

POST Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The POST Committee was called to order at 4:05 pm by Chair Cindy Bruce. Members present included Cindy Bruce, Jason Groves, Julie Kolar, Glenn Drummond, and Paul Hilts. The meeting was held electronically via Zoom Conferencing. Carol Hawk was absent.

Staff present included Susan Philp, Planning Director; James Lindt, Assistant Planning Director; Watkins Fulk-Gray, Staff Planner; and Brian Passenti, Basalt Parks and Recreation Director.

Guests included Jacob Baker, Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV), and Chris Lee, a resident of the Willits Townhomes.

AGENDA ITEMS

Minutes of April 8, 2020

M/S Glenn and Julie to approve minutes. The vote was taken by roll call vote with all members voting yes. Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Discussion on Park Rules and Rule Signage

James provided background on the uncompleted Willits Lake project. Staff has drafted a policy document with temporary park rules that has been reviewed by the Town Attorney. Staff plans to have the Town Council officially adopt the rules. There is a section in the code regarding park rules, and Staff would like to remove this from the code to adjust rules for specific parks without having to change the municipal code. POST's feedback is welcome. A sign has been created for the park rules at Willits Lake, and James shared his screen to display the sign.

Cindy said that flexibility in park rules would be a good thing.

Paul asked if the rules would change once the development around the lake is finished. Susan responded that the rules would be revisited. However, there are HOA rules that do not allow recreation on the lake. Julie stressed that signs should be consistent in messaging and aesthetic, and she asked who does enforcement in Town parks. James said that it is Town Staff, on a complaint basis. Susan added that the HOA can enforce their rules, but only for their own residents living in the association.

Chris Lee said he had lived there for about five years, and that there used to be signs with the rules. The HOA at times has been in confusion about authority and rules. Some Lakeside owners trimmed vegetation around the lake, and then one resident cut to bare ground the vegetation for a couple of hundred feet. Some people have been paddle boarding on the lake.

Susan also advised that staff ordered a sign for Parcel 10 in Sopris Meadows which makes it clear that no dumping or filling is permitted on the Town property.

POST members expressed concern with the signs ordered by Staff not matching the signs that are included in the approved POST sign program. Susan suggested matching bases and placards with what POST included in its approved sign plan. Susan advised that that prices for the signs that POST approved came in very high. She told POST that originally, we were not thinking of a lot of signs for the parks, but the Police Chief desires a significant number of signs to make it clear where dogs can be off leash.

Julie volunteered to help design and decide on materials for these “secondary” signs. Susan suggested putting up the sign that has been made, temporarily, until Staff takes the content to Town Council and works with POST to create new signs. She also noted that the Police Chief is very eager to get the permanent dog signs erected. Julie suggested spending time with contacting the companies that make the Town’s signs to find value engineering opportunities.

Project Updates

Midland Skate Park

Brian Passenti discussed ideas for the skate park, including a skating pump track. James said he is consulting with the Town’s contract hydrologist about whether new features could be built, since the park is in the floodplain.

Julie asked about resurfacing the existing features. Brian said that this is still part of the plan and he is looking at cost options. Julie suggested looking for sustainable materials. Paul asked where the idea of the pump track came from, and Brian said it came from a meeting with Susan, James, Giles, and Boyd, who were meeting at the park, and talked to skateboarders who were there using the park. They were interested in something flowy and new, and volunteered to donate some time installing the new features.

Paul asked if Staff has talked to the young person who attended a POST meeting last year, and Susan said that they have not circled back with him yet. She noted that the kids who they talked to at the park were interested in maintaining the natural environment.

Arbaney Park Pool

Brian said that they are preparing the pool for summer. The plastering project is on hold until next spring. Once all the parts are assembled the pool will start being filled. Susan noted that James is preparing a grant application from CORE to design the heating system.

Susan referred to correspondence received from Toni Kronberg who sent an email (attached) instead of participating in this meeting. Watkins explained Toni Kronberg’s concerns.

Brian said he is meeting with other recreation directors to create a plan in response to COVID-19 for opening recreation facilities on a similar time schedule, so that one Town's facilities are not overrun. The Town has had to do some enforcement of social distancing at its tennis courts, which are closed.

Susan said they are planning to make some ADA improvements to Midland Avenue. She also said that the improvements to the trail at Ponderosa Park is almost done.

Jacob Baker gave an update on RFOV's efforts. They are giving out seed packets and hopes to have a community planting day. He asked if there are any locations the Town would like the flowers to be planted. #ThankstoTrails campaign to give a positive spin to COVID-19 rules for trail users. He said there is interest in doing short-term trail improvement projects. He said there is also interest in using stimulus money to lead trail projects with people who are unemployed.

James gave an update on the gas line trail. Holy Cross is burying utility lines under this trail and planning on starting May 4th. Susan said the Town has asked RFOV to clean up the entrances to trails leading from The Wilds. RFOV will also build a footbridge allowing access to Parcel 10. The person who builds the mountain bike bridges at the Crown is Brett, a friend of Julie's.

Public comment

No public was present on the phone.

POST members expressed appreciation to Glenn and wished him well in his new role as a Town Councilor.

Adjournment

M/S Julie and Glenn to adjourn at 5:15 pm. A The vote was taken by roll call vote with all members voting yes. Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Next meeting: May 13, 2020

Susan Philp

From: Toni Kronberg <toni.waterbabies@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 11:40 AM
To: Susan Philp; Watkins Fulk-Gray
Cc: Ryan Mahoney; Brian Passenti; Erin Hutchings
Subject: Arbaney Pool Project

Caution: Sender from outside domain.

Susan and Watkins -

Due to work commitments today, I am unable to call into the virtual POST meeting.

Please read my letter into the POST meeting today.

If possible also send a copy of my email to the POST members for their easy referencing.

Best Regards - Toni 📧

POST Committee:

It is my understanding that the improvements to the locker rooms have been tentatively scheduled for fall 2020.

I am not sure what improvements have been made or if those improvements have been finalized with approvals.

I object to the entrance to the pool being relocated from where the locker rooms currently are now which requires swimmers to pass through the locker room to shower before entering the pool.

Changing the pool entrance to the Arbaney park side of the pool requires patrons to walk through in their dirty, filthy street shoes to get to the locker rooms. Who knows which dog park, gas station, horse pasture or supermarket those shoes have been in.

I do not know of ONE pool in the WHOLE WORLD where patrons walk through the pool deck area to get to the locker rooms. Talk about germs...not to mention the coronavirus.

With social distancing measures in place for who knows how long - the configuration of the locker rooms, as currently planned from the last time I saw the proposed plans, most probably will need to be re-visited.

Currently, when in the ladies locker room, if U bend over to tie your shoes it is almost impossible for your butt not to touch the butt of the person changing next to U. Same thing applies to the gang showers currently in place in the locker rooms.

I anticipate that perhaps a second floor may need to be added to accommodate the square footage needed to accommodate social distancing.

The Aspen Recreation Center Director Erin Hutchings is currently proposing different options to re-opening the rec center's pool which takes into account social distancing measures. (Erin 970-544-4100 erin.hutchings@cityofaspen.com)

Thank you for embedding Best Practices of Safety, Sanitation and Health when it comes to the entrance to the pool and the locker rooms being modernized.

Thank U.
Toni Kronberg
Water Babies Swimming est.1976



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Toni Kronberg

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