

Roll Call

Jeff Cospolich called the May 18, 2015 BOSAC meeting to order at 7:00 pm, following the Trails Open House. Other BOSAC members present included Jeffrey Bergeron, Chris Tennal, Erin Gigliello, Jeff Carlson, Craig Campbell and Elizabeth Miller. Staff members present were Scott Reid, Chris Kulick, Mark Truckey and Peter Grosshuesch. Brian Lorch from Summit County was also present. Members of the public Jeff Westcott and Mike Zobbe were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as presented.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Public Comments

Mike Zobbe: The Summit Fat Tire Society is ready and able to help with any directional and more technical trails that may be planned in the area. We do not want to lose that element of the trail system. Regarding the Summit Huts Association, we are hoping for a final decision on the Weber Gulch Hut by the end of May. Based on recent discussion with the USFS and area landowners, we have opted to move the proposed parking lot further to the east, but still west of Humbug Hill Road. As previously discussed, the hut is winter-only and the parking lot will not be utilized during summer until Summit Huts, the Town, County and USFS agree that the existing public trailhead is too small and additional summer parking is needed. Also, as part of the pending decision, Summit Huts anticipates constructing Upper Nightmare on Baldy trail that will serve as a good ski trail for accessing the Weber Gulch hut and as a summer trail for non-motorized users.

Staff Summary

Wellington Bike Park and Pump Track

Construction of the Wellington Bike Park and Pump Track is well underway with an estimated completion date in the second week of June. To date, significant drainage has been installed, the site has been largely cleared of woody debris (standing and down), several shed structures were removed, and over 900 yards of fill material has been transported to the site from the Highway 9 medians. In the coming weeks, additional clay-based soil will be imported to the site and the pump track and flow lines will be sculpted to establish the final site layout. The contractor (Elevated Trail Design) has been on site since the first week of May and the additional assistance of the Town of Breckenridge Public Works crew has been invaluable. Several members of the Town Trail Crew also started work earlier than usual to assist with the pump track site cleanup and construction. Staff plans to hold a BOSAC site visit (and ribbon-cutting ceremony) to the Wellington Bike Park and Pump Track prior to the June 15th meeting at 4:00 pm.

Illinois Creek Water Quality Research

Town and Summit County staffs have been assisting the EPA, U.S. Forest Service and other agencies in evaluating the water quality condition in Illinois Creek. The goal of the research is to pinpoint any sources of heavy metal loading in the creek, which is a tributary to the Blue River. Staff assisted with the installation of several water quality monitors in Illinois Creek where it crosses Town property. Staff will update BOSAC on any available results of the water quality monitoring data.

Open Space

Cucumber Gulch Preserve Weed Eradication

Attached is a revised proposal from Claffey Ecological Consulting (CEC) for the reed canary grass and other weed eradication efforts in Cucumber Gulch Preserve for 2015. As BOSAC may recall, the Town hired CEC for a five-year effort to locate, map and eradicate reed canary grass in Cucumber Gulch Preserve without the use of herbicides that could affect wetland health. In year one (2014) of the project, CEC and its subcontractors successfully identified reed canary grass patches throughout Cucumber Gulch and found multiple locations in lower Cucumber Gulch, indicating that the infestation is more pervasive than originally thought. Removal techniques are largely focused on shoveling out the reed canary grass root masses and reseeded with native vegetation.

In addition, staff asked CEC to eradicate other weeds (e.g. yellow and Dalmatian toadflax, false chamomile, Canada thistle) as they encountered them in their reed canary grass efforts. Dr. Christy Carello's annual weed evaluation was used as a guide so that CEC could target known noxious weeds areas.

During the first year (2014) of coordinated weed eradication efforts, CEC and staff learned several things. First, reed canary grass is more extensive than originally thought in Cucumber Gulch and requires better early season detection for effective treatment. Second, locating and eradicating weeds other than reed canary grass has proven more challenging than anticipated and now includes a newly identified noxious weed- meadow foxtail. Finally, treatment of the "other" weeds warrants mapping to better evaluate the effectiveness of the eradication efforts.

The attached proposal from CEC is structured to build on information gained in year one of the effort, eradicate noxious weeds of all types in Cucumber Gulch, and measure the effectiveness of those treatments. From a budget standpoint, Tasks 1 and 3 would be considered research (\$11,000) while Task 2 would be considered management (\$11,570). Both costs would fit within the approved 2015 open space budget allocations.

BOSAC unanimously supported the expenditure of funds to map and eradicate weeds in Cucumber Gulch Preserve in 2015.

Summit Public Radio Utility Easement Request

Recently, Summit Public Radio (SPR) approached the Town and Summit County requesting a utility easement across the Laurium and City Claims open space parcels to replace aging underground communication and power cables. After evaluating multiple routes to access the summit ridge of Mt. Baldy (and the existing property/tower site), SPR opted to seek access along the primary Laurium road, and then up Iowa Mill and Baldy Roads to the ridgeline. Construction will involve two excavators moving in tandem along the roads installing cables and covering the disturbance as they go. The proposed easement document requires SPR to return the roads to preexisting condition following construction.

A question that has been raised to staff is the long-term build out plan for the tower site. For example, will the additional power and communication capability affect the ridgeline tower site plans resulting in larger and more visible infrastructure? Staff has been actively seeking additional

information from SPR representatives to answer this and other questions. In general, however, the BOCC has given an initial, favorable review to the proposal. Town Council is scheduled to discuss this easement proposal at its 5/26 meeting and seeks BOSAC's recommendation regarding the proposal.

BOSAC recommended Town Council proceed with a utility easement dedication to Summit Public Radio for the purpose of installing electric and fiberoptic utilities.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 15th at 5:30, in the Lower Level Conference Room at the Breckenridge Town Hall, 150 Ski Hill Road. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Wellington Bike Park and Pump Track will occur at 4:00 pm at 710 Wellington Road (above the Breckenridge Stables).

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

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

Jeff Cospolich, Chair