

Minutes of Foundation for Ada-Canyon Trail Systems
COMPASS Conference Room
October 18, 2017

Attendance:

Marcus Amman, COMPASS
Lisa Bachman, J-U-B Engineers
Mark Eubank, Citizen
William F. Gigray, F.A.C.T.S. President
Sharon Hubler, Citizen
Jan Johns, Idaho Foundation for Parks and Land
Scott Koberg, Ada County Parks
Paul Mann, Caldwell Bike and Path Committee
Robert Minch, Eagle Citizen
Steve Noyes, Eagle Parks, Pathways and Recreation
Gary Payne, Citizen
Phil Peterson, Nampa Bike Pedestrian
Colin Schmidt, Garden City
Gary Segers, Idaho Walk Bike Alliance
Don Stockton, Eagle Parks and Pathways
Cody Swander, City of Nampa Parks
Charles Trainor, F.A.C.T.S. Secretary
Duane Wakan, COMPASS
Mark Wasdahl, Idaho Transportation Department
John Wasson, ACHD
Tim Williams, City of Eagle

1. Call to order at 3:00 PM by President Gigray. There was a round of introductions.
2. Action Items.
President Gigray asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none proposed. Gary Payne moved to approve the agenda, and Gary Segers seconded. With no opposition, this was approved on a voice vote.
3. Administrative Action Items and Officer Report.
 - a. President Gigray noted the minutes of the September 2017 meeting had been disseminated and he asked if there were any changes. Charles Trainor noted that on page 3 in the second to last paragraph, the name Jennifer Riebus should be Amy Revis for the District 3 Engineer. Steve Noyes said his agency is now Eagle Parks, Pathways, and Recreation. With those changes noted, Mark Eubank moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Charles Trainor. Motion was approved on a voice vote.
 - b. Phil Peterson said there were no changes in the bank account from last month and the current bank balance remained \$12,240.28. Upon a motion by Phil Peterson and seconded by Gary Segers, the financial report was approved on a voice vote.
 - c. Presidents Report. President Gigray said he had sent letters to agencies regarding the Idaho Department of Lands easements. He said letters went or will shortly will go to Notus, Star, Parma, Notus, and Caldwell. He then reminded the group that the November meeting would also be the

annual meeting, at which Board directors and officers would be elected. This would also include designation of ex-officio directors, which may be more comfortable for some people.

d. Special Ad Hoc Committee Reports

- i. Rails with Trails. Duane Wakan said some costs had been worked up to obtain the needed land in the corridor between Nampa and Boise. The estimate was \$14 million based on adjacent (1/2-mile-wide strip) land values from the county assessor data. This assumes a 25-foot-wide corridor. This did not include tax exempt land. Other approaches would be a comparable land sale, which does not exist. There would also be a revenue approach based on actual income, but this information is not available. It would be around 83 acres in total. The cost to build a path would be \$1.5-2.5 million per mile. He said they are still working on refining the costs. They are not looking at other costs yet, such as separation barriers, restrooms along the trail, or road crossing treatments. There is no indication that Union Pacific is willing to sell. COMPASS is looking at a target of August to complete this estimate. President Gigray asked if other areas experience with rails with trails might be useful. Duane said the rail corridor width varied from 40 feet to as much as 400 feet. John Wasson asked if physical separation is required. Duane said this is up to the rail company. John cautioned that maintenance is a big issue. President Gigray asked if support for this study is needed, e.g., a letter to COMPASS. Gary Payne thought it would be premature to send any formal response at this time. Mark Eubank recommended a site, www.americantrails.org, for more information on similar efforts. In response to a question from Gary Segers, Duane said there is no issue to continuing this study. Phil Peterson said the rail company is more motivated if it sees something in it for them. Charles Trainor said there was a suggestion that the right of way for the cut-off had been donated many years ago. 0:38:20
- ii. 2009 Boise River Trail Plan Update. Gary Segers said he, Paul Mann, and Duane had met. Matt Stoll had requested some further details about what might be expected if COMPASS were to take this on. They discussed what the expectations would be from COMPASS. He said they would come back next month with a report. Paul said it would be good to look at other waterways, such as canals, to broaden the project to be more regional and not just along the Boise River. 0:41:30
- iii. Eagle Island Pathway. Robert Minch said the route preferred by the owners is not feasible given the flooding and changes in the channel. The need is to come up with some feasible alternatives. He wants to have another meeting with a summary of the research and some other alternatives. Steve said they hope to have some recent aerials that show the changes. Lisa Bachman said there was a funding workshop, but the deadline is January 2018. There are other grants such as the Transportation Alternative Program which has a September deadline. Work needs to be done on title research, and Steve Noyes noted the need for surveys to establish high water marks. Eagle Parks, Pathways and Recreation has a role to play in the process. He said Idaho Parks and Recreation is in support of the connection. Lisa Bachman said that Jerry Hastings may be of assistance in the survey. Also, important would be the involvement of the Boise River Control District. Gary Segers said we need to consider how to convey these issues to the owners. The levee is realistically the definition of the high-water mark, Steve said. Lisa Bachman said she could update the group next time regarding a meeting with the land owners. 0:58:06
- iv. Irrigation District Liaison. No report.

