

Roll Call

Jeff Cospolich called the September 22, 2014 BOSAC meeting to order at 5:47 pm. Other BOSAC members present included Chris Tennial, Elisabeth Lawrence, Jeffrey Bergeron, Elizabeth Miller, Jeff Carlson and Craig Campbell. Staff members present were Peter Grosshuesch, Scott Reid, Mark Truckey and Chris Kulick. Brian Lorch from Summit County Open Space and Trails and Pat McShane, a Breckenridge resident, were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as presented.

Public Comments

Ms. McShane – What is going on with Yellow Brick Road? I have used it for years and recently saw new trail posts, only to have the posts removed last week. Would you please update me on the status of Yellow Brick Road?

Mr. Reid – Yellow Brick Road is an historical road that is included on maps since the late 1800s and early 1900s. The County, under C.R.S 2477 had rights to roads and “thoroughfares” established for long periods of time. The County believes that the road is a public road open to public access and the landowner of the Friday Lode disagrees. The County staff and attorneys are working with the landowner to settle the dispute and removal of the signage was a gesture of good faith in the negotiations. The landowner has committed to removing the barriers, cable and signage this week as a response in kind. The landowner’s primary issue as I understand it is that the road/trail access goes right in front of their house. We are looking at a comparable trail location behind the house to deal with the public access and proximity concern. The landowner is also concerned about the proposed Weber Gulch hut parking lot. This is a USFS decision, however. If it all works well, the posts and trail access will be reinstalled in a location that is satisfactory to all parties.

Mr. Lorch – This is part of a standstill agreement between the County and the landowner. We hope to have a resolution to this issue in the near future.

Staff Summary

Field Season Update

Work has continued on multiple summer projects on the 2014 work plan. The following has occurred since the previous 8/18 BOSAC meeting:

- Completed and opened B-Line Trail to Hermit Placer Trail.
- Constructed new portions of the ZL Trail, including several bridge spans and chicanes/entry posts.
- Completed Sallie Barber Road drainage repairs.
- Improved Side Door drainage on historic alignment.
- Installed signage throughout trail system.
- Planned and designed new trail projects for the 2014 and 2015 construction seasons (e.g. Aspen Alley, Weber Gulch, Wirepatch, and Mineral Hill).

Mr. Reid – Most of this work was completed jointly with Summit County. I would encourage you to visit the new trails.

Friends of Breckenridge Trails Update

On September 13th, over 20 volunteers assisted with the construction of ZL Trail as part of Make a Difference Day. Significant progress was made on ZL and the trail crew is finalizing the route. Vail Resort's EpicPromise Day, with an estimated 220 volunteers, occurred for September 20th and completed the Wirepatch Trail in upper French Gulch.

Rocky Mountain Recreation and Wilderness Preservation Act Update

Attached is the Town Council letter of support regarding Congressman Polis' recent wilderness bill. Council appreciated BOSAC's input on this issue.

Weber Gulch Hut Update

At its August 26th discussion, Town Council agreed with BOSAC's recommendation to not object to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) draft record of decision regarding the Weber Gulch hut. The USFS will respond to all objections filed before September 12th and then issue a final decision regarding the hut in the coming months.

Forest Health Projects Update

The Iowa Hill forest health project should be completed by 9/22. The Golden Horseshoe project started on September 22nd and will likely continue until snowfall prevents further work. Staff will update BOSAC on any progress regarding these projects.

Mr. Bergeron – In terms of forest health, is better to let nature take its course instead of removing the fuel? (Mr. Grosshuesch – The USFS is treating areas in the wildland urban interface (WUI) and leaving more remote areas alone.)

Friends of the Dillon Ranger District

Mr. Reid – We should anticipate another grant request from the FDRD in the coming months. BOSAC should consider which projects in Breckenridge's backyard should be priorities on the National Forest.

Mr. Bergeron – In the interest of directing users through the appropriate corridor and to avoid conflict with adjacent neighbors, I would encourage the FDRD to install blue diamonds along the McCullough Gulch trail.

Open Space

Reiling Dredge Preservation Master Plan

Staff presented a draft version of the Reiling Dredge Preservation Master plan and an accompanying memo from the September 9th Town Council meeting. Town Council reviewed the plan in advance of the September 23rd Breckenridge Heritage Alliance joint meeting which determines 2015 capital expenditures. As you can see by the memo, the Town and County have reached a decision point regarding stabilization costs for the dredge itself.

