

City of Livingston, City Parks and Trails Committee Agenda

June 24, 2020

The regular meeting of the Livingston Parks & Trails Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 6 pm in the Community Room of the City County Building, 414 East Callender St. This meeting will also be available via Zoom video conferencing. Jeanne-Marie Souvigney, Chair, will facilitate this meeting.

To join the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87654446137?pwd=aXkyb2I0d2RKY1RNeHhrbzA1MFVFQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 5444 6137

Password: 251250

Or call-in number (669) 900-9128

1) Roll Call

2) Approval of Minutes

Committee to review and approve June 24, 2020 minutes

3) New Business

- Potential partners meeting with Gallatin Valley Land Trust, Trust for Public Lands, Park County Environmental Council
- Social Media guidelines and topics for summer

4) Public Comments

5) Committee Comments

6) Adjourn meeting

City of Livingston, City Parks and Trails Committee Draft Minutes

June 24, 2020

Livingston Parks & Trails Committee meeting Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 6 pm at the Civic Center. This meeting was also available via Zoom video conferencing. Jeanne-Marie Souvigney, Chair facilitated this meeting.

In attendance – Jeanne-Marie Souvigney, Sarah Stands, Connor Cavigli, Carol Goosey, Shelly Prasek, Alison Shannon-Lier, Dorel Hoglund

Approval of May Minutes Souvigney recommends a correction on the last page regarding correction from GBLT to GVLT; motion to approve by Goosey, Stands seconds it.

3) Old Business

- Final approval of draft policy for naming parks and trails and establish a public comment process - Attachment A; PTC board members feel it is complete at this time from the board perspective and will hold a public meeting when conditions are safe due to COVID-19, Stands recommends sharing the document for public discussion and hopes to host a meeting in the Fall.
- New Committee comments on latest [growth policy survey](#), **June 23 closing date has been extended to July 8, 2020**; reminder for the PTC to answer survey from a personal basis and Souvigney to request if PTC would like to add to the comments PTC wrote up. Souvigney recommends the committee be thinking of the Master Plan goals for PTC. Committee supports (comments below). Stands attended the most recent Growth Policy meeting and found it misinforming and a little frustrating with the current participation and the timeline to be moving too quickly now that COVID-19 is occurring. PTC reviews the different parts focused on the growth policy. Overall recommendation for PTC to take personal time with a map of Livingston and the Master plan and will have a work session after July PTC regular meeting to converse about more grand plans for Livingston as we grow.
 - o Virtual meeting planned
 - o Priority trail identification
- Continue discussion of approaches to pursue north side trails (Prasek) – Shannon Holmes followed up with Prasek that there is a fenced in dog park already recommended at High Ground Park and is in agreement with that plan. Souvigney shares that the barrier prior is the expensive of the fencing of a 1200ft 6ft high fence. Prasek shares the reference of Story Mill Park dog park and will look into cost.

Stands updates us on pump track, she has a developer and a plan for cost and management, asked Hoglund if we should move forward with the potential school property on the North side. Hoglund does recommend moving forward with the discussion, right now there isn't a plan to expand. Jones states let's put the pump track in our plan (Attachment B)

•Updates:

- Band shell mural - Stands - shares there isn't money to do it anymore due to financial changes with COVID-19, Hoglund shares there are some artists who are willing to do it and are willing to donate their time, Hoglund states she believes we can figure out the paint. Previous artist who painted has given permission to update the Bandshell.
- Mayors Landing signs and improvements - existing signs will be placed for now related to leash laws, picking up after your dog and the Moja Dog Signs; FB post related to safety of the land near the dog park that is not yet open to the public.
- Committee role regarding sports parks - Souvigney spoke with Maggie Tarr to look at prioritizing the different needs of the different sports parks and requested the different groups to come forward to the committee on what they need.

4) New Business

- July potential partners meeting, GVLT, TPL, PCEC – Connor, Rachael, Sarah - Connor has been speaking with GVLT to help familiarize them on what Livingston is like and what we are looking for. Jones spoke with TPL about projects they are looking for and how we can help provide that for them. Maybe start small and move into a larger project as the partnership grow. Jones was excited to hear projects they are looking for are improving school playgrounds and Jones sees that as a perfect way to improve community support because the goal of TPL is to make school playgrounds more public. Next move is to meet with the TPL finance project manager and understanding what measures we need to make projects ready to find funding for projects.
- Social Media for summer - we need a layout, Jones recommends guidelines for more consistency with our posts.

5) Public Comments

Summer Links would like to adopt a trail, ShannonLier recommended Levy trail from baseball fields to the bandshell

6) Committee Comments - no further comments

7) Adjourn meeting - meeting Adjourns at 7:37pm, Goosey moves, Stands seconds

TO: City of Livingston and Burton Planning
FR: Livingston Parks & Trails Committee
RE: Livingston Growth Policy Survey

July 8, 2020

The Livingston Parks & Trails Committee (PTC) submits these comments as part of the latest Growth Policy Survey regarding future growth areas and the extra-territorial jurisdiction.

