

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2019
5:30 p.m. at City Hall

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm, by Tessa Jilot.

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tessa Jilot, Chair-Walking Community
Tom Morgan, Vice Chair-Bicycling Community
John Bruning-NICTF
Ronan Malaghan-Student
Kim Golden-General Public
Mark Puddy-Landscape Architect
Jaime Morgan-General Public
Tim Teyler-Water Access Community
Mac Cavasar-Running Community
Russ Hersrud-General Public
Mike Fuller-General Public

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Amy Evans-City Council Liaison
Amy Hofer-SD 271
Denise Jeska-Physically Challenged

STAFF PRESENT:

Monte McCully, Staff Liaison
Melissa Brandt, Transcriptionist

GUESTS:

Phil Boyd & Taylor Tompke, Welch Comer Engineers
Dell Hatch, Bernardo Wills Architects

Twelve members present resulting in a quorum.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Tom Morgan made a motion to approve the January 9, 2019, Minutes. John Bruning seconded the motion there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chet Getty: Mill River resident: Has concerns about the presentation and felt this was an appropriate group to express concerns. This project can't be all things to all people. I don't think there needs to be a scenic drive for 300 yards along the river, a bike path that would go straight through and connect to the centennial trail and a trail headed west to the prairie trail would do. If you had no road or car traffic no need for tunnels or bridges. If the bike trail path was built sturdy enough you could take EMT vehicles down to the beach if needed. If this is going to be a rustic park you don't need a road, it would be a much simpler project without a road. At Mill River Park people have to sometimes walk 200 feet to the beach, and maybe a loading or unloading zone for boats needed. Keep the design simpler and it will keep costs down. Pay attention to the land swap which will mean \$1M of funding.

5. ATLAS WATERFRONT PRESENTATION – Information Only

Phil Boyd and Dell Hatch: We are holding numerous meetings to get input and hopefully design something the community wants and enjoys.

Phil Boyd: There are 47 acres +/- and at the east end of the site there is a connection to Riverstone Park and on the west a connection to the Prairie Trail to Seltice Way. There is also the Douglass parcel and a triangle piece currently in negotiations to swap for property in the railroad corridor. This concept began development in 2018, the charge put to their firm was to help reserve 10-12 acres forever for the public, and anticipate an urban renewal

district to expand projects and funding. There have been, and will be, numerous meetings encouraging community engagement.

The concept extends the River Trail as per the 2017 Trails and Bikeways Master Plan. This project offers the opportunity to provide strong pedestrian and bike linkages to and from the Atlas neighborhood and create a desirable internal pedestrian network, accessibility for a non-motorized launch, and an accessible route to get to a water launch not like anything currently available in the park system. As meetings have occurred, there have been changes incorporating ideas and concerns. Proposed connection will mirror what is in the 2017 Trails and Bikeways Master Plan. There are two areas that will have some congestion; at Riverstone and at the end of the new shared use path at Beebe. There is also potential for a tunnel to allow pedestrians and bikes to move under traffic at these congested areas. The pedestrian path will run parallel to the wheeled path and compacted gravel will be used instead of asphalt. There is a switchback to allow easier movement due to grade. A trail running along the parking lot will give quick access to the park area – may not be 12 feet wide, but will give a good connection. The shared use path connecting to Atlas currently will run in front of some commercial approaches; we're hoping to achieve a different alignment. The area known as Mount Hink won't be a designer product, there are great views, it will be an extension of the nature park with the connection of a paved or compacted gravel pedestrian pathway. There will be a path or trail to an accessible kayak launch, paddle board launch, and access to the water trailhead.

Dell Hatch: The concept connects to Riverstone and expands the green waterfront. We are in the conceptual stage and have some holding places for elements within the waterfront system. Think of this as a neighborhood park opportunity that expands to the north and the east along the waterfront. No sidewalks down at the waterfront, there will be the trail and pedestrian path. Parking lot would have 65 spaces and would be similar to parking lot at city hall and will include parking for vehicles with a trailer. Parking and access is important due to the paddle board and accessible kayak launch. The pedestrian path is 8 feet wide and the wheeled portion is 12 feet wide. At the beach area there is an opportunity for water access accessible from two directions, and there will be areas developed to catch and treat storm water, possibly a rain garden. The shelter and restroom facility will be similar to the memorial park softball field. We are trying for a natural non-manicured look to the area for lower maintenance and a natural feel. There may be a vendor area. Accessible launch would have a dock and cement ramp. There will be access at waterfront for EMTs and emergency vehicles similar to McEuen. The launch would be similar to the NIC beach launch. Native vegetation kept natural as a barrier and to shore up grade. There will be a difference in elevation for walkers and bikers. Most of the shoreline will have some sort of mitigation to stabilize the water's edge. The Centennial Trail at Beebe Blvd. needs some realignment to make it safer, but would require right-of-way access to realign. Phil Boyd will send some alternative ideas to Monte for the group to consider.

6. STAFF REPORT

- Hern Property-At Atlas Road, north of the gun range, we are seeking an easement that would make way to build a trail connection on the south side of Hanley connecting to where the trail ends now to the Prairie trail and will eventually have a trail connecting to Atlas.
- Cunningham Development- The west trail crossing that goes up through Riverstone. Proposed to connect trails that come out of Riverstone to the Centennial Trail, this would be a 5 foot trail width change to the north and south connection, they have to be the same width of the trail.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

8. PROJECT UPDATES

- Ped/Bike Workshop #2

- Mark Puddy: Similar to workshop #1, a timed event, will be fun. Keep agenda light to allow time for process. Will drive agendas for future meetings and topics. Tom, Jaime, Mark and Tessa met and discussed how we run the meetings and what we can do to make them more action oriented and accomplishment driven, and comply with the committee's duties and responsibilities.

9. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Walk Friendly Community

Mike, Tessa, Monte, Denise

No report.

- Design Review/Infrastructure

Mac, Russ, John, Tim, Chris

When it comes to the Atlas Project, it should include everyone around this table, and any reviews should be included in our general session not subcommittee discussion. Make sure the project is shared with interest holders. Encourage that they incorporate historical elements.

- Education

Kim, Amy H, Tessa, Mike, Tom, Jamie

No report.

- Bikeways Master Plan

Monte, Chris

No report.

10. ROUND TABLE

Russ-Why does the City feel the need to buy the land and then sell it off and develop the Atlas waterfront? Why not leave it like Tubbs Hill. Realize money was borrowed to purchase the land, but why not buy it and preserve it?

Michael-Good presentation like historical aspect, tell the history of that area.

Monte-Next winter's newsletter, include something about wearing snow boots so you don't have to walk in the traffic lane. Next month is Mustache March.

Motion made by Russ Hersrud and seconded by Tom Morgan to adjourn the meeting. There being no discussion and all being in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

- **Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 5:30 pm at City Hall**