

POST Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2021

WORKSESSION

Because all members were not present the POST Committee started the meeting as a Worksession at 4:05 PM.

Members present included Paul Hilts, Amiee Beazley, Julie Kolar, and Reid Haughey. The meeting was held electronically via Zoom Conferencing.

Staff present included Susan Philp, Planning Director; James Lindt Assistant Planning Director, Catherine Christoff, Town Engineer; and Chris Beiser, Town Arborist. Public present included Alix Zangrilli, applicant to POST and Jacob Baker from Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers.

Update on Basalt River Park

Catherine explained that they are pouring the concrete on the River Park Project as today and that the Town added replacement of the cracked sidewalk adjacent to the eastern edge of the park to the scope. Catherine also introduced that the Two Rivers Road paving work had been completed. It was noted that Connect One is working on the Planting Plan and then plant materials will be put out to bid in November so that they are obtained for planting in the spring.

Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteer Projects

Susan introduced that POST went over several projects at a prior meeting that they thought would be good projects for the Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) to potentially help the Town work on in 2022. Specifically, the Ponderosa Trail Expansion and the Extension of Trails to Public Lands were projects identified for discussion with RFOV at prior POST meetings. Susan introduced Jacob Baker from RFOV to discuss their successes from 2021 and introduce their planned projects for 2022.

Jacob presented their 2021 season review, which highlighted Ponderosa Trail improvements, and the Lake Christine Burn Scar community projects along with other group projects including the Light Hill Trail and Arbaney-Kittle Trail improvements.

Jacob honed in on the Ponderosa Trail and the Lake Christine projects to go over lessons learned from their 2021 projects. Specifically, Jacob highlighted that some of the work that they set up for volunteers in 2021 may have been too arduous for volunteers and that they learned what type of work is best suited for the volunteers on a project like the Ponderosa Trail improvements. It was also learned that on-site educational experiences seem to work better than indoor town hall-style educational talks. Jacob provided an example of the Lake Christine Project where

they held both an indoor town hall educational event and incorporated instruction from Rick Lofaro in the outdoor restoration project. The on-site educational session was much better attended than the town hall-style event.

It was introduced that RFOV has one community project in Basalt slated for 2022, which is to do finish work on the Ponderosa Trail extension that will hopefully be constructed by the Developer of the Lot J, Basalt Commercial Park Development project by mid-summer. RFOV can then do similar finish work to the extension as they did last year to the remainder of the trail.

Jacob explained that other potential group projects with RFOV involvement slated for 2022 could include work on the following projects:

1. Town to Public Trails
2. Light Hill Trail
3. Linear Park Wetland Improvements
4. Old Pond Park
5. Sunset Park (Parcel 10)
6. Duroux Park
7. Midland Park/Story Fort

Jacob introduced that RFOV wanted to get clarity on the scope of the potential Town to Trails Project and determine whether they would need to bring in a third-party expert to evaluate interests, develop mapping, outline a signage program/content.

Susan showed POST a map from the POST Master Plan that shows the trails from downtown Basalt to Basalt Mountain to ground POST as to where they are coming from for this idea. Catherine also showed pictures of the various trails going up to Basalt Mountain. Susan noted that the Town to Public Trails project was identified by POST as a highest priority and that the Mid-Valley Trails Committee has some money that could be potentially used to help get people to the Cedar Drive Trail.

Julie explained that the Town is at a new place in time in terms of the Town's relationship with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in that CPW has new leadership and we can start a new conversation about the goals of access public lands for trail use. Julie suggested that the Stage Trail be a separate conversation and that POST should work on determining what improvements the in-town connector trails need. Julie explained that signage would be beneficial in subtle and helpful ways and that she trusted RFOV to take the lead on some of the stuff that needs to be done to the connector trails and involve POST when needed to streamline getting improvements done.

Paul asked some questions about where you access some of the trails above the Basberg Townhomes and where do you park to use those trails. Susan responded by showing the trails on a map that go up into the Town-owned Fletcher Property and identified that there really is not parking for the trails in that area. Susan

identified that it is better to encourage people to walk to those trails from downtown rather than drive to the trails intersecting with Pinon Drive.

Paul thought there is a need to look at connectivity and parking.

Jacob explained that CPW is going through a ranking project on trails that is supposed to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2022 with the intent of closing some of the smaller social trails and establishing what the primary trail routes are through public lands.

Amiee felt that the trails above the Hill District onto Basalt Mountain might be too exposed to be encouraging use of and that she would like to see a connection to the other side of Basalt Mountain, but that parking would need to be figured out.

Reid said he did not have input on the subject at this time.

Susan explained that the lower trails in the Hill District have some items to discuss such as how buffed up does POST want them to be and how far should they be cleaned up. She used an example that some of the concrete on the boy scout stairs from Sopris Drive is cracking and breaking.

Julie said the social trail from the Boy Scout stairs to Sopris Drive is sketchy and should be cleaned up. It was also identified that the Boy Scout stairs could use an update as the bottom step could use more of a landing and the banister is wobbly. Julie also mentioned the trail going up to Homestead Drive from the back of Two Rivers Café needs some attention as it has significant potholes.

Amiee agreed that these non-fancy improvements need to be inventoried and made to the trails in the lower Hill District.

Paul agreed with Amiee and expressed that wayfinding signage needs to be addressed.

Amiee said that if people are going to be encouraged to go up a trail that they need to be better trails.

Susan provided background information that they will be working on the pedestrian area by Two Rivers Café for the installation of a water line so their finish work on that project may improve the walking surface in that area.

Julie recommended that the Town Staff and RFOV Staff get together to define the improvements needed and involve POST as necessary. This would be a better way to go to get the improvements done in this case than holding a significant public process.

Reid asked about whether there are easements for the pedestrian ways being discussed. Town Staff replied that there are easements for the Remsbecher and Lucksinger Alleys and that there are easements for the Spur Lane Trail and at

Pinon Drive. It was noted that the Town is having difficulties with the trail easement that is in place at the end of Ridge Road and that Staff is working on solutions.

Susan suggested that POST members walk the various trails in the Hill District and that Staff will send maps of the various trails to POST. It was also identified that topics for discussion at a future meeting might include need for wayfinding signage and what type of content should be on the wayfinding signage. Jacob summarized that in November or December, RFOV Staff will get together with Town Staff to discuss needed improvements and tiers of action for moving forward on the project and then will circle back with POST.

CALL TO ORDER

The POST Committee was called to order at 5:19 pm. Members present included Paul Hilts, Amiee Beazley, Julie Kolar, and Reid Haughey. The meeting was held electronically via Zoom Conferencing. Jason Groves and Carol Hawk were absent.

Staff present included Susan Philp, Planning Director; James Lindt Assistant Planning Director, Catherine Christoff, Town Engineer; and Chris Beiser, Town Arborist. Public present included Alix Zangrilli, potential applicant to POST.

AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Minutes

M/S Julie and Amiee to approve the minutes from 10/13/2021. Motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

Adjournment

M/S Amiee and Paul to adjourn at 5:20 pm. Motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0.