



Bountiful Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, July 30, 2020 5:00 p.m.

Present: BTAC Committee Members – Jesse Bell, Bob Larsen (Chair), Melanie Larsen, Eric Rasmussen, Clint Watson (Vice-Chair); City Staff – Francisco Astorga, Curtis Poole; Trail Partners – Jeff Oyler (Davis County Planner), Zinnia Wilson (Forest Service)
Excused: Committee Members – Brad Hansen, Bret Hutchings; City Staff – Brock Hill
Visitors: William J. Endy, Jared Justensen, Sherrelyn Larsen, Derek Nelson, Michelle Porter

1. Welcome

Chairman Larsen said he has been in contact with a construction company who would be open to providing volunteer work in North Canyon in both man hours and lower equipment costs. He explained we could get a mini excavator for free and a driver and bulldozer to help level the road in North Canyon. The City would only need to cover the costs to deliver the dozer, which would be half of the normal cost. The Committee again asked about starting the single-track trail now. Mr. Poole explained the City is in talks to purchase property for the trailhead and there were some other moving parts that could change location of the trailhead. He indicated it was the desire of the City not to separate the trailhead from the single-track trail. Mr. Astorga mentioned he will discuss the issue with the City Manager.

2. Committee Assignments

Chairman Larsen had reached out to a trail building consultant, Trail Solutions, who had offered to come and help with building and training. He mentioned the consultant would charge \$1000/day, which would include training for volunteers and trail layout. Chairman Larsen indicated the consultant recommended the City purchase trail building tools and equipment and provided the list to the Committee. Mr. Poole will check with the Parks Department to see what tools and equipment the City already has.

3. Holbrook Bridges

Ms. Larsen reported on another inspection of the Holbrook Trail bridges with the Forest Service and City Staff. The Forest Service engineers will provide bridge schematics so the City can apply for the permit through the City. She indicated the Forest Service inquired as to the need for multiple crossings and suggested moving the trail to the south of the creek at a higher elevation in the trees which would bypass at least 3 bridges. Mr. Poole indicated the Forest Service estimated the cost for 1 bridge to be approximately \$12,000. This wouldn't include the cost of

installation. The City has a \$20,000 grant from the County to build the bridges. Ms. Larsen indicated it would be likely be cheaper for the City to reroute and improve the trail than to fix all of the bridges.

4. Mueller Park Downhill

Mr. Poole indicated he had been in contact with a couple of consultants who could provide trail alignment and design for the downhill. The Committee would still like to see two possible trails but would like to at least have one finished.

5. Trail Partner Updates

Mr. Oyler indicated the County has the BST route planned for the entire length of the trail; however, the connection from Holbrook Canyon to Ward Canyon has not been decided. He presented two options to the Committee: 1) climbing further east up Ward Canyon to Bountiful City property and then to Holbrook Canyon and 2) staying at a lower elevation from Ward Canyon to Holbrook Canyon. The Committee decided it would be better for the lower connection. Mr. Oyler indicated the County will work with the individual property owners to acquire or obtain easements for the trail. He indicated nothing would be built until all agreements with property owners have been made. He indicated the County would start on the 15 miles of the BST this fall with the intention of finishing by next summer.

6. City Update

Mr. Astorga indicated all donations made to the City would be tax deductible. Mr. Poole again asked for the Committee to provide bios for the website. Vice Chairman Watson indicated he would like to provide updates to the website. Staff provided him with the contact information for the City's website administrator.

7. Open Session

Chairman Larsen opened the meeting to the public present to hear comments. A citizen asked about odd/even days for Mueller Park to avoid congestion with mountain bikers and hikers. Another comment was made about the unsafe conditions of Mueller Park because it is too crowded. This was seconded by many in attendance. An additional comment was made regarding hiking/biking etiquette, and how bikers were too careless and going too fast and dog owners were not cleaning up after themselves. A question was raised about leash policies for the trails. There was a concern from a resident that the Committee seemed to be too focused on bike trails and not hiking trails. Jared Justensen, representing Trail System Consultants, explained the options his company could provide the City as it begins to design and construct trails and provided a handout to the Committee.

The Committee responded that creating more trails would alleviate most of the concerns about the conditions in Mueller Park as it would spread people out onto multiple trails. With the exception of the Mueller Park downhill trail, all other trails discussed are multiple use trails and not exclusively for bikers. Ms. Wilson will provide Staff with Forest Service trail etiquette information which would be posted at each of the trailheads. She indicated there are no leash requirements on Forest

Service trails. Ms. Larsen also indicated she would begin using the Committee's social media to help spread the word about trail etiquette for mountain bikers.

8. Adjournment

The Committee agreed the next meeting would be held on Thursday, August 20th, at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Larsen adjourned the meeting.