4. Special Information Items.

- a. City of Star Pathways. Cathy Ward was unable to attend. Gary Segers said they would try to meet with her prior to the next FACTS meeting. 1:00:50
- b. Formal Comments on E-bike Legislation. Phil Peterson summarized comments of the last meeting regarding the legislation. Steve Noyes said the e-bike demonstration held on September 25, 2017 was well attended by 40 some people. Gary Payne said he could see the potential of these bikes after riding them. He said the speed was not an issue. Steve Noyes read comments he received from Representative Phylis King. She would include a section on multi-use trails but would not address penalties for violators, leaving that for local agencies. President Gigray said he thought it best to wait on formal comments until the bill is formally published. Gary Segers noted his concern about Class 1 e-bikes on pathways, and that he had heard from others, including a bike shop owner, with similar concerns about the speed. Scott Koberg said he had contacted the City of Boise, which appears to be open to allowing Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on pathways but perhaps not on the trails, although he said it is possible some might be opened to e-bikes when not involving federal land. The City of Boise is working on its draft ordinance which should be out by the end of October 2017. Jennifer Tomlinson is the contact for this. Scott said the County would likely follow Boise's lead. The City would be increasing speed enforcement on pathways. There was a concern about the need to get feedback from law enforcement agencies regarding these new vehicles, especially in terms of being the new DWI vehicles. 1:21:50
- c. Expansion of Pathway to Diversion Dam. Scott Koberg said the bid for this \$2 million project has been awarded to Granite Excavation. The project will go from east of the Shakespeare Festival site to the diversion dam. The project could not start until water was out of the canal, which happened the preceding Monday. Winter weather could delay the initial phase of the project, but it needs to be completed prior to the water returning to the canal on March 15, 2018. Construction of the path could go until June 22, 2018, but Scott thought it would be done sooner. The path will be 11 feet wide with an additional recovery area. The existing path will close on October 25, 2017. There are no detour options. Mark Eubank said there were concerns about connections to the path. Scott said there has been some resolution. Scott responded to some questions about flood barriers downstream. Scott said the plastic, water filled barriers worked better than the gabions filled with rock. There was also some discussion about the detours near Plantation Island. President Gigray advocated better signage and marking. John Wasson said the road (Remington) may not be wide enough for bike lanes but could be a "sharrow" treatment. Bike lanes may also remove parking, which can be an issue. He said there could also be way signs. 1:41:06
- d. COMPASS Pathway Planning/Boise River Trail Plan. Duane Wakan said COMPASS is working with an Active Transportation workgroup. COMPASS wants to start marketing the map. He wants the map to be clearer. The current map has a lot of information. Charles Trainor asked how the Boise River Trail Plan differs from COMPASS' other bike planning. Duane noted COMPASS other work is more regional, not focused on one area. President Gigray said there is a need to get the pathway plans incorporated into the comprehensive plans. Charles said COMPASS could include continuity, project readiness, and maintenance ability as part of its funding approval process. 1:50:40

5. Continuing Business. None.

6. New Business. None.

7. Reports

- a. Ada County Highway District. John Wasson referenced accident data which showed increases in driving under the influence, motorcycle, bicycle, and pedestrian death rates have gone up

nationwide. There have been increases in death rates locally as well. He said deaths had been going down, but recent data showed an increase.

- b. Ada County Parks & Waterways. No report.
- c. Boise River Enhancement Network. No report.
- d. City of Caldwell Trails and Pathways Committee. Paul Mann said the City Council approved a 2040 Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. It is on line. Brian Billingsley of Caldwell brought the issue of the cost of the environmental studies required under a grant to COMPASS, and ITD increased the grant along with an increase from the City to cover the added costs. Marcus Amman spoke to the Caldwell City Council about the pedestrian counters being used during the City's light display.
- e. Canyon County Development Services Dept. No report.
- f. City of Boise. No report.
- g. Garden City. No report.
- h. Canyon Highway District #4. No report.
- i. City of Eagle Parks and Recreation. Steve Noyes said there were 140+ people at a meeting regarding the Trails Master Plan, many were equestrians. There is also an on-line survey running through September 27. Flood repairs are on-going, with a lot of dealings with the Corps of Engineers and IDWR. He has no new information on a Denver 150-foot bridge that was decommissioned and for sale. The City remains interested in the Plantation bridge that was removed.
- j. City of Eagle Parks and Pathways Development Commission. No report.
- k. City of Kuna. No report.
- l. City of Meridian Parks & Pathways. No report.
- m. City of Nampa Parks Department. Cody Swander said work was underway on the Stoddard pathway. The City did a 2" overlay on the Wilson pathway, a signalized crossing on Midland, Lake Lowell and Sugar. He noted homes have encroached on the Grimes pathway easements. There is a draft design concept for the Stoddard pathway. There will be a November 2 public comment meeting for this \$1 million project, which is three miles long.
- n. COMPASS. No report.
- o. Idaho Transportation Department. No report.
- p. Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. No report.
- q. Idaho Oregon Snake River Water Trail. No report.
- r. Other. Mark Eubank noted the next meeting would fall on December 20 which would be awkward for many. Mark Eubank moved to cancel this meeting. Gary Payne seconded, and the motion was approved on a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Next meeting was set for November 15, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Trainor, Secretary

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