

Minutes of Foundation for Ada-Canyon Trail Systems
COMPASS Conference Room
July 15, 2015

Attendance:

Tamsen Binggelli, Boise River Enhancement Network
Tim Breuer, Boise River Enhancement Network
William F. Gigray, F.A.C.T.S. President
Brooke Green, Ada County Highway District
Leo Hennessey, Idaho Parks and Recreation
Wendy Howell, City of Kuna
Sharon Hubler, F.A.C.T.S. Treasurer
Tom Laws, COMPASS
Robert Minch, Citizen
Steve Noyes, Eagle Parks and Recreation
Gary Payne, Citizen
Judy Peavey-Derr, Citizen
Charles Trainor, F.A.C.T.S. Secretary
Mark Wasdahl, Idaho Transportation Department District 3
Randy Zollinger, Citizen

1. Call to order at 3:04 by President William Gigray. A round of introductions was made.
2. Action Items.
 - a. William Gigray asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. No changes were proposed. Upon a motion to approve by Gary Payne and seconded by Brooke Greene, the agenda was approved on a voice vote.
 - b. William Gigray noted the minutes of the April meeting had been disseminated and he ask if there were any changes. No changes were proposed, and Sharon Hubler moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Gary Payne. Motion approved on a voice vote. (0:11:55) *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 \$12,193.62. She said the fiscal year ends August 15, 2015 and we will need to file an IRS Form 990-N no later than January 15, 2016. She then discussed the issue of the F.A.C.T.S. document depository, which would include among other things an IRS determination letter regarding the tax-exempt status. She described other documents that might be scanned and included in a document depository. President Gigray noted there was no requirement for such a depository. This will be a later item on the agenda. There was some preliminary discussion about format and any required documents to be included. Upon a motion by Charles Trainor and seconded by Randy Zollinger, the Treasurer's financial report was approved on a voice vote. (0:13:10)
3. Special Information Items.
 - a. Eminent Domain Law. (0:18:55) President Gigray noted that the members of the Senate Bill 1044 ad hoc committee, including Commissioner Tom Dale and Brian Billingsley, were not present, Judy Peavey-Derr came in later. Judy had volunteered to set up a grassroots effort to modify Senate Bill

1044 approved during the 2015 legislative session. Judy said she has a meeting set with State Senator Todd Lakey on Monday, July 20, to discuss why he supported the eminent domain legislation. She also will meet with State Senator Cherie Buckner-Webb, who opposed the bill. Judy noted the Idaho Farm Bureau's role in the eminent domain bill. This item would be moved to the August agenda.

- b. Laguna Pointe Pathway Report. (0:20:20) President Gigray said the members of the ad hoc committee to prepare a statement on this matter were not present, those being Judy Peavey-Derr, Don Stockton and Gary Segers. He suggested moving this to the August agenda. Randy Zollinger said he was fine with tabling it. Judy Peavey-Derr had entered the meeting during the above discussion, and President Gigray noted her presence and asked for an update on eminent domain and the Laguna Pathway. She noted she and Sharon Hubler had met with Mary McFarland of the Eagle City Council. Judy cautioned against "stirring the pot" due to the on-going legal actions. She said Sharon had drafted an opinion piece and sent it to President Gigray for his review. President Gigray said he would look for that.

Judy and Sharon both cautioned the group about the sensitivity of this issue. We need to proceed very cautiously in terms of communication and documentation to avoid putting anyone at risk. Judy Peavey-Derr noted the Farm Bureau's involvement in the eminent domain bill. There was a question as to whether the August meeting would be timely given the status of things. There is a draft letter to the City of Eagle but President Gigray said there could be no letter sent without Board approval. Randy said there has been no new information on this issue. The City of Eagle was requiring payment of \$300 for F.A.C.T.S. public records request. In response to a question, the barbed wire fence is still present. President Gigray encouraged claiming a public records request exemption under Idaho Code 74-102 (10) (f) in getting the information. Randy said this effort should take a softer political stance. The issue will be moved to the August agenda.

