

Minutes of Foundation for Ada-Canyon Trail Systems
COMPASS Conference Room
August 19, 2015

Attendance:

Jeanne Barker, Garden City
William F. Gigray, F.A.C.T.S. President
Leo Hennessey, Idaho Parks and Recreation
Sharon Hubler, F.A.C.T.S. Treasurer
Dave Jones, Canyon Highway District No. 4
Scott Koberg, Ada County Parks and Waterways
Carl Miller, COMPASS
Robert Minch, Citizen
Steve Noyes, Eagle Parks and Recreation
Gary Payne, Citizen
Cody Swander, City of Nampa Parks
Charles Trainor, F.A.C.T.S. Secretary
Mark Wasdahl, Idaho Transportation Department District 3
Kristi Watkins, J-U-B Engineering/Bike Walk Nampa

1. Call to order at 3:00 by President William Gigray.
2. Action Items.
 - a. William Gigray asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. There was a round of introductions. Following this, Charles Trainor said Carl Miller would need to leave early and he asked if Carl's item could be moved up on the agenda. This was accepted.
 - b. William Gigray noted the minutes of the July meeting had been disseminated and he asked if there were any changes. No changes were proposed, and Jeanne Barker moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Gary Payne. Motion approved on a voice vote. (0:05:05) *This is the time mark on the recording.*
 - c. Treasurer Sharon Hubler reported that there were no changes in the bank account from last month and the current bank balance remained \$12,193.42. Upon a motion by Charles Trainor and seconded by Jeanne Barker, the Treasurer's financial report was approved on a voice vote. (0:13:16) *Note this item was out of the agenda order.*
3. Special Information Items.
 - a. COMPASS Update. (0:05:50) Carl said staff was putting final touches on the pathways map based on comments received from local agencies. The final draft should be ready for review by F.A.C.T.S. in September. He said Tom Laws could not be present since he is overseeing installation of the pedestrian/bike counters at the twelve locations selected around the region. These should be operational in September, with data to be posted on the COMPASS dashboard. Gary Payne asked when the map would be available for public review. Bill Gigray said there should be meetings with the public agencies first, specifically with the point people prior to September. Carl noted the map is difficult to assemble given the diversity of information maintained by each local agency. Charles noted the potential of ITD to use this map in its planning and design. He asked if ITD would be part of the review process. Carl agreed there should be a substantial amount of time on the September

agenda for review of the map by F.A.C.T.S. members. President Gigray noted the need for setting aside this time in September.

- b. Eminent Domain. (0:014:10) Judy Peavey-Derr was not present, but Sharon Hubler said Judy had met with Senator Todd Lakey. Senator Lakey had voted against the legislation in the 2015 session. He thought there was no support likely to revisit this legislation in the next session. One issue leading to the bill's passage was the perception of non-roadway paths as amenities versus needs. This issue Sharon said was to make a change more palatable to legislators. President Gigray says the legislators' perception was that Idaho is rural. In response to a question by Charles, Sharon agreed that there was no instance in which eminent domain has been used for a recreational path. Gary noted that public support for pathways is not recognized by legislators. President Gigray said there is a concern that opening this issue up might actually expand eminent domain restrictions to other public functions. He reiterated the need for public support for a change, and he expressed appreciation for the support of the highway districts, especially since many of the needed pathways are in more rural areas. This item was deferred to September.
- c. Laguna Pointe Pathway Report. (0:23:44) President Gigray said some of the members of the ad hoc committee were not present, and this would remain on the agenda for the next meeting.
- d. Exploratory Maintenance Committee. (0:24:15) Don Stockton was not present so this item was deferred to September.
- e. Chinden Corridor Pedestrian/Bike Study. (0:24:35) Gary Payne distributed a letter prepared by the subcommittee (Gary, Tom Laws, and Leo Hennessey). Comments on the Chinden study are due by August 30, 2015. He noted F.A.C.T.S. was asked to comment. He complimented the work done on this study as being very thorough. There were some concerns about which agency has jurisdiction over some of the paths in the corridor. The majority of the subject paths are within Garden City. Sharon Hubler noted the ownership of the islands in the Boise River was the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands. She explained the background of the bridges near the fairgrounds. One of the key issues identified in the study was a gap on the south bank near 52nd Street in Garden City due to an existing home whose owner objected to a path on his property. This caused a detour. One option would be to connect across to the island with a third bridge—recognizing it as an expensive option. Another option would be to use some easements approximately two blocks south. It would be shorter than the current detour route. Sharon noted the bridges on the island were due to opposition to a path on the north bank by Plantation residents.

President Gigray thanked the group for its work. He recommended it be copied to others—Ada County, Garden City Council, Idaho Foundation for Parks and Recreation, COMPASS and Ada County Highway District were noted. Upon a request by President Gigray, Gary moved to approve the letter for submittal. This motion was approved on a voice vote with no nays.

