

City of Livingston Parks and Trails Committee Meeting Draft Minutes

June 23, 2021

The Parks and Trails Committee met at 6 pm in the Community Room, City-County Building.

1) Roll Call

Members present: Jeanne Souvigney, Alison Shannon-Lier, Connor Cavigli, Sarah Stands; Carol Goosey arrived about 7; Rachael, Clay excused

Identified guests: Eric Meadows (BYLA), John Foster, Hayes Goosey, Craig Carlson, Mary Jo Meredith, Lydia Ely (Livingston Enterprise)

2) Approval of Minutes

Sarah motioned to approve the minutes, Alison seconded, passed unanimously

3) New Business

• Reservoir Park

- Eric Meadows, BYLA, presented Reservoir Park draft “bubble diagrams” and image board for public outreach
- Public comment:
 - John Foster, Blue Heron Dr., provided comments including noting the open space is already used in the ways we have proposed already and said he thinks he speaks for the rest of Blue Heron residents that they would prefer the park does not get developed since it already does all we are proposing to add
 - Hayes Goosey, Blue Heron Dr., provided comments including noting that people on Reservoir St are also feeling that Reservoir Park is already sufficient as an open space; he doesn’t want to see a dog park there and that’s the part he says is non-negotiable; he would love to see us add native plants to the space (like sage)
- Committee agreed to have our first outreach to the community on June 30 at the Farmers Market with the same bubble diagrams; committee asked for changes to the image boards to reflect public comment for more natural areas.
- The Committee will also do a public outreach session at Reservoir Park as soon as we can find a time with Alison and Rachael.

• Public Comment: Green Acres Park

- Craig Carlson, Green Acres resident, provided comments including noting he is very interested in being part of the process to improve Green Acres park. He suggests having 6 am to 10 pm hours for the park (PTC will clarify hours). He also noted that dogs are allowed there despite the signs as long they’re on leash and picked up after (PTC will clarify dog rules). The speed limit signs are hidden behind trees, should be more visible. He thinks residents would like to see a toilet added if possible in an unobtrusive area and suggests replacing trees and developing a plan for improvements to the playground area.
- Mary Joe Meredith, Green Acres resident, also wants to be part of the improvement of Green Acres Park. She raised \$1k with her grandkids to put towards playground equipment. She suggests having it be an “all abilities” park with amenities for all.

4) Old Business

- **Mayors Landing** - There was a fence put up at the back of the roping arena for this year's rodeo parking. Kris King offered to help restart fundraising for a perimeter fence. No update on e coli.
- **NorthTown** – Phase 1 is complete. Proposed letter to Planning Board is to remind them what we're hoping to see for future phases as far as trails and parks
 - *Sarah motioned to send letter to planning board, Connor seconded, passed unanimously*
- **Updates:**
 - Skate Park Ranger Station - letter was sent
 - Growth Policy - letter was sent, Commission passed growth policy
 - North side trails – letter was sent to Public Works for a public access trail easement with HRDC. No other action yet.
 - NoMowMay – no update
 - Trails and AT Plan:
 - Over 300 survey responses; consultants have come up with preliminary projects and first three chapters
 - Next public meeting is July 29, drop-in feedback session from 5:30 to 7:00 pm
 - Community bike ride is July 31 from 9 am - noon
 - Consultants still on track to produce first draft by end of August or early September
 - Sacket Park – still on the County Commission agenda for the negotiations of an MOU, but that is likely to be moot since the City annexed the roadways
 - Woodlot – no update
- **Sacajawea Park improvements** – need to have follow-up meeting with Eric Schneider, Parks Foreman
- **Social and other media:**
 - Each month Connor will send an email and ask the committee to provide social media posts for their project areas
 - Lydia is our best contact for the Enterprise
 - Suggested topics include work of Americorp, Reservoir Park feedback at the Farmer's Market, Green Acres (eventually), Wishberry Hollow (whenever we have things ready)
- **Funding options** – no update
- **July meeting status** – no meeting in July

5) Public Comment

Alison relayed a public comment from Nicole Kardoos who suggested that instead of spraying for insects we can investigate using bat houses in parks and using them to help control mosquitos.

6) Committee Comments

- Jeanne noted that the Yellowstone Gateway Museum is looking for volunteers to run tours in town, the West Side Historic District tour and the Ghosts and Ghost Signs tour.
- Carol noted that two of the tennis courts have been resurfaced, the next three will be done next year.

7) Adjourn meeting

- *Sarah motioned to adjourn, Alison seconded, passed unanimously*