

# POST Meeting Minutes

## March 24, 2021

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The POST Committee was called to order at 4:05 pm by Chair Jason Groves. Members present included Cindy Bruce, Paul Hilts, Amiee Beazley, and Carol Hawk. Julie Kolar joined 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 Chris Beiser, Basalt Horticulturist.

Guests: Elise Wolf and Heather Henry, Connect One Design; Jacob Baker, RFOV

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

M/S Cindy and Carol to approve the minutes of February 24, 2021. Motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

#### **Basalt River Park Update and POST Feedback**

James said that they will be discussing details about the design and project. He displayed a schematic design. Heather said that what will be happening in 2021 will be the paths and the skeleton of the hardscape elements. The site will then be tidied up with erosion control and fencing for next winter. Improvements in 2022 will see finishing the irrigation, site furnishings, the bandshell, the misting feature, and other elements. The community will be able to enjoy the park to an extent this summer because construction will begin in the fall.

Paul asked if the existing sod at the park would be torn up while grading this summer, and if re-sodding would take place this year. Susan said the hope would be to re-sod the great lawn if the Town can afford it. Heather noted the limit of work, west of which no disturbance or construction will be taking place this summer/fall. However, the great lawn will all be graded, tearing up the existing sod, and building a berm. Heather expressed doubt there will be money for the sod or even sod available at the time of the year of the work for Phase 1.

Carol asked if the sod could be saved. Heather said it could not be stored for re-sodding, but that it could go to another place. Carol asked how much the existing sod cost. Susan said she would look into it.

Amiee said that the sod should be donated somewhere if it is possible. She asked when in 2022 the park will be completely done. Heather said June would be optimistic, but July may be possible. James added that the bus shelter and restroom will be built in 2022.

Elise discussed the plaza. She noted that the area's geology, history, and river morphology are sources of inspiration for the park. She displayed eddy patterns in plan view that will have banding patterns and hopefully art someday. Elise displayed other renderings of the park and plaza area.

Paul asked what shade there would be. Heather noted that their overriding mandate has been to preserve the sight triangle, so no trees or shade structures are allowed there. She noted places outside the triangle where there will be plantings and shade structures. She said her team would like to provide more shade, but is constrained by the sight triangle.

Jason asked what kind of materials the plaza hardscape will use. Heather responded they will be using integral color. Jason asked about one of the renderings, which Heather explained will be using a crusher fine surface.

Carol asked if transitions from cement to crusher fines meets ADA standards, and Elise said yes. Heather displayed and drew on the park plan and discussed accessibility. Elise noted the location of handicap parking and a ramp from the street.

Jason asked Susan if it is too late to revisit the idea of having trees in the sight triangle. Susan suggested that it would require more robust conversation and should include Julie Kolar who felt strongly about this. Heather noted the possibility of having a row of trees behind the restaurant, although she noted that the restaurant owners may be opposed to this. Chris recommended honey locust or elm trees for their canopy qualities.

Heather said they are discussing how to provide lighting.

James asked if it is possible to have removable posts for shade sails, similar to removable bollards. Heather said it is probably doable.

Cindy said regarding the sight triangle, it was an important appeal from the public. She suggested shade sails are a great interim method of providing shade.

Heather noted the location of a slide for kids.

Carol asked about the cost of crusher fine versus asphalt, recalling a change that had to be made at Arbaney Park. Susan explained that it was a specific crushed granite material that became prohibitive at Arbaney. Elise said the crusher fine paths would be locally sourced.

*Julie entered the meeting.*

Cindy asked if the name of the residential development will be confusing with the park. Heather explained that the river park name is the LLC's name only, not the development itself that is being marketed to the public.

Julie reiterated that the sight triangle is inviolable and has been considered that since much earlier planning efforts.

Susan said that the Sanitation District is very concerned about access with their large equipment to the park. She described access on the displayed plan.

Amiee asked if any updates have been made to the pedestrian alley. Heather said that they have not yet, they mostly just have criteria that need to be met. There will be limited opportunities to incorporate plantings in the alley.

POST members supported adding another band of trees in the park along the first seating area.

### **Ponderosa Park**

Jacob Baker described the existing Ponderosa Trail. The proposed improvements will be a demonstration project for all kinds of accessibility. They hope to invite a variety of people to a work day on June 12. Susan said that there will be a new sign and some park furniture that is being ordered. Jacob said they hope to have one picnic table and two benches. Jacob and Susan noted specifications that need to be met. Susan displayed images of possibilities for the picnic tables and benches. She suggested POST create a subcommittee of people to help pick the furniture or leave it to Staff, since it needs to be ordered soon. Julie favored a square-shaped picnic table. POST agreed.

Jason suggested that the furniture should be heavy or fixed so that it does not disappear.

Amiee asked where one parks to access the park and trail. Susan described two locations.

Julie volunteered to help Staff and RFOV make decisions about the park furniture, and POST affirmed this. Julie said she would make choices based on lasting materials, something that can't be moved easily, design forward to blend into the landscape, and that fits into the budget.

Chris said he is balancing fire safety and leaving the area with a natural appearance.

### **Other Updates**

#### Arbaney Pool

James said the project is moving forward and they are working on the tiling of the pool and the concrete decking. Tile for the locker rooms should arrive next week. Significant work is also happening on the mechanical room. Staff has had conversations and site visits with Holy Cross too. He said the contractors are slightly behind but hope to make up time. They are still hopeful to open around Memorial Day.

#### Other

Susan noted that there was information about the Reed Street and Market Street in the packet. Amiee noted that a wetland area is full of trash and there are other areas of concern in the vicinity. Carol updated the Committee explaining that she met with Chris and James on-site to review problem areas. Chris said Sopris Engineering is staking out the Army Corps designated wetland boundaries, and then he hopes to cut back the willows. This is one potential project with CRMS. They plan to put seed on that hillside too.

Amiee suggested the dog park is a good candidate to receive sod from the River Park.

Carol asked where the signage for off-leash dog areas is. Susan replied that they have just received it.

Amiee asked if POST will be involved in the Basalt Forward visioning project. Susan said they would talk about that later.

Susan noted that they received more doggie pot stations installed in Willits.

### **POST Committee**

#### Discuss Council input

The Town has discussed hiring a communication person and having a POST logo for the committee. Julie said she would prefer to spell out Parks, Open Space, and Trails. The rest of the Committee agreed.

#### Basalt Forward 2030

Susan explained that there are two pieces to the initiative: a facility needs study and prioritizing projects listed in the master plan. This will inform the 5-year capital improvement plan and potentially result in a vote to continue the mill levy. The Town has hired two consultants, including Cushing Terrell from the Master Plan, who will do the facility needs study. The Facility Needs Committee will start meeting in May, until August. They will then make recommendations to the Town Council. The pedestrian bridge over the river is one project being discussed that will interest POST. Susan said that while they do not need to make an appointment today, POST will appoint a representative to the facility needs study. This will need to be before the end of April. There will be an appointed representative and an alternate. They will represent POST, not themselves individually. The person needs to be a resident of Basalt.

M/S Julie and Amiee to adjourn at 5:36 pm. Motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0.