- f. F.A.C.T.S. Website and Records. (0:37:19) Gary Payne said Abisay Herrera will update and revise the website for mobile devices for a very low cost of \$968—nearly 2/3 less than his normal charge. There is a scope of work that has been prepared but there were no copies of that scope. Upon a motion by Gary to approve this expense, it was approved by a voice vote with no nays. President Gigray asked some questions about billing. After a motion by Gary Payne to approve entering into an agreement with Mr. Herrera for \$968, a voice vote of approval was given. (No record of a second.)

Gary said he would be setting up a meeting to discuss a records policy. This meeting was scheduled for September 8, 2015.

- g. Fund-raiser Ideas. (0:4:54) Judy Peavey-Derr was not present so this item was skipped.
- h. ITD Pathway Planning Protocols (0:43:00) President Gigray said he had met with Tim Richards and Mark Wasdahl. They agreed that the protocol discussion should follow review of the pathway corridor map. President Gigray said this was timely given ITD's work on a five year plan.
- i. Kuna East Park Concept. Wendy Howell was not present so this item was deferred.

4. Reports (0:44:33)

- a. Ada County Highway District (ACHD). No report.
- b. Ada County Parks & Waterways. Scott Koberg noted the County had been working on a pathway pavement replacement east of the Old Penitentiary from the Shakespeare Festival site out toward the diversion dam on the Boise River. He said they were not able to get an agreement on grant funding with the Idaho Transportation Department. He said instead Ada County would focus on a project near Warm Springs Mesa—doing it “on their own” versus any grant funding. In response to a question as to what F.A.C.T.S. could have done, Scott said the issues were more nuts-and-bolts related to contracting and other technical issues, so outside support was not really relevant.

Scott noted the importance of revenue from the rafting related functions in supporting other aspects of their department—including pathways. Charles pointed out that Scott said quite a bit of money was spent by visitors using the Greenbelt and the river. This has relevance for the earlier item on why recreational pathways are important.

President Gigray said some these issues had bearing on the need for some joint powers approach for maintenance and other pathway functions. Scott said he had set aside some funding for maintenance on the F.A.C.T.S. pathway in reference to an earlier item.
- c. Boise Parks and Recreation - No report.
- d. Boise Public Works - No report.
- e. Caldwell Trails and Pathways Committee. Bill Gigray said the pathway budget had been approved by the Caldwell City Council. They are working now on a festival along Indian Creek. They will need to work with Canyon Highway District No. 4 on some interconnections on public roads especially near State Highway 44. Other issues will involve improving connections to Lake Lowell.
- f. Canyon County Development Services Dept. - No report.
- g. Canyon County Parks Recreation & Waterways – No report.
- h. Canyon Highway District #4 – No report but President Gigray recognized Dave Jones as the new director.
- i. City of Eagle Parks and Recreation – No report.

- j. Eagle Parks and Pathways Development Commission – Steve Noyes talked about new signage for wayfinding along the pathways. The signs should be in place by September. A citizens group has volunteered to put the signs in. The City is in discussion with the Lakemoor Park homeowners group regarding connections to the F.A.C.T.S. path. This could be a better route than the Laguna Pointe corridor. There is a parking lot project in process for the Mace Road path off Eagle Road. He also noted progress with the Monroc bridge project near the Boise River. This would provide a crossing of the road at grade since there is no room for an underpass. They want to improve mapping of easements and paths and have applied for a grant from the National Park Service.
- k. Garden City West Bridge – Jeanne Barker noted the new bridge has been a “fantastic success.” There is still concern about hunting activities on the tip of Eagle Island. There was a brief discussion of parking to access the bridge. This has been a problem with the new bridge and many other sections of the Greenbelt. Another issue she described was concern about floating on the river, with no real emergency or maintenance services to address hazards.
- l. Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation - No report.
- m. Idaho Oregon Snake River Water Trail – No report.
- n. Meridian Parks & Pathways – No report.
- o. Nampa Parks Department – Cody Swander said the tree removal along the drain was a success. He said so far the Boise Greenbelt has not been a focus of the City, which has put its resources into pathways further south. The City has been working with the Nampa Meridian Irrigation District to improve rip-rap along the drains. They hope to get a Recreational Trails grant to put a pathway along Sugar Road.
- p. Kuna – No report.
- q. Other – Kristi Watkins said their firm has been working on a pathway plan that would not be on ACHD roads but would connect from Horseshoe Bend Road to 36th Street in the Boise Foothills. She expects the draft plan to be out by next Thursday (August 26). The main contact is Rod Ashby of Ada County Highway District.

Meeting adjourned 4:27 p.m.

Next meeting was set for September 16, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Trainor, Secretary

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