

POST Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The POST Committee was called to order at 4:07 pm by Chair Cindy Bruce. Members present included Cindy Bruce, Paul Hilts, Jason Groves, and Julie Kolar. Carol joined shortly after the meeting began. The meeting was held electronically via Zoom Conferencing.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S Paul and Jason to approve the minutes of August 26, 2020. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

AGENDA ITEMS

2021 Work Plan

Susan said that the goal of this meeting is for POST to get organized for the upcoming Town Council worksession on POST's 2021 work plan. Next year's work plan is included in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Carol Hawk joined the meeting.

Susan displayed the draft CIP, noting a change in the order of items to be alphabetical. She noted the Roaring Fork Regional Planning Commission's (RFRPC) desire to have a corridor plan for Frying Pan Road. She noted a proposed category of park purchase of land/easements/unplanned opportunity for when unplanned opportunities arise for POST.

The following projects or topics are also included in the draft CIP:

- The boat ramp in the Willits Lane area, where there is heavy usage by rafters.
- Proposed funding to update the POST Master Plan in 2022.
- Signs and wayfinding
- Swinging Bridge lighting and wayfinding improvements and improvements to the pocket park
- Memorial recognition or "Giving Garden"
- Midland Skate Park
- Mid Valley Center trails

- Two Rivers Road Trail
- Willits Lane Master Plan – contribution toward a corridor plan. (Willits Lane has been seeing increased development pressure.)
- Whitewater Park contribution to Pitkin County
- Willits area parks (Linear Park, Parcel 10) – potentially including a restroom at Linear Park.
- Cliff’s Hillside Park – needs more landing area for swings.
- Miscellaneous projects

Susan asked for general impressions on the proposed CIP. Cindy asked what the “administration” category is for. Susan said that it came out of earlier discussions during the beginning of Covid, and would cover staff time for the time it takes to manage finances and oversee projects. Susan said that there are federal accounting principles in play with this line item.

Susan added that she has tried to emphasize trail projects in the proposed budgeting.

Cindy asked if there is enough funding included for the skate park. Brian responded that he thinks it looks good.

Julie asked about the two line items for Two Rivers Road Trail. Susan said that some of the big spending happened this year. Cindy suggested putting any excess into the River Park, and Susan agreed. Julie requested changing the names of the line items for this project to something other than “trail” for clarity, such as “sidewalk.”

Carol said she would like to revisit the Giving Garden. She suggested some kind of improvement for older kids in the Willits area such as a basketball court or multipurpose court. Susan agreed but said she does not know where to put a multipurpose court. Carol suggested reaching out to the community or perhaps somewhere near the rugby field.

Cindy said she would like to revisit the Giving Garden but doesn’t know how much traction it would get with Town Council. Julie said that they need to present the concept carefully, perhaps with a worksession, so that Council understands it and is not blindsided. Carol agreed. For purposes of the 9/22 worksession, Julie suggested giving it a different line item title, such as “memorial donation,” “memorial opportunity,” or “memorial dedication opportunities.”

Jason asked if paved trails that need repairs are included. Susan said there is a category specific for this. She noted a specific place near the Willits lake that needs trail repair, along with the trail in Arbaney Park. Cindy asked about terminology for these trails and whether they should be called sidewalks. Susan said they are trails with hard surfaces. Julie suggested some kind of explanation should be included for why “trails” have so much cost associated with them.

Watkins suggested using the term “paths.” Susan said she would look at the definitions in the recently adopted Mid-Valley Trails Plan.

Susan suggested the following speaking assignments at the worksession:

Jason and Cindy – Arbaney pool

Julie – trails

Carol – Willits area parks

Cindy asked if at the worksession they should talk about work that has been completed (such as the waterline), and Susan suggested this would be good. Susan asked what she thinks they should emphasize with Town Council.

Susan said the last presentation Town Council has seen about the pool does not include the more recent updates. Julie and Jason suggested that they don't need to present on the pool since they already have buy-in from the Council.

Susan suggested pulling out big projects like Arbaney Park, the skate park, the River Park, and trails, and to write a short description to supplement the CIP document.

Julie said it is difficult to make a presentation like this. Cindy said it would be better if BPAC could be a different day than POST to avoid confusion on the part of Town Council.

Jason said that worksessions like these aren't productive unless there are defined goals going into the meetings.

Paul said that the purpose of these check-ins is to make sure that Town Council knows who POST is and to not operate in a vacuum. He said he won't be able to attend this coming worksession. Julie said she has a meeting that goes until 5:00 pm so she might be late if their worksession is at 5:00 pm. All other members are fully available.

Cindy asked what POST has accomplished this year, noting some pool work. Watkins added that Parcel 10 has seen a lot of work. Carol suggested saying that the park purchase is moving along.

The following is a list of other projects from 2020, with volunteers to speak about each as noted:

- Arbaney Park – design work, pool plaster, water line – Jason and Cindy
- Midland Park – skateboard park – input from skaters, planning work,
- Wayfinding – reallocating emphasis to a simpler plan for informational signage in parks,
- Swinging Bridge Trail improvements – Jason could speak to
- Collaboration with RFOV
- Improvements to Light Hill Trail

- Stotts Mill tennis courts, involved in design
- Collaboration on Mid Valley Trails Plan
- Trail near Valley Pines (“Robinson Ditch Trail”) – note that this is a future project – Carol
- Pool waterline – completed
- ADA chair at the pool
- Parcel 10 improvements – Carol
- Ponderosa Trail improvements (including ADA improvements) – Julie
- Market Street Park – Carol
- Reed Street Park – now secured

Julie volunteered to speak about trails and signage.

Carol asked if a metal grate in Triangle Park was ever replaced, and Susan said she believes so.

Park Signs

James displayed a revised plan for park signage and discussed the changes and plans for signage, including major and minor signs. Julie asked about the language and materials of the signs, and James said they are not there yet in the planning process. Julie suggested moving one of the signs in Arbaney Park to be closer to the entrance. Jason suggested moving the signs to the edge of the grass, at the border of the pavement in Arbaney Park. All POST members agreed.

James displayed the sign plan for the berm trail. Paul said he believes there is need for a sign near where the path starts by the pool. He said there is not very much compliance with dog leash regulations on this trail and said he believes there is need for more signage because of the many minor access points to the berm trail. He suggested at least two more signs, and also bringing back the one by the pool. Jason and Carol agreed. Cindy counseled that five signs would be a lot, and that the problem may be more about enforcement, but she conceded to go with what others thought.

James displayed the signage plan for Linear Park. Susan said the signs that appear to be floating would be moved to the trail edge. Carol clarified that the “major signs” will include text about off-leash areas. James said that the signs being proposed would probably replace the existing signs by the rugby field.

Susan suggested POST members individually review the plans for the other parks because those plans are more straightforward, as the meeting needed to wrap up. Members should forward their comments, and Staff will bring them back to POST if POST members do not concur with Staff’s proposals. Staff confirmed that all the signs would move closer to the walkways.

Updates

Susan said that the Mid-Valley Trails Plan was adopted the previous Thursday. She suggested members review it online. All the trails the Town mentioned in its comments are included.

Adjournment

M/S Paul and Carol to adjourn at 5:52 pm. Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.