- c. Exploratory Maintenance Committee. (0:29:00) Neither Don Stockton nor Scott Koberg were present, but President Gigray said Scott had sent him and Charles Trainor an email detailing that Ada County had put into its FY2016 budget for maintenance of the pathway from Garden City to the Boise Wastewater Treatment site. The group would reconvene in September or October to work on the joint powers agreement.
- d. Boise River Enhancement Plan. (0:30:34) Tim Breuer of the Land Trust for the Treasure Valley and the Boise River Enhancement Network introduced this issue. He said it started with a workshop in 2011 with concerns about flooding, water quality, and the scatter of documents and planning related to the Boise River. To develop a more coherent approach, a grant was obtained from the Bureau of Reclamation for a two-year project. This effort would be to gather together the information and to develop a more comprehensive ecological development plan for the Boise River. He emphasized that all the plans had similar goals to protect the Boise River. He introduced the project manager, Tamsen Binggelli. She provided a handout to the group and said the main document is more visual than technical. It is available on the web at <http://boiseriverenhancement.net>. There are three main sections in the document—the Boise River background and setting, identifying issues, and realizing the vision. She showed a flow diagram that analyzed river flow before and after the major dams. Flow has dropped from more than 14,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) to about 4500 cfs. Most of the diversion is to the New York Canal. Flow picks up a bit with returns from drainage but ends up about 700 cfs at the confluence with the Snake River.

Tamsen noted the diverse purposes of the Boise River—water supply, recreation, wildlife habitat, etc. There are issues with floodplain, flow regime, riparian areas, sedimentation, scour in some areas, rapid draw downs that affect cottonwood regeneration, loss of fish refuge areas, etc. She detailed various strategies to protect the diverse functions. Tim said this effort tended to focus on the ecological aspects versus things like recreation. He noted the potential in more downstream areas of the Boise River, especially through Canyon County, to take a different approach in development and recreation, noting that early canalization of the river through Boise allowed close proximity of development, including recreational paths. He said the downstream areas might present the opportunity to move back from the river and allow it to function more in keeping with these other uses. President Gigray asked how F.A.C.T.S. could interface its planning with the goals of the Boise River Enhancement Network. He noted the mapping underway by COMPASS. Where could the trails be? Tim said it was possible that pathways could be moved back. He noted the opportunity to serve multiple goals in locating pathways to enhance environmental needs. Gary Payne said this helped him understand some of the conflicts—for example in putting a more commuting path along the river. Tim said there was also some benefits in removing invasive species vegetation as part of path maintenance.

- e. Chinden Bike/Pedestrian Assessment. (1:12:20) Tom Laws said there was a national program to study safety issues within a selected corridor. In Idaho, that corridor was Chinden (Highway 20/26), and a workshop was held a few month ago. The report is out for review and F.A.C.T.S. is requested to make comments on this report. He said the analysis found that there are few bicyclists on Chinden, with most riders using Adams or the Greenbelt. The biggest issue is that there is no signage once you leave the Greenbelt to provide direction into Garden City. Another issue is the poor definition of maintenance responsibility. The third is the gap around 52nd Street. He asked if anyone had received anything on this report. Judy said the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Land has control of the islands on which some of the paths are located near the racetrack. The Foundation is in the process of transferring the title over to Ada County, which is willing to make repairs. The agreement should be signed soon.

Judy Peavey-Derr asked Mayor Evans about the 52nd Street issue. Apparently there is a small house on the property which at one time was used for a children's zoo according to Gary Payne. There was a question as to whether there was any public easement, but no one present knew.

Comments on the Chinden study are due by August 20, 2015. Volunteers to do the review included Gary Payne, Tom Laws and Leo Hennessey. Gary Payne moved and Judy Peavey-Derr seconded to authorize the above team to review and make comments on the study. Motion was approved on a voice vote. The motion included authorization to file a review without Board approval if needed.

