

Parks, Trails and Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 5, 2022



1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. and Parks, Trails and Open Space (PTOS) Committee members present were Sue Husch, Dave Jones, Judi Chamberlain, Lois Ziemann and Polly Enochs. Town Manager Preston Neill was also present. Jared Coburn, Erin Smith and Nick Williams were absent.

2. Approval of Minutes from March 22, 2022 Meeting

Dave Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2022 PTOS Committee meeting. Sue Husch seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by members present.

3. Update regarding Heritage Park Site Plan

Preston reminded the group that staff worked with Colorado Main Street to utilize technical assistance support to hire a contractor to update the Heritage Park site plan to depict the latest recommendations of the Long-Term Implementation Plan and Strategy, which was approved by Town Council in June 2021. As a result of Request for Proposal and interview processes, DHM Design was retained for the Heritage Park Site Plan Update Project. On February 2022, staff met with DHM Design reps for a Kick-Off Call to discuss the purpose of the project, any changes in existing conditions in the past few years, the project schedule, and the desired outcome. DHM Design took the information garnered during the Kick-Off Call to begin updating the Site Plan and preliminary cost estimates. In March 2022, an updated Site Plan was presented to staff and shared with members of the Visitor Center-Heritage Park Advisory Committee and other stakeholders for input. A number of community members provided feedback on the new concept. Taking into account the feedback that was received, DHM Design furnished a new site plan, which was approved by the Town Council in June. Staff will now begin work on updating the Strategic Master Plan for Ridgway Visitor Center & Heritage Park, as well as the Long-Term Implementation Plan and Strategy.

4. Update regarding HB22-1151 Turf Replacement Program

Preston reported that HB22-1151, which was signed into law, requires the Colorado Water Conservation Board to develop a statewide financial incentive program to inspire voluntary turf replacement for homeowners, local governments and nonprofits. The new law will allocate \$2 million to finance the "Turf Replacement Fund," which could include expanding statewide existing city programs that pay between \$1 and \$3 per square foot of grass that is removed. The specific incentive program must be developed before July 1, 2023.

5. Town Manager's Report

Preston briefly highlighted items in the June edition of the Town Manager's Report.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the PTOS Committee, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 6:07 p.m.