

PTOS Meeting – Wednesday, August 19, 2020 – MINUTES

Attendees:

Melissa Fields
Jennifer Shah
Ronna Cohen
Dave McFerren
Greg Reid
Chris Owens
Paula McFarland
Michael Menssen
Ben Hill
Christine Mikell
Mike Johnson
Andy Hulka

Discussion:

Introduction of new committee members

Chris Owens – 16 years in UT, last four in Cottonwood Heights; fixed installation home audio; outdoor enthusiast; CH volunteer in informal roles

Paula McFarland – resident for 29 years; outdoor enthusiast; single with two grown daughters; self-employed consultant who works primarily from home; has served on other boards / committees

Introduction of other committee members and city staff

Staff updates (Mike Johnson)

East Jordan Canal – northwest edge of Mountview Park

- Grant to make trail along portion of trail that is currently covered
- Contract with construction company authorized last night at city council meeting
- Work must be done by Oct / Nov 2020

Order of business

Document to review – must be done on annual basis. Mike Johnson will send committee members the document. Members only need to respond to Mike with questions / concerns

Open Space Master Plan

- Matt Taylor took a job with Orem City
- Andy Hulka is taking over as lead planner for this project

- Mike requested as much time as possible at next meeting to discuss the plan – clarifications, things missing, connections to be made

Bonneville Shoreline Trail (BST) Master Plan

- PTOS Committee recommended that the city council adopt the BST plan as part of the general plan (via email since the last meeting)
- Planning Commission voted to recommend adoption of the BST plan by the city council with two stipulations:
 1. Recommended that when lower trailhead parking becomes available, parking directly adjacent to trailhead should be limited to ADA slots
 2. Limit # of local trailheads to 1 (out of 5 options; plan specified not all are needed but did not specify which one(s) would be used)

Ferguson Canyon Trailhead

- Issues:
 - High volume of traffic and on-street parking
 - Desire by residents to expand permit parking area
 - Consistent traffic circulating searching for parking
 - Off-leash dogs in area (not legally allowed, but common practice)
- Map with extent of current permit parking (mostly no parking on streets in area)
- No established record of issued parking permits (owners or guests) – problem for enforcement
- Next steps:
 - Option 1: current permit parking - letters to residents with intent to enforce permits; permit application information, including guest permits (45 days max); **subsidiary preferred option by the city council (see option 3)**
 - Option 2: expanded permit parking – ordinance 11.22 describes process; 51% of residents must sign petition; review by staff; public hearing; city vote
 - Option 3: parking restrictions – city engineer may place signs /paint to prohibit or restrict parking for everyone (11.20); **preferred option by city council**
- Long term solutions
 - Ferguson Canyon overflow parking lot
 - Partial funding available, planning underway
 - Needs: wayfinding & informational signage; planning commission parking recommendations (see BST Plan discussion)
- Current trailhead signage
 - Several signs saying dogs must be on-leash (but too much text on each)
- Other issues – dog feces enforcement
 - More education would help – ideas: USFS rangers; CH volunteers? Cottonwood Canyons Foundation?
 - Ronna would be happy to share process by which these issues have been addressed by volunteers at Mount Olympus trailhead
 - Add speed bumps to deter speed and encourage parking at overflow lot

- Equity - Is it fair that people cannot park on publicly owned streets?
 - Local traffic protection in ordinance
 - Response to fires – mobility of fire trucks in area
- Maintenance (especially in winter) a concern for CH Recreation & Service Area

Committee Updates

Cottonwood Heights Walking Tours (Ronna Cohen)

- Now in Melissa Blue's (City GIS Specialist) hands – she created a website with interactive maps, distance, points of interest, descriptions / history at points of interest, current and historic photos
- Print version will also be available
- Committee should review the routes (PDF, online) sent out by city staff and send comments to Ronna to compile and forward to Melissa Blue within 2 weeks.

Utah Open Lands Campaign (Melissa Fields)

- \$43K left to raise to reach \$200K challenge grant from AHE/CI Trust by September 10
- Melissa, Jenn, and Christine held a telethon and raised ~ \$6K in an hour
- Op Ed penned by Melissa was published in Salt Lake Tribune (Friday – online, Sunday – print), which resulted in 32 more donations
- Mayor has been working with gravel pit owners (Granite) to request a sizeable donation
- Please forward names of businesses / other large donors to Christine
 - Sierra Club?
- Bigger donors already
 - City of Cottonwood Heights
 - Leroy McAllister Fund
 - Salt Lake County
 - Friends of NAME

Scavenger Hunt

- Send pictures or ideas of locations to be included in hunt to Melissa Fields by August 26
 - E.g., painted rocks along BCC trail; landforms; park features, etc.

New Business

- Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary positions on committee are over as of October, 2020
- Melissa asked members to consider interest in any of these positions. This can be done at the next meeting

Action items

- Document to review – must be done on annual basis. Mike Johnson will send committee members the document. Members only need to respond to Mike with questions / concerns

- Mike Johnson requested as much time as possible at next meeting to discuss the plan – clarifications, things missing, connections to be made
- Ronna will share process by which trailhead issues have been addressed by volunteers at Mount Olympus trailhead
- Committee should review walking route tours (PDF, online) sent out by city staff and send comments to Ronna to compile and forward to Melissa Blue within 2 weeks (Sept. 2).
- Committee should send pictures or ideas of locations to be included in hunt to Melissa Fields by August 26
- Members should consider ‘applying’ for committee chair, vice-chair, and secretary positions. Nominations and vote can be done at the next meeting

Next meeting: September 23, 2020, 6-8 pm via Zoom; link forthcoming