In general, the PTC encourages the following:

- New developments should prioritize connecting trails and sidewalks to other trails and areas of the city so that pedestrians, bicyclers and people with disabilities can access city offices, schools, businesses, parks, clinics and other areas of interest;
- New developments should consider the PTC priorities and the city's Parks & Trails Master Plan;
- All new developments should consider mixed-use and diverse incomes so that all residents benefit from access to interconnected parks, trails and open spaces;
- Newly developed areas should provide nearby parks and natural areas;
- Future parks and trails should incorporate transportation alternatives, allowing access to all essential parts of the City, as well as provide a means of recreation; and
- Development should focus on infill developments to minimize sprawl while protecting green space and ensuring that developments incorporate diverse and native trees and landscaping.

Regarding specific future growth areas and the extra-territorial jurisdiction, we would like to reiterate some of what we have identified as needs and interests in previous committee priorities, meetings, comments and presentations.

- Residents of any new developments in Area A, along with existing residents of Green Acres and other areas on the north side, need a safe crossing at Bennett and Park Street to the south side of town, as well as trails and sidewalks that can connect to other areas on the north side. The current Bennett St. crossing is very unsafe; while we recognize developing a new crossing is a challenge given the lack of sidewalks along much of Bennett St. and the railroad, we believe it should be a priority for the City, particularly if this area gets developed further. The City should consider the trails proposed in the Master Plan.
- Area B includes an area where the PTC is investigating opportunities for a dedicated and connected north side trail system. The hill is currently a barrier for active transportation. Area B is also near an area which the Parks & Trails Master Plan suggested could be suitable for a fenced dog park, something others in the community have asked for as stated in our public comment survey. We would like to secure a dedicated trail network within this area and extending east to Reservoir Park and Highground Public Use Area and west to the northside soccer fields, along with the fenced dog park, amenities that will be much more in demand as this area is developed.

- The public makes significant use of the Bozeman Connector Trail along Fleshman Creek at the north end of Area C, including for off-leash dog use. Jack Weimer Memorial Park, Mars Park and the Northside Soccer Fields are nearby. The public values the open space and wildlife that are present. Any development in the area should protect and maintain the Bozeman Connector Trail access and open space and include significant buffers around the trail. Fleshman Creek itself has benefited from millions of dollars in public funding for habitat restoration and flood mitigation in the lower stretches, and future plans should ensure that investment in stream habitat and open space is protected and highlighted. There may be future opportunities to develop the Bozeman Trail through this area and those opportunities should be pursued.
- The east end of Area D closest to Highway 89 S seems appropriate for future development. Much of the west end nearest PFL, however, is designated by the Montana Natural Heritage Program as freshwater emergent wetland and freshwater ponds. It's a beautiful urban wetland. There are currently no nearby parks or trails despite the existence of PFL and its large number of employees. We strongly encourage careful planning to protect these wetlands and to even consider trails or boardwalks that would allow access throughout this natural area and connect to a trail along Hwy 10 and to the north side of the City.
- Area E seems to be a good location for higher density development, given the proximity to important businesses, groceries and food, and even Urgent Care health services, and the existence of the Hwy 89 S trail with access north to the City and south to Paradise Valley. Improved, safe access for pedestrians and bicyclers across Hwy 89 and some of the roads in the area is needed, along with a park or public open space. Improved pedestrian walkways are needed to connect this area to the City.
- The area along View Vista (Area F) is already developed and close to several schools. There is a significant need for sidewalks for pedestrian and bicyclers extending from that property and the schools to the skate park, civic center, pool and Sacajawea Park.
- Area G appears to include Mayors Landing, which is an old landfill and currently used as a public dog park. If the intent is to consider the private land between Mayors Landing and Park Street, we ask you to consider public demand for protecting natural areas, wetlands, floodplains and wildlife habitat. There is still significant public interest in developing another access across the north channel between Mayors Landing and areas to the north and west. Access to the Mayors landing area is limited by a road primarily used by vehicles, including ones with trailers, and currently there is no safe shoulder or trail. It can be unsafe for families to use and traffic (and the speed of traffic) is increasing with boat ramp and fishing access users.
- Residents have expressed interest in extending the Alpenglow Trail from the hospital area to the east (Area H). There would likely be even more in demand for this trail if this area is developed further.

- Quadrant I: Please see comments on Areas B and C above. There is interest among some members of the community in developing the Bozeman Trail to create an 8-mile loop extending from the Bozeman Connector Trail and Meredith Ranch Road to Basin Trail Road back to Front Street. We request that any development in this area consider the opportunity to create this trail which could be great attraction for the community and provide safe access for multi-user groups.
- Quadrant II: See comments about Areas A, G and H above. There is increased use of Myers River View Trail, Myers Lane and Swingley Road to Harvat Flats by pedestrians, dog walkers and bicyclers since the opening of the O Street Trail, and any development should facilitate those existing uses. There is also interest among some residents in developing a bike park on the public lands above town nearby and we would like to maintain that opportunity.
- Quadrant III: See comments on Areas C, D, E above.
- Quadrant IV: See comments on Areas F and G above as well as Quadrant II regarding the increased use of Swingley Road by pedestrians and bicyclers and the interest in Harvat Flats.