- f. COMPASS Update Progress Report on Mapping. (1:25:04) Tom Laws said he had met with Scott Koberg on the map and there are some issues with proposed pathways through other jurisdictions. He had also met with Patricia Nilsson of Canyon County, who said the major issue is that the County has no official pathway plan. Only the cities have plans. So Tom sees three levels: existing pathways, official planned adopted routes, and conceptual routes that are very long-term. President Gigray said this presented an obstacle since he envisions the need to have a plan that includes the Canyon County wine tour routes and involves pathways on and off public roads. Randy Zollinger said Eagle hopes to have a pathway plan for their area soon approved by the Eagle City Council. Charles Trainor

cautioned against blending officially adopted routes with more conceptual routes that may or may not have been adopted.

- g. Website and Records Policy. (1:30:31) Gary Payne said he, Jeanne Barker, and Robert Minch had met with Abisay Herrera to discuss changing the web site. At the next meeting he could have a more formal estimate but Mr. Herrera estimated approximately 16 hours to update the current information and another 16 hours to revamp the website to a mobile device format. A preliminary estimate is \$2,000 for both efforts. There would be on-going costs of 2-4 hours per week to maintain the web site. There was discussion about different options: interns, high school or college students, etc. This is a big issue in terms of who can maintain the site. Gary noted the benefits would include learning a skill and gaining some experience.

Wendy Howell had to leave the meeting at this time, and she noted that she would like to update the group at the next meeting about changes in the east park concept.

Robert Minch then presented an outline of what information might be presented on a new website. He said sites should support different users, including those who are searching and those who are knowledgeable. It could be hosted by another organization. He said there could be hosting fees, but they are not that high. The biggest cost is creating and maintaining the information. It could start out as a prototype and then build. We have to know what should be public information and private. He cautioned that the worst thing is not to maintain and update the site. President Gigray asked about staffing costs both to maintain/host the site and update the information. Gary said Mr. Abisay donates the storage to F.A.C.T.S. President Gigray cautioned about the risk of volunteer support.

There was some discussion about how to raise funds and who should be responsible for maintaining the web site. Tom Laws noted some organizations tasked their board members to do updates—if the sites were designed to allow easy access.

Judy Peavey-Derr moved to have the web site update on the August agenda. This was seconded by Robert Minch. Motion was approved on a voice vote.

- h. Fund-raiser Ideas. (1:57:20) Judy Peavey-Derr said she was not ready for this report due to other issues.
- i. ITD Pathway Planning Protocols. (1:57:28) President Gigray said he had met with Tim Richards and Mark Wasdahl and they agreed nothing much could be done until the pathway map was in place. Mark also said that District 3 was undergoing some staff reorganization. Tom Laws said COMPASS was engaged in some commenting opportunities: the Transportation Improvement Program online from July 20-August 20, and August 4, 10am-7:30 pm at the COMPASS building on the ground floor with an open house. Mark noted some issues with the ITD web site in terms of commenting for future projects or current projects. He also said there had been a recent comment opportunity for Chinden (US20/26) at the Thomas Jefferson Charter School. The big issue was a continuous flow intersection. Tom Laws brought one up on screen for the group's elucidation.

4. Reports (2:08:40)

- a. Ada County Highway District (ACHD). Brooke Green said there was nothing to report.
- b. Ada County Parks & Waterways. No report

- c. Boise Parks and Recreation - No report
- d. Boise Public Works - No report
- e. Caldwell Trails and Pathways Committee. – Just finished with city budget without any issues.
- f. Canyon County Development Services Dept. - No report.
- g. Canyon County Parks Recreation & Waterways – No report.
- h. Canyon Highway District #4 – No report.
- i. City of Eagle Parks and Recreation – No report.
- j. Eagle Parks and Pathways Development Commission – Paving on greenbelt from Merrill Park east done. Organizing wayfinding project along Old Highway 44. There will be a meeting on August 4, 2015 at 7 am on the pathway paving near the concrete plant site. This will involve Jeff Huber.
- k. Garden City West Bridge – No report.
- 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 – No report.
- p. Kuna – No report.
- q. Other – Judy Peavey-Derr noted an error in the BREN report on the Barber Pools area. The plan was not updated in 2015 by DEQ.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Next meeting was set for August 19, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Trainor, Secretary

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