

May 27, 2020
Trails and Open Space Advisory Committee
Meeting Record

Members Present Electronically

Mike Ferris, Committee Chair
Bob Schiowitz, Vice-Chair
Peter Gorman, Member
Martyn Pearson, Member
Jim Wightman, Member
Kenneth Sexton, Member
Dan Dietzel, Member

Others Present

Jaime Embick
Desire' Liska

Members Absent

None

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

Approval of Minutes: Bob moved to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2020 meeting as submitted. Peter seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote of 7/0.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Public Input

Desire' presented the draft maps for the Boston Hill Viva Connects Grant. Mike stated that there is enough money in the budget for 14 junction signs.

Ken asked what size they will be. The kiosk signs will be 18x24 and the junction signs will be 12x18, which is the same size as the previous signs.

Ken asked what material they will be made of. Bob stated the same material as the last signs which have lasted since 2008. They will not be placed facing south if possible so the sun doesn't fade them.

Ken asked if we can distribute paper copies at the Visitor's Center, etc. Bob stated that the maps are georeferenced and can be used on a cell phone. Jaime said she would print paper copies too if the group wants to have them available.

Mike asked if there is a timeline for installation. Bob stated that once the signs are ordered, it will take a couple days for them to be printed and then they are ready to be installed.

Bob suggested adding trailhead names to the map.

Martyn asked for the blue loop mileage to be on the map.

The group will email ideas to Desire’.

Desire’ also stated that the application deadline for the 2020 Viva Connects Grant is due in June. It will be geared toward community outreach and that the tool stations and interpretive outreach ideas could be incorporated.

Committee Discussion:

Boston Hill Report:

Martyn said that there may be funding available for a flow trail on Boston Hill. Tool stands are another idea that may be funded by grants. He said he would ask

Jim asked if grant money could be used to fix the F Street entrance. Bob stated that until the property boundary issues are corrected, the trailhead can’t be constructed.

Ken suggested a covered picnic area at the Spring Street Trailhead for group events.

Jim stated that some areas of Boston Hill are steep. Dan suggested a work day to look at them.

San Vicente Report:

The green markers are in place on San Vicente Creek from the bridge to the ball fields. Peter said he used them and that they are great. Mike said the signs will really help. Jim said one needs moved and Bob and Mike will go look at it. Mike asked if kiosks are still in the Town budget. Jaime said they may not be for the upcoming budget year because of the financial impacts from COVID-19.

Ken said that benches on San Vicente would be nice near the birding areas and on Boston Hill as well.

Bob stated that he has been speaking with a property owner about getting more of the San Vicente Creek property donated to the Town or possibly an easement.

Staff Report

Jaime reported the YCC (Youth Conservation Corps) Group will begin working behind the Visitor’s Center soon for their summer project.

Adjournment: 6:10pm

Approved:

Michael Ferris,

Chair

Date: _____