

Minutes
BUENA VISTA TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD
April 5, 2022
Community Center
5:30 pm



Present:

Trails Advisory Board: Kelly Collins (Chair), Lois Walton, Pat McCarthy, Ryan Cole, Nancy Fox, Colleen Fitzgerald, Earl Richmond, (Recreation Special Projects Manager), Shawn Williams (Public Works Director),

Visitors: Joel Benson (Special Projects Manager), Jonathan Litwiller, Dawn Dennison, Ben Correll, Bryn Iten (NES Inc.)

- I. **Call to order** 5:35pm
- II. **Agenda adoption or changes** No changes to the agenda. Motion to approve by McCarthy, second by Fox- Motion passed
- III. **Approval of February 2, 2022 meeting minutes** Motion to approve by Fox, second by McCarthy Motion passed
- IV. **Public Comment** No public comment
- V. **Introductions** Jonathon Litwiller, Dawn Dennison and Ben Correll were introduced as prospective new board members. Bryn Iten was introduced as presenter for the Chicago Ranch/Rodeo Grounds Master Plan
- VI. **Chicago Ranch/Rodeo Grounds Master Plan (NES)** Bryn Iten presented the slide presentation. <https://my-bv.com/13525/widgets/40432/documents/29001> Board members had positive comments about the presentation and the work being done. Questions/comments: What is the recharge site? It was explained that this is the area that will help store and direct water. It will appear as a pond and at low times muddy. Fox asked about the ability for E-bikes to be used on the trails. Richmond said that the Town has the policy to allow them now and doesn't believe that will change. Walton suggested that the planners consider various windbreaks throughout the site as it will be windy. Pat asked about funding sources and whether the Town needs to revisit how development fees can contribute to trail development. Benson said that is something that could be reviewed and TAB should take it up if they feel it is important. Fitzgerald asked if the Bark Valley Dog Club was asked for input on the dog park area and was told that it is really not at that detail yet but that there should be outreach to them. Fitzgerald said she will contact the club. Bryn talked about the Bike Skills Park and its scope. Fitzgerald asked about the need for toilets throughout and asked if there had been any discussion regarding compostable toilets, pit toilets etc. There was some mention but this is for future planning. Collins brought up the two comments that were received. Is the Air Strip too close to the Dog Park and will this create a situation for dogs? Iten said that currently there is limited use by the air strip but yes it should be considered. A question was asked about the Equine

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trail and Iten said that the representatives from this group said that they appreciated the perimeter trail but that they much more preferred other trails provided in the county. Review the entire Master Plan progress at <https://my-bv.com/rodeo-grounds>

VII. Reports

- Recreation (Earl Richmond) –

Richmond said his work is really focusing on capital projects, research, grant writing and larger scope projects. He reported that Chaffee County Recreation Master Plan group is working on developing an App that will assist the county and communities within the county with identifying trail and amenity issues. The public would be able to download and app and if they see something while they are out and about they can address what they see on the app and the information will be relayed to the proper entity. Richmond said that this may have some positive uses for the Town as well such as the Adopt a Trail program.

Richmond reported that the Southwest Conservation Core will be utilizing areas in BV to conduct their Train the Trainer program for 8 days beginning April 19th. The group will be camping and working on the Whipple Trail and several spur trails as part of their training.

Richmond also reported that Buena Vista has partnered with two students in the Master of Urban and Regional Planning program at the University of Colorado Denver, to develop a comprehensive planning tool that integrates all trails, parks, and open space planning efforts within the community. This project aims to update the existing parks and trails inventory from the previous community trails and parks plans to include those within the town boundary and the three-mile area plan. Additionally, the team will identify connections and create a plan that shows how these systems work in tandem, and identify gaps to inform future improvements. The final report will include datasets for trails and park facilities, a public-facing platform that hosts the data, and proposed trail connections and park uses and amenities. The updated and complete inventory of park and trail amenities and infrastructure will provide town planners and community members an overview of existing available facilities and inform future park and trail planning efforts.

Arizona Trail Bridge update- Benson said that there continues to be progress and that the Town may be able to seek out a contractor to complete the project in the near future.

Richmond reported that the first Buena Vino Wine Festival is going to take place on May 7, 3:00-7:00pm at the Surf Hotel. This fundraising event is a joint venture and will raise

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funds for both the BV White Water Park and the Buena Vista Singletrack Coalition (BVSC).

- **Public Works (Shawn Williams) –**
 - A few dates to remember: Sunday April 24- 1:00-3:00pm Keeping Bewnie Buena Neighborhood Clean- Up Day; May 20 – Town Recycling Day; May 18- Arbor Day
 - Public Works staff is working on James Street Bridge repairs.
 - Staff is also working on compiling technical manuals and standards to establish guidelines.
 - Williams reported that there will be an easement from the Farm to Midland Meadow.
 - No report on Sunset Vista
 - Williams also reported that the Parks Department is almost fully staffed and he said it is exciting that projects are able to move forward faster being staffed. One priority is the cemetery. Fox asked about the striping along Crossman and Williams said that should be completed in June.
 - There was discussion about how street striping will be as the Arizona Bridge project moves forward. Benson and Williams said that it will be assessed and decided as the project moves forward.

- **Other Trails News (Kelly Collins) –**

BVSC is working on a new trail temporarily called Ramsour South. It will parallel the Camp Elevation Trail but will be a green-level trail. Construction is expected to start Summer 2022

VIII. Development Reviews

Collins mentioned that she will be meeting with Chaffee County staff to discuss the ability to have trail input as it relates to projects and subdivisions that border the Town. She was very optimistic that this will be possible.

IX. Trails Advisory Board Mission

Collins led a discussion regarding the mission of the Trails Advisory Board and thought with new members that it was a good time to revisit. Her suggestions: 1) Identify and plan new trails including updating the Trails Master Plan. 2) Assist in procuring funding. 3) Monitor trail conditions.

X. Action Items

- 2022 Meetings – monthly or bi-monthly

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The board discussed changing meetings from current schedule to a monthly meeting schedule. McCarthy and Fitzgerald asked if Zoom was a possibility if a member was not able to be in attendance. Although not ideal, it is possible. Richmond reminded the board that 4 members are necessary for quorum so if members need to miss then it should still be ok. Cole motioned to approve a monthly schedule minus a January meeting, second by McCarthy. Motion passed.

- Board Update- The Board reviewed the current members and their terms. Louis Walton's term ended Dec. 2021 but has requested to extend her term one year. Ryan Cole also requested to extend another term until 2024. McCarthy motioned to approve the extensions for the two board members, second by Fox. Motion approved.
- Vote on new TAB members
Jonathan Litwiller, Dawn Dennison and Ben Correll submitted applications for the Trails Advisory Board. After reviewing their applications Fox motioned to forward a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to add the three candidates to the Trails Advisory Board., second by McCarthy. Motion approved. Litwiller will fulfill vacant seat, Dennison and Correll agreed to be alternates.

XI. Adjournment 7:30pm

Next Meeting: **May 3, 2022**