During the discussion, Council directed staff to pursue stabilization of the dredge boat structure by clearing the deck of soil and vegetation and shoring up rotten decking portions. Staff will also evaluate the feasibility and cost of raising the water level of the pond, as outlined in the Preservation Master Plan. The total stabilization costs for phase I have been estimated at \$110,000, with portions

of those costs coming from the open space fund and the Breckenridge Heritage Alliance 2015 capital fund. Town Council also asked Summit County to split the stabilization costs 50/50. Phase I of the stabilization will address the most pressing issue of the dredge (structural decay) and allow for future phases to be considered. This project and its costs will be discussed by OSAC at their October meeting.

Town Council and the Board of County Commissioners also agreed to postpone any decision regarding National Historic Landmarking and river restoration.

Mr. Campbell – Who came up with the budget for the project? (Mr. Grosshuesch – SlaterPaull, the report’s consultant came up with the budget.)

Mr. Bergeron – Did I miss the option to remediate the stream corridor? That would require a lot of truck trips down CR 450. (Mr. Reid – That option was not really part of this preservation master plan. However, that idea is still on the table even given the challenging logistics. We are focused on the Swan River restoration for the foreseeable future, but it seems prudent to keep a French Creek stream restoration as a future option.)

Mr. Campbell – How many dredge boat sites remain in the County (Mr. Reid – Three with any remainder of the boat.)

Mr. Campbell – I question the value of preserving the environmental degradation that was caused by the dredge boats. I would prefer to spend the money on stream restoration.

Mr. Carlson – What does “some degree” of restoration mean? (Mr. Grosshuesch – It means stabilization.)

Mr. Tennal – With the historical designation were laid over the area how reversible is that. (Mr. Reid – Even with a National Landmarking you could do a stream restoration. However any action will require 404 and 106 review from the Army Corps and allow comment from the Historic Folks. How the Army Corps would utilize those comments is unknown.)

Mr. Lorch – We need to figure out how we use this master plan because if we start using it for funding or whatever, it will start to lend it credibility despite it being very one-sided.

Mr. Campbell – Is there a value in the historic designation? (Mr. Grosshuesch – Hypothetically, however we don’t know what it is.) (Mr. Reid – The rock also as value.)

Mr. Bergeron – I’m all for committing money to restore the dredge. I would prefer to not have hundreds of trucks driving down French Gulch Road. Please ignore the State so we can do it as we see fit.

Mr. Tennal – I’m all for river restoration in French Gulch so I don’t want us locked into a plan or landmark that goes against that goal. I’m not necessarily against the stabilization of the dredge and would support some minimal stabilization. We should use the interpretation as more of a cautionary tale than to glorify it.

Ms. Miller – I agree with many of Mr. Tennal’s comments. I would love it to look like four mile but am worried about the truck traffic. I don’t see the need to preserve all that rock to give an idea of what it looked like. I would support some minimal amount of stabilization.

Mr. Campbell – The trade off of preserving the site isn’t worth preventing a possible stream restoration. I would support a minimal amount of stabilization next year.

Mr. Bergeron – Is there any threshold where you wouldn’t support restoration. (Campbell, Miller, Tennal – whatever it takes.)

Mr. Carlson – I agree to stabilization and want to keep the option open for river restoration.

Mr. Cospolich – I support stabilization but question raising the water but it seems like it would obscure interpretation. I would love to see the valley restored but question the feasibility of the restoration. It seems it may be an insurmountable obstacle. (Mr. Lorch – above Country Boy it would be very similar to the Swan River. Most of the options do not get into water quality issues.) I question if a National Register designation would really boost visitation.

Staff requests BOSAC familiarize themselves with the attached report and memo, and then answer the following questions:

1. *Does BOSAC have any questions regarding the content of the draft Preservation Master Plan and its recommendations?*
2. *Does BOSAC have any questions for staff regarding the policy direction from Town Council?*

2015 Budget/Pro Forma

Mark Truckey will review the revised open space pro forma as part of the ongoing 2015 budgeting process.

Executive Session

Ms. Miller – Motioned to move into Executive Session at 7:21 pm to discuss property acquisition negotiations.

Mr. Tennal – seconded the motion.

Mr. Cospolich – Made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:23 pm. Mr. Carlson seconded the motion.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Monday, September 22, 2014, at the Breckenridge Town Hall, 150 Ski Hill Road. The next meeting is scheduled one week later than normal due to staff attending the annual Colorado Open Space Alliance conference.

Mr. Tennal motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Bergeron.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Jeff Cospolich, Chair