

POST Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The POST Committee was called to order at 4:08 pm by Chair Cindy Bruce. Members present included Cindy Bruce, Paul Hilts, and Julie Kolar. Jason Groves joined the meeting after it 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. Guests included Jesse Young, Lindsey Utter, Liza Mitchell, and Paul Holsinger from Pitkin County Open Space and Trails (OST); and Jacob Baker from Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S Paul and Julie to approve the minutes of September 23, 2020. Motion carried by a vote of 3 to 0.

AGENDA ITEMS

Update to Glassier Management Plan

Jessie Young, a planner with OST, introduced Lindsey Utter as the planning and outreach manager, Paul Holsinger as the manager of the conservation easements and agricultural properties, and Liza Mitchell as the natural resource manager and ecologist. OST would like to get POST's comments on the plan by November 6.

Jessie provided background for when and why the Glassier properties were acquired. Basalt provided funding for the purchase and holds a conservation easement on the Red Ridge Ranch portion of the property. The property provides trail access to BLM land, the Roaring Fork River, and a variety of ecological zones. Many improvements have been made to the properties to make it more productive for farming and for recreational users. There are many original farmhouse structures on the other side of Hook Spur across from the open fields. Some structures that did not serve a functional or aesthetic purpose were removed. There is a mix of old, historic structures and newer utilitarian structures.

Jessie said that in the outreach effort that began this summer, they received 270 responses. The current draft has been approved for release to the public by OST's board. Public comment will close November 6, and a revised draft is scheduled to be reviewed and adopted on December 8. Jessie highlighted some of the major action items included in the plan. Some of the agricultural lease areas are proposed in the management actions to be foraging area after September 1 for

animals. Another proposed action would align the trail closure dates with the adjacent BLM's closure dates. Other management actions consider possibilities for a steward or caretaker living in the house while restoring it. They are proposing to remove the dusk to dawn closure and align the date closure.

Julie thanked the County for taking on this project and acquiring the property.

Jason Groves joined the meeting.

Paul clarified that the draft plan gives several options for use of the house without committing to any which he thought was good.

Susan suggested Staff drafting a letter for POST to review at the next meeting. Watkins summarized topics he identified as worthy of discussion, including support for a bridge connection from Crown Mountain Park, housing being only for agricultural workers, and the Town's appreciation for the new trails.

Jessie noted that while the draft plan does not contain specifics about the prioritization process for agriculture proposals, OST has an agricultural lease policy that does. Susan suggested having POST authorize an endorsement of the plan and let Staff bring up technical questions or comments. Julie agreed. Susan asked if POST wants to review the referral letter at the next meeting, and all agreed.

Jessie said that there have been tours, and there is one next Wednesday.

Liza clarified that OST is not giving tours, they just have a table set up with maps and have Staff to answer questions. She reiterated that the property has an unusual variety of uses and habitats.

OST staff thanked Susan and POST for their time.

Sign Plan

Julie said she had to leave the meeting soon but offered to review materials afterward. Susan said they are looking for someone to help do their graphics.

James displayed basic illustrations of the dogs on/off leash signs. The signs would have Spanish text as well.

Julie said it is important to have consistency, context, and hierarchy with the signs that need to be addressed professionally. It will set a precedent for signs moving forward. She said she is willing to look at it.

Jason agreed with Julie and said that these signs are important and should be addressed appropriately. He said he is not sure if it is important for the sign to refer to the specific Town Code or ordinance. Julie said that in her work with

Telluride and Mountain Village, sometimes it is necessary to cite the specific regulation. She said it could be something very small at the bottom.

Cindy said she supports the signs being spruced up.

Paul said he supports citing the specific ordinance in small letters because it sounds more serious.

Julie said she would wait to hear from Staff. *Julie left the meeting.*

Updates

Jacob Baker discussed Ponderosa Trail. The goal is to make this trail accessible to all. He said the work left to be done is important, including wayfinding and cautionary signage, a picnic area, a trailhead map and signage. Some of these projects can be finished this year. Other projects, like revegetation, could be done in the spring in partnership with RFC. Jacob is working with Ascendigo and Challenge Aspen on the project. Cindy said that she and her grandson walked the path yesterday and said that it is gorgeous. James described improvements in the grade of the trail in certain spots. A community member, Suzanne, is working with the team on signage and the accessibility of the trail.

Jacob said they would be doing some work on Friday in Willits at Parcel 10. They will be clearing brush and installing some outdoor furniture. Susan said that the park furniture has been ordered but will not be delivered by Friday. [Note: the furniture that has been placed since last Friday has been borrowed]

Jacob updated POST on the Light Hill project. He said that they have been excited to work on this trail because it rivals Arbaney-Kittle for views of Capitol Peak and Mt. Sopris. They have completed a reroute because the erosion on the old trail was so bad. They will be doing a public tour tomorrow at 4:30 pm. The reroute was completed ahead of schedule, and Jacob noted that they have had more volunteer hours this year than last year. However, the rerouted trail is not complete. A bench will be placed at a lookout spot with a plaque honoring the Town, RFOV, and the BLM.

Jacob said they would be doing a reseeded project near El Jebel on the burn area. They are planning and taking ideas for 2021 projects.

Jacob talked about the school district's pre-collegiate program. RFOV hopes that by 2021 they can create a Pathfinder Honors Program using trails to teach students professional, civic, and interpersonal skills. The students may have an opportunity to create public presentations and go through an entire trail enhancement project with RFOV.

James said that for the Arbaney Park RFP an addendum has been released. The PV contractor is under contract. Green Solutions has been selected. The photovoltaic panels need to be installed by the end of the year. Proposals for the

pool are due November 2nd. Four contractors were at the site visit and pre-bid meeting, but James believes three are working on proposals at this point.

James said the Town is under contract to purchase the River Park public parcel and Art Base parcel. Some discussion is ongoing about sewer EQRs with the Sanitation District. The Town Staff plans on closing on the purchases within the next couple of weeks. Staff is working with the consultants and developer on the details of the park and street improvements and how to seek contractors for the work. Susan said that the plan is to have ownership of the park parcel and then have Town Council bless the procurement process of contractors for the park improvements.

James provided an update on the Skate Park. He met the contractor there and they hope to do some concrete work this year in preparation for more work next year. The concrete contractor is going to provide a cost estimate and decide if he has time to do it this year.

Adjournment

M/S Paul and Jason to adjourn at 5:35 pm. Motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.