

Open Space and Trails Advisory Committee

Minutes December 1, 2011

Meeting Summary

The committee recognized the service of former Mayor pro tem and OSTAC advisor Walt Spader. The committee reviewed a proposal for a pedestrian bridge that would cross Community Ditch near Snowberry Lane. The committee also reviewed a possible name change for the 2012 Broomfield Trail Adventure to honor the memory of Ralph Johnson, watched the Nature Program coyote education video, and received updates on some newly completed trail connections and signage.

Roll Call

Present:
William Olney
Dennis Thompson
Annette Cislo
Rob Bodine
Patrick Tennyson
George Zack
James Haedrich
Walt Spader

Absent: Kevin Jacobs

Others in attendance: Kristan Pritz, Director of Open Space and Trails Pete Dunlaevy, Open Space and Trails Coordinator Kevin Standbridge, Assistant City and County Manager

Agenda Minutes

- 1. Call to Order, 6:05 p.m.
- 2. Introduction of Interested Citizens:

Joel Hollis CJ McKeral

- 3. Rob Bodine thanked Walt Spader, on behalf of the committee, for his service in being the City Council representative on OSTAC over the past two years. Other OSTAC members expressed their gratitude for Walt's service and his many contributions to the committee. Walt thanked the committee for their service as well.
- 4. Update on Proposed Snowberry Lane Pedestrian Bridge Crossing

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Pete reviewed the proposal for a pedestrian bridge that would cross Community Ditch near Snowberry Lane. The proposed crossing would link an existing trail stemming from Snowberry Lane, between two homes, to the existing trail on the other (western) side of Community Ditch. Pete also reviewed a second possible location for a pedestrian bridge crossing off of Opal St., which connected more directly to the commercial area to the west. The proposal for this pedestrian bridge crossing was submitted by a resident to the CIP department. The CIP advisory committee asked that OSTAC review the proposal and offer a recommendation on whether this project merited being added as a future CIP construction project. Pete also explained the design constraints with the Snowberry Land location. The cost estimate for this project from the CIP department was approximately \$80,000. This estimate was the same for either location of the pedestrian bridge.

- >George-how many requests have you received from the public for this project? Is this an important connection to the public?
- >Pete-we have just received one request, but it was a formal request that was made to the CIP Department; at this time we do not know if this project would be supported or opposed by the surrounding neighborhood;
- >Kristan-if the project was added to the CIP list with OSTAC's recommendation, than a public process would take place in the planning stages;
- >Joel-Broomfield does have a lot of streets that wind and do not connect well; this can be very frustrating for pedestrians and bikers, so some of these pedestrian connections in the neighborhoods are important;
- >Walt-a lot of streets were designed to wind, and not connect, because that is what the residents wanted at the time.
- >Rob-I would refer to the prioritized list of CIP projects; we could seek more citizen involvement on which projects are the most important;
- >George-the trail on the west side of the ditch is not that extensive, as it ends at 10th Avenue; this connection is not a priority for me, unless we find that there are many people proposing it;
- >Dennis-would agree that this does not seem to be a priority, considering the cost involved;

OSTAC reached a consensus opinion that this project should not be added to the CIP list at this time.

5. Discussion of Request to Adjust the Name of the Broomfield Trail Adventure

Kristan informed the committee of a proposal to adjust the name of the Broomfield Trail Adventure to honor former City Council member Ralph Johnson, who recently passed away.

- >Rob-would suggest possibly making the event in honor of Ralph for 2012 so that emphasis can be made on what Ralph did for the community and citizens will learn about him;
- >Annette-yes-an important part of this effort to honor Ralph would be letting people at the event know who Ralph was and what he was all about;
- >Rob-that's right, it will be important to let people know what causes were important to Ralph; like the Forest Service or the Westlake neighborhood; perhaps we could

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look at having the BTA in the Westlake neighborhood; or incorporate Ralph into a Westlake event:

>Patrick-changing the name can be difficult from a branding perspective too; it may not be clear to people what the event is—so making a big emphasis in 2012 seems to be a great idea;

>Kevin-the current Westlake neighborhood City Council representatives are Wayne L. Anderson and Martha Derda; perhaps this year could be 'The Broomfield Trail Adventure, in honor of Ralph Johnson;

>Kristan-there are some good trails in Westlake and I think we could make something work there for the event;

>Pete-perhaps we could host the event, and staging area, at one of the schools; we can look into this:

>Annette-would suggest that we should hold the Trail Adventure in honor of Ralph, and host it in the Westlake neighborhood; we could also try to honor his Forest Service ties by planting some trees in Westlake;

>Dennis-it will be more meaningful to honor him this way – at next year's event – instead of just changing the name; the meaning of the name change might be lost on people over the years;

>Patrick-if there is an association with Ralph at the event, it could be something that lasts more than a year;

>Walt-would recommend coordinating with Linda Fahrenbruch for the event, as she was very close with Ralph;

6. Review the Coyote Nature Program Video

Kristan described the efforts of the Broomfield Nature Program to offer some recent coyote educational classes and played a video of one of the classes that will be airing on Channel 8.

7. Review Photos of Recently Completed Trail Connections and Signage

Pete reviewed the new trail connections near the Country Vista neighborhood and Wal-mart. Pete also reviewed new Open Space and Trails signage that has been completed at Lambertson Farms, Broomfield County Commons, the Broadlands neighborhood, Alexx & Michael's Pond, and near the Highway 287 & Miramonte intersection. All of the new information signs at trail entryways now have a unique address printed on the sign to assist with potential emergency response needs.

8. Review and Approve Minutes of the October 26, 2011 OSTAC Meeting

Patrick motions for approval; Bill seconds. Minutes approved.

9. Updates and Reminders

- -Rob Bodine provided a brief report on three upcoming development projects Harvest Station Apartments, Wasatch Apartments, and Camden Flatirons.
- -Kristan informed the committee of the next OSTAC meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 18th, 2012. This meeting will feature the three coyote

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researchers who will be investigating and reviewing the coyote bites that took place in 2011. The meeting had previously been proposed for January 19th, but will be moved to Wednesday the 18th to accommodate the schedule for the researchers.

Other as Desired by OSTAC

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by Pete Dunlaevy

Approved by **OSTAC** on January 18, 2012.