

Open Space Board Meeting Minutes

Government Center

March 21, 2018, 12-2 p.m.

1. Introductions

Board: Carl Fisher, Sarah Bennett, Chris McCandless, Kael Weston, Rhetta Mccliff, Sheryl Garn.

Staff: Megan Smith, Angelo Calacino, Julie Peck-Dabling, Supreet Gill, Brittany Allen.

Public: Tracy Burton, John Knoblock

2. Public Comment

John Knoblock – BST Committee met with Cottonwood Heights staff regarding the layout of BST trail through their City. They are very anxious to move forward.

Chris: Sandy City purchased the Richardson property in partnership with Salt Lake County. Funds came from the TRCC fund. The parcel is near Bell Canyon. Additionally, two other property owners gave verbal commitment to complete an easement for the BST. The board would like to do a field trip through the new parcel that was funded by SLCO and Sandy that connects Rocky Mouth to Hidden Valley.

3. Minutes

Rhetta moved to approve, Carl seconded; all voted in favor.

4. Open Meetings Act

Megan Smith presented Open Meetings requirements to the board.

5. New applications

No applications last quarter. However, there has been lots of discussion with Herriman and Cottonwood Heights about land acquisition. Most are waiting to get an update on the bond.

6. Existing applications:

- a. **Pinecrest preservation application:** Revised application has the budget updated and reduced. Seller would like to see the parcel go to open space so they have dropped the asking price from \$6K/acre to \$3K/acre. If the bigger parcel was purchased, it is very likely the other two parcels would be donated.

Julie has had a conversation with DNR and they are interested in knowing about this parcel as well as Killyon Red Rocks parcel. They have a limited amount of funds for land conservation and require the State to hold a CE. Carl has an experience with DNR where they allowed roads to go through open space parcel so we may want to approach this partnership cautiously. DNR would need to be open to adjusting their boiler plate language to meet OS requirements. Staff still needs to provide additional information to DNR. Other options might be Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Emigration Improvement district, and Utah Open Lands.

Back to the discussion about Pinecrest, the following options were discussed:

1. Not interested

2. Interested but request more time and that staff do more work to find more funding partners
3. Vote to support application and move it forward to Mayor/Council

Kael stated he thinks we should vote to support, find more partners. Rhetta is supportive but is concerned about the total amount from Open Space without knowing the commitment from other agencies. Chris made a motion that staff move forward with the Pinecrest preservation project, and that the board makes a positive recommendation to purchase the parcel provided the seller donate the two smaller parcels (a total of 144 acres), contingent on adequate funding being available, with conservation easement placed in concert with our ordinance. Rhetta seconded. All voted in favor, with no opposed.

b. Hjersted application:

Carl invited John K. to present his information on this application.

Sarah, Angelo, Kael and Julie took a fieldtrip to view the site; John Knoblock met them on site. The parcel would connect the BST Z trail to Neff's canyon trail. The application is to purchase 28 acres.

Julie shared an email from Derek Sorenson in County Real Estate.

Chris asked if there was another alignment option for the BST. Angelo replied that there is no other reasonable option to connect the BST.

Kael: due to the proximity to the city this location would be a very popular destination.

Julie: BST acquisition fund has committed funding for just this property. Request from OS is \$200,000.

Angelo: County has been in conversation with Mr. Hjersted for 12 years. If we get this property we will have almost 10 miles of BST.

Chris: Recommend the approval \$200K for the purchase of Hjersted property to connect the BST. Sarah second. Discussion: Carl stated that he thinks it's a little expensive for recreation piece; concerned about accessibility and parking. Neff's parking lot is already overflowing.

Chris: amend motion to include an ask for consideration to address parking in key locations along the Bonneville Shoreline in Salt Lake County.

Angelo responded that there are three access points that exist as the only options. Thousand Oaks, Neffs, and Parleys/Grandeur Peak are the only places. Mount O trailhead is in the process of being redesigned with additional parking. Rhetta commented that most people will want to do a longer hike vs. up and back, so several access points is preferable. Sarah agreed.

All voted in favor of the motion. None opposed.

7. Budget 2018

Current fund balance for land acquisition: \$500,000

8. Traverse Ridge, Killyon Redrocks, Fujilyte

Draper City Traverse Ridge: we have an accurate legal description of the parcel.

Killyon Redrocks, Tom Johnson: hope to work with Public Utilities for funding.

Fujilyte: working with Millcreek city on conservation easement.

9. Discussion on Items of Interest to the Board

There was continued discussion on an Open Space bond for this coming November. The Board members are very supportive of a bond that will allow the purchase of land and even assist with improvements. Carl updated all on the legislative process this year - several partners worked diligently on many issues related to Open Space.

Sarah commented on the most recent needs assessment survey done for Parks & Rec. It has not been released yet, but she understands that it shows 90+percent support trails as their #1 priority.

10. **Next meeting:** May 16.

11. **Adjourn.** Chris motion to adjourn. Sarah second. All in favor.

DRAFT