

City of Livingston, City Parks and Trails Committee Meeting Minutes - November 30, 2022

The monthly meeting of the Livingston Parks & Trails Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 2022, at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the City County Building. Connor Cavigli, Chair, will facilitate this meeting.

1. Roll Call
 - a. Present: Jeanne Souvigney, Carol Goosey, Connor Cavigli, Tim Stevens, Sarah Stands, Clay Bolt, Alison Shannon-Lier
 - b. Absent: Quentin Schwarz
 - c. Public: Grant Gager, Dan Baker, Kristen Galbraith
2. Agenda Review
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. *Tim Stevens motions to approve with no edits, Carol Goosey seconds*
 - i. *Unanimously approved*
4. New Business
 - a. Conversation with Grant Gager, new city manager - Connor
 - i. Comes from Ketchum, ID with a robust parks and trails system. Has some process and operational changes envisioned for city boards. They have a process in place for the City Commission, so he feels that there should be one process in place for all boards and committees.
 - ii. Notes that there is a lot of passion in the community, particularly around the growth policy, and his number one agenda is to mandate the growth policy. He envisions the Parks and Trails Committee will play a role in helping implement the related work to parks and trails
 - iii. He asked for feedback on process improvement as well as priorities for projects
 1. Budget work is coming up in the next 2-4 months so laying out priorities for projects will be important for that process
 - iv. Jeanne asked about communicating with city staff - what can we do, how does Grant prefer we do that?
 1. Each board will be assigned a staff liaison and most things will run through the staff liaison moving forward
 2. In the interim Grant will be the one to start with but he'll coordinate internally - aiming for January to have staff liaison
 3. Tim suggests that everything is standardized between all boards so the communication and workflows are clear to all parties involved

- v. Sarah asked for clarification regarding how we can or can't speak with the public in the city and county as the committee members were able to do in the past.
 - 1. Jeanne: prior to the communication plan coming out, the way things used to work was that people would come to the committee meetings and then the committee would make a recommendation back to the city. Jeanne posed, if we are not giving recommendations, dealing with the public, etc, what's our point as a committee?
 - 2. Grant responded that we would like to get back to a little more of the way it was before the communication plan was released.
- b. Update on City/County Bridge projects - Kristen Galbraith
 - i. A few things that the county is working on are pretty exciting
 - 1. Kristen is working on Rails to Trails from the Gardiner Arch to Livingston - an assessment is underway for that
 - 2. She also has the completed PERs in place for a bridge over the Yellowstone at Mayor's Landing as well from Mayor's Landing to Fleshman Creek
 - 3. Due to the flood in June they'll likely put another bridge over the river in Gardiner that includes infrastructure and a finishes a pedestrian loop
 - 4. FEMA and FLAP have also agreed to pay to repair two miles of road on the other side of Yankee Jim Canyon, an emergency route but closed to traffic
 - 5. They are also 40% done with building a bus barn for the public transportation busses for Windrider
 - ii. Her focus for today though is state funding from Transportation Alternatives
 - 1. 86%/14% split of what they'll fund and and what is needed for the city/county match
 - 2. This funding would be used to connect Mayor's Landing and the Q Street easement
 - 3. It would be an \$800k project to build the free span bridge
 - 4. Had 50 comments submitted on it, 44 of which were positive, 6 of which were not supportive.
 - 5. The county is looking for collaborative work between county and city to help push this forward
 - 6. The county would come up with the match for the bridge, then the city would need to come up with the match for the trail portion, possibly about \$100k to build the trail
 - 7. Jeanne: From a pragmatic standpoint, we don't have an agreement with the Girl Scouts for a bridge at M Street, but she would prefer that we focus on that rather than putting a bridge over wetlands.

- iii. How can we be helpful with this as a committee?
 - 1. Submit a recommendation to the city commission to move forward with partnership and the project, with the city ultimately sending a letter of support and committing to come up with matching funds for the trail
 - 2. Kristen and Grant will attend next meeting to present this more formally for a possible recommendation to the commission
 - c. Recommendation on Sacajawea Park improvements - Sarah & Tim
 - i. Tim got an estimate for a boulder and it was \$50k for just the boulder in the style of the one from Story Mill
 - 1. Given that it's 2.5x the budget, we will likely not do that right now
 - ii. Dan has ordered some stumps, rocks, a digger, and fossils so far
 - 1. Still needs to order sand and will remove sign
 - 2. This is a start, open to adding more features with more budget
 - iii. He's also looking at Pompeii's Playground improvements
 - d. Recommendation on applicants for new PTC seats - Alison & Clay
 - i. *Jeanne Souvigney recommends to approve Sarah Hubbard, Bob Ballard, and Sarah Stands to fill the new seats in 2023, Tim Stevens seconds*
 - 1. *Unanimously approved (Sarah Stands abstains)*
5. Old Business / Updates
 - a. Annual report to commission - Connor
 - i. Connor to put together a general list of what we'll include, ask for additions from the committee before drafting
 - b. Map printing - Jeanne
 - i. Jeanne will coordinate with Grant with this, Sarah can assist as well
 - c. Adopt a Trail Reports - Jeanne
 - i. Jeanne has asked all AAT groups to report final clean ups to us
 - ii. Responses have been slow to come in
 - d. Funding opportunities - Connor
 - i. Jeanne circulated list of potential grants to apply for
 - ii. We will discuss possible projects at the next meeting
 - e. Updating Parks Master Plan - Connor
 - i. Didn't discuss
 - f. Social and other media - Clay
 - i. One social media post
 - ii. Grant is working on social media policy for city and boards
6. Public Comments
7. Committee Comments
 - a. Next meeting: December 21st to wrap up the year and say goodbye to outgoing committee members

- i. Short meeting - 1 hour - biggest homework item will be to provide projects for possible grant applications to discuss
- 8. Adjourn Meeting
 - a. *Jeanne Souvigney motions to adjourn, Sarah Stands seconds*
 - i. *Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm*

Note: Emails to the Parks & Trails Committee should be addressed to webmaster@livingstonmontana.org