
PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 6TH, 2020
6:00 PM



Due to CoVID-19 this meeting was be held online via Zoom Meetings

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Committee Present Via Zoom: Jared Coburn, Doug Canright, Lois Zeimann, Sue Husch, Erin Smith, Robb Austin.

Town Staff: Chase Jones

I. Call to Order

6:03pm

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 14th, 2020

Sue Husch clarified that her composting toilet did not have a motor or electricity as reflected in the minutes.

Robb moved to approve the minutes with Sue's requested change

Sue seconded the motion

All committee members present voted in favor.

III. COVID-19 and our Town Parks

Ridgway's Town Manager Preston Neill gave a brief description of how state and local health regulations affect park usage. The State Governor is encouraging people to get outside while following state and local regulations. Some committee members expressed concern over observed group sizes and lack of masks being worn in Town parks and elsewhere in Town. In response Preston shared that the biggest tool is education and the Marshal's Department is responding to calls and educating groups and gatherings.

IV. Baseball Volunteer's Summary

Larry Falk, Josey Scoville, TJ Burr and Helene Disco were present to represent the volunteer group looking to start a baseball organization. They gave numerous updates including:

- Starting to look into logo and branding.
- Beginning to start the process to become a registered non-profit organization.
- They were hoping to start programs at the end of March but are unsure what will happen due to COVID – 19.
- They were hoping for about 100kids to participate this year.
- Request to disk field and make sure it is ready when ban is lifted.
- Marty Schuster knows how to rejuvenate field and would be a good resource.

Chase shared that he believed the Town match was initially intended to be largely in-kind labor but will double check what was finalized in the 2020 budget. Staff is shorthanded but hoping to disc as soon as possible. The desire is to get most of project done with grant and in-kind work. The Town and volunteer group will need to troubleshoot financial gaps and discuss difference when numbers are known.

V. Athletic Park Pavilion Award of Bid

The contract to construct the pavilion has been awarded to Kuboske. A preconstruction meeting will take place next week.

VI. Heritage Park Improvements Update

The Town only received one bid that was substantially overbudget. Due to this and anticipated budget reductions from COVID the project has been delayed. Staff is looking to do some minor improvements in the meantime. This would likely include leveling the site, putting down gravel and installing picnic tables.

VII. Town Trees – Care update, database and possible plantings

Chase provided the Committee with the following information:

- He has met with the Town's arborist Tyler Schultz to plan for 2020 work.
- The Town will be updating the tree inventory with Colorado State Forest Service this Spring and Summer.
- The cottonwood stump at the south end of Hartwell will be ground this year.
- The lone cottonwood at Weaver Park will be removed. Staff will cage any volunteer sprouts afterwards to promote new growth.
- Cottonwood creek now has water in it from a 2" raw water line the Town installed. Water will only be available for this when there is a low demand for water in town.
- Century Link is rearranging their dishes on the tower in town so removal of Hartwell cottonwoods would no longer be needed.

Robb inquired if water restrictions were anticipated this year. If so, getting the community prepped needs to be considered. Erin shared that the restrictions in place last year were not effective or good for

plant health. She offered to provide input when creating new restrictions. Chase to discuss with Preston during their next meeting.

VIII. New Business

Erin expressed hopes that the Town puts energy into parks and loving our spaces with recent COVID concerns.

Jared inquired about an affordable handheld device to read meters. Chase shared that remote electronic readers are not available at this time due to privacy concerns and cost. Residents could purchase hose meters to give an estimate of irrigation usage. Town Council has also expressed a desire for the Town's metering system to provide on demand reading abilities, however; this is years away.

IX. Old Business

The Cottonwood Creek irrigation line has been installed and been running for a few weeks. The new metal signage has been installed in Weaver Park.

X. Adjourn

7:15pm