

## ATTACHMENT #2

### STEAMBOAT SPRINGS TRAILS COMMITTEE MINUTES

**May 6, 2019**

The meeting of the Steamboat Springs 2A Trails Committee was called to order at approximately 12:07 p.m. on Monday, May 6, 2019, in the Crawford Room, Centennial Hall, 124 10th Street, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Trails Committee members in attendance were: Chair Pete Wither, Dan Bonner, Harry Martin, Jason Landers and David High. Absent: Marr, Malia

City staff member present was Assistant to The City Manager Winnie DelliQuadri.

Kent Foster represented the US Forest Service. Kris Middendorf represented Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

#### **Approval of Minutes: March 27**

Dan Bonner moved to table the March 27, 2019 meeting minutes. Harry Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Committee Member Resignation and New Appointment**

Winnie DelliQuadri: David Scully has resigned. Council has appointed Jason Landers; the actual appointment will be Tuesday

#### **Update To City Council: May 14**

DelliQuadri: I have to submit all the materials for the packet by Wednesday noon. I took the template from your last presentation and updated it. I think the key thing is going to be the handouts and the PowerPoint. Attachments include the PowerPoint, the resolution establishing the 2A Trails Committee, the trails status spreadsheet, (which is new and tries to explain trails as they relate to the Trails Alliance Proposal,) trail prioritization and the financial report.

Bonner: There's two references to Buff Pass Unauthorized Trails under projects in process and completed projects. I think that's confusing terminology; do we want to call it unauthorized trails?

DelliQuadri: That's what it is in the Trails Alliance proposal.

High: They're not unauthorized anymore.

Bonner: And I think that might confuse Council.

DelliQuadri will remove the word “unauthorized” and replace it with “UA” with the name of the trail in parentheses.

DelliQuadri: On the communications form, I say “Projects in Process.” I wanted to indicate that the money is encumbered from a prior year but the work hasn’t been completed. So even if there is no Mad Rabbit NEPA funding this year, there is quite a bit of money that we have under contract with the Forest Service to do more work on the Mad Rabbit NEPA. I assumed but have not put it in here that before “Summary and Alternatives,” if you would like we could insert “USFS” there and just note that Kent has provided or will provide some information on the NEPA. My understanding was that the roundtable was an attempt to find common ground among stakeholders.

Landers: There was some agreement that came out of it.

High: What were those things that came out of it?

Foster: We did find out what is important to a cross-section of the public. We did not end up with one community-driven proposal at the end of the day. The dialog around peoples’ values was important. We’re in the process of looking at all those ideas and determining what’s going to be feasible. In a couple weeks we’re going to try to give people a summary and move towards a more defined proposed action.

High: Are we presenting a united front in terms of how Council is going to see the efforts of the roundtable, or is it going to continue to be fragmented? It would be nice if we could capture everybody’s interest in one summary, but I don’t know if that’s realistic.

Foster: I don’t know if we’re going to capture everyone’s interest in one summary. What we’re going to try to do is provide opportunities identified for trail development while analyzing impacts to resource concerns. If City Council elects not to continue funding Mad Rabbit with the request we have for this year, that tells us where the City Council is at. Based on our conversations, I think they want us to continue moving forward. Tara, our new district ranger, wants to establish a roundtable in the long term that encompasses all of Routt County and determines how we will manage these competing values. The variety of values at the roundtable was incredible. Just being able to have that conversation and agree to disagree but respect one another I think was huge. There was a lot of conversation on common ground that came from that.

Wither: Long term, this sounds like it’s going to be a productive group of people that can help out with recreation in Routt County in the future.

Foster: The City is going to help out with funding the next couple meetings. In the last few days, I’ve received three different grant opportunities for this type of thing. So we’re going to jump on that and get some additional funding.

Committee members directed DelliQuadri to include information on the WHILD and Trail Maintenance endowment funds as well as the roundtable in the presentation.

High: One of the questions that continually comes up is why haven't we spent this money on the Core Trail. We always have to remind people that it was the first discussion that we had and we found that it didn't make any sense.

