with a response this only would allow these specific vehicles. One commenter noted the speed differential between walkers and existing pedal bikes can be scary. Rep. King said she would welcome sample language to address these issues, and Gary Segers said he could provide some. Charles Trainor asked how many jurisdictions actually have officers patrolling the pathways. Caldwell has officers on bikes, but Paul Mann said these are not necessarily working the pathways. President Gigray noted there was some ambiguity to the rights provided under this legislation and there are no penalties for violations contained in the draft legislation. There is also a need to define multi-use pathways under 49-730. Only cities and counties could enforce this by ordinance, except for ACHD which has ordinance authority. Rep. King said she wants to see responses to the draft. Contact information is on the Idaho State page. Gary Segers asked when people should comment. He expressed his concern about the speeds that would be allowed. President Gigray said there are many issues in how to set speed limits in a manner akin to how this is done on streets, referencing pavement conditions, sight lines, etc. Rep. King said she would love to have people comment. President Gigray voiced a concern about F.A.C.T.S. ability to comment given its non-profit status.

- b. Gary Segers said he had set a meeting with Cathy Ward of Star. He will tell her about F.A.C.T.S. Robert Minch said he should bring up the easement information. President Gigray said she should be informed about the Eagle Island work to connect pathways into the park and to points west. President Gigray noted Star's intent to annex land up toward Purple Sage into Canyon County. He thought this could affect pathway planning.
- c. Bridge Replacement. President Gigray welcomed Judy Peavey-Derr. Judy explained the background of the Plantation Island bridge. In 1986 Bob Oakes, then director for Ada County Parks, approached the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands, wanting a dedication of 34 acres as match for a grant involving the Barber Pools. The use of the land had to be recreational. Judy said since then, the Foundation has been trying to swap Plantation Island for the Barber land. Ada County applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for a replacement bridge, which was approved in the amount of \$530,000. The County will receive these funds, but there is no idea when this might occur. Judy believes the swap might occur now. But the flood has wiped out the bridge, so this could threaten the swap. The location of the old bridge, which was removed by the County, was shown on screen. The bridge is now stored on the Ada County racetrack grounds. It is still structurally sound, but the abutments are gone. A new bridge (existing site) would cost approximately \$580,000. There is no commitment of funds at this time. A press release will go out to explain the situation. She said the old bridge is still structurally sound. The new bridge will be in a different location and likely 2-3 times longer than the old bridge.

Paul Mann said Caldwell had recently had an experience with environmental costs affiliated with such projects. It had a grant for \$424,000 but the environmental study would have cost \$240,000. It involved two small bridges. Larry Maneely said the property owners on the south side of the river have no interest in allowing a path on their land. A new location would likely be 2-3 times the length of the old bridge (estimated 200-300 feet). Costs are going to be much more than the existing bridge replacement. President Gigray read a response from Jennifer Tomlinson of Boise acknowledging the importance of the bridge. He also read a response from Jennifer Riebus, District 3 Engineer for ITD.

She noted several funding sources, including the Transportation Alternatives Program. He had another letter from Mayor John Evans of Garden City. Larry Maneely said there is some potential to shortcut the route on the south side of the river.

5. Continuing Business. None.

6. New Business. None.

7. Reports

- a. Ada County Highway District. No report.
- b. Ada County Parks & Waterways. No report. (See below.)
- c. Boise River Enhancement Network. No report.
- d. City of Caldwell Trails and Pathways Committee. Paul Mann said the City held an Indian Creek festival with a training rodeo with 150 free helmets. Paul said 35 rehabbed bikes were given away by Republic Services.
- e. Canyon County Development Services Dept. No report.
- f. City of Boise. No report.
- g. Garden City. No report.
- h. Canyon Highway District #4. No report.
- i. City of Eagle Parks and Recreation. Steve Noyes said they are working on the Trails Master Plan. There will be a workshop on October 5, 2017. He sent out notices that include directions to an on-line mapping tool. He reminded people about the e-bike demonstration on September 25, 2017.
- j. City of Eagle Parks and Pathways Development Commission. Robert Minch said there is a neat mapping review tool available for Eagle.
- k. City of Kuna. No report.
- l. City of Meridian Parks & Pathways. No report.
- m. City of Nampa Parks Department. Phil Peterson said there was no meeting. He forwarded Steve's e-bike demonstration info to the committee.
- n. COMPASS. Paul Mann (referencing earlier item 3.d.iii) said a Rails with Trails meeting had been held. Simplot turned down a request for it to help work with the railroad company. Duane said they are working on a methodology to assess the value of the 25 miles of track. There is also a question of environmental contamination. There could be grant funds to study this issue.
- o. Idaho Transportation Department. No report.
- p. Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. Leo Hennessey said the applications for grants are due in April. Projects must be environmentally ready.
- q. Idaho Oregon Snake River Water Trail. No report.
- r. Other. There was a request to have Scott Koberg discuss the project to widen the pathway between the Shakespeare Festival and the Diversion dam.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Next meeting was set for October 18, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Trainor, Secretary

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