DelliQuadri noted that all Committee member terms are currently scheduled to end on December 31, 2020 and asked the Committee for a recommendation as to whether they should all end on that date, or whether representative or at-large member terms should be modified by one year.

Bonner: I think they should be staggered. I'm fine with increasing the at-large terms from three to four.

High: I think if there were people beating down the door wanting to get on this committee we could be a little bit more aggressive in how we approach this, but I don't think that's the case. So I think we should lengthen them as long as they will allow us to and stagger them.

DelliQuadri: My guess is that once they have a proposed action, your next step would be to look at all the trails and decide if you want to re-rank them based on feasibility, and then you would make a funding recommendation. Depending upon what that is, the most contentious thing that you might be doing will happen next year. If NEPA gets done in the fall, and you guys re-rank and bring some sort of funding recommendation to Council in the spring, I would be surprised if there were no objections. There was an objection with Buff Pass and we didn't really construct that first year. Their objection process will not stop your recommendation process, so that can be good to go. If something gets taken off, it's just taken off your ranking. But it will change the Forest Service's ability to request and contract for dollars. Still, that means by the end of 2020, your bigger decisions will have been addressed. Funding goes through 2023, and you have the ability to borrow against future years assuming there's money in reserve.

Bonner asked whether the Committee ends in 2023 or when funds are fully expended.

DelliQuadri: Per the resolution, it ends in 2023. So you could extend this term to four years, so whoever expired in 2020 would get a three-year term and whoever expired in 2021 would get a two-year term.

Committee members agreed with that approach and suggested that be clarified with Council as such.

Middledorf declined to add anything to the presentation but stated he would be attending to answer any questions.

DelliQuadri went through the communication form and explained what would be included in each section. She noted that the Trail Use Economic Impact Study results will be presented first.

DelliQuadri said she could answer technical questions regarding but wanted Committee members to answer any questions regarding the rationale for funding or not funding specific trails.

High pointed to the Fish Creek Underpass and the US40 lodging connection as a way to make the Core Trail more user friendly.

Martin asked about the potential reroute of the Core Trail Extension to Legacy Ranch.

DelliQuadri: Butch Daugherty submitted a conceptual PUD to Routt County, as a part of which the City would get a trail easement. The City's Water division is strongly opposed to that because the PUD would build storage units surrounded by the City's well field for drinking water. He has yet to submit a formal PUD, which would go through the Routt County planning process and there would be a decision made by the county. If the City gets an easement, then we have the possibility of staying on this side of the river; then you could recommend funding for a feasibility study which would get a consultant on the ground determining a route. I've had conversations with neighboring property owners who seem amenable to a Core Trail extension. Total estimates are 2-\$3 million. We have in the past gotten a \$1 million grant from GOCO to extend the trail. Council killed the project due to construction and maintenance cost concerns given the alignment with the two bridges that went through the well field.

Bonner suggested that all this information should go into the presentation PowerPoint. He wanted to indicate to Council that the Committee is focused on measuring results though they cannot allocate funding to any mechanism to that effect.

DelliQuadri thought that having Foster talk about the NEPA process would be helpful to helping Council understand the 2A role. She suggested that they were blindsided by the Keep Routt Wild comments because those comments came to Council, County commissioners, CPW and USFS, whereas prior comments funneled through Routt County Riders went only to USFS, which has sole jurisdiction over the Mad Rabbit NEPA.

Wither and Malia will discuss what 2A tries to do with comments they receive in directing to the appropriate land manager for appropriate consideration.

Middledorf wanted to make it clear that human activity, rather than trails, may have an impact on wildlife.

DelliQuadri will send a final draft to Gavin, Peter, Kris and Kent and will work with Gavin and Peter to finalize the presentation. The entire Committee will need to individually approve the package with an email directly to Winnie.

### **Next Meeting: May 15**

Trail Impact Study Presentation, Council presentation debrief.

### **Adjournment**

David High moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 1:03 p.m. Dan Bonner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES PREPARED, REVIEWED AND RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: Timothy Keenan and Winnie DelliQuadri. Approved this 5th Day of June, 2019.