

through the new Riverwalk property – a plan that would enhance connectivity for the Greenway. It was agreed that a bridge could come to fruition at some point in the future. Gardiner stated that from the Greenway perspective, the preferred route would be the wastewater treatment plant road to Oak Street – with a crossing to private property to Kestrel Park to reach North Mountain Park and beyond.

McFarland talked about public input regarding the need for trails where beginners can ride their bikes. Heycke noted that people often ask for easier trails, even though the constraints are within the land itself. McFarland detailed efforts to develop sections of the trails for family bike rides that failed for various reasons. Lewis noted that Ashland's trails have been called "black diamond trails" (per APCR Director Black). He stated that little could be done given the region's topography.

Richards indicated that the ultrarunners would like a trail to Grizzly Peak. Chapman suggested beginner bike trails along the ponds on the Michelle Street property. He noted that electric bikes remained an issue as well – something that must be addressed by State and Federal laws. Heycke relayed that Federal law exists that limits the wattage of electric bikes.

McFarland stated that off leash dogs were also an issue. Lewis highlighted the hot spots of the public open house, indicating that the Ashland Canal, the Greenway and the Imperatrice Property generated the most interest.

IV. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Richards asked for time to discuss a web-app for public comments about the maps – similar to the one used by the consultants for the Lithia Park Master Plan. She stated that the tool would facilitate conversion of mapping comments to pins locating the comment areas.

Richards indicated that the first page of the app would describe the topic and the mapping system. The second page would be a map of the City depicting the trails and corridors of the Trail Master Plan. She stated that people could touch the area of interest and a comment box popped up, allowing comments to be associated by their position on the map.

In response to a question by Gardiner, Richards noted that a webpage would be created for the map-app. Heycke cautioned against going outside City boundaries because of jurisdictional issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Final Committee Review of Appendix C: Geology of Ashland – Foundations of our Trails

McFarland introduced the amended version of the Geology section, stating that the Chapter had previously been reviewed but not approved. Changes resulted in additional data and commentary.

Chapman commented that it was a fun and interesting read. Lewis suggested adding commentary about off-trail uses and the damage that could be done to sensitive granitic soils. After some discussion it was agreed that the Appendix would stand as is.

Motion: Gardiner moved to approve Appendix C as presented. Lewis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review Chapter 8: Ashland Creek Corridor

Amendments were as follows:

First paragraph: Remove *could create*

The sentence would read – “The Ashland Creek trail corridor is visualized as the natural extension of the existing trails within Lithia Park as it follows: Ashland Creek to its confluence with Bear Creek - a pedestrian route nearly three miles long.”

Chapman commented that it was not as clear as it could be that the Ashland Creek Corridor was the connection between The Bear Creek Greenway and Ashland’s downtown. McFarland suggested “Broadly, the corridor extends south from the Bear Creek Greenway, at the confluence of Ashland Creek and Bear Creek through to Ashland’s downtown and the upper reaches of Lithia Park.”

“...the southern terminus in the Ashland Watershed there are trails aplenty...”

Changed to

...the southern terminus in the Ashland Watershed there are numerous trails...

“...the Parks and Recreation Department...”

Should be

...the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission...”

Strike: Oak Meadows Park

Heycke recommended removing all of the commentary in red beginning with “...To remedy this conflict...” through “by approximately one-half mile”. He also asked that Bicycle Technical Institute (BTI) be removed as well. It was agreed that the sentence beginning with “an important section...” would be re-phrased to say: *an important section of the southern trail corridor terminates near the water treatment plant access road*. Richards noted that you could then access the western section. Heycke noted that the Ashland Creek corridor connects to the east and west side corridors. It was agreed that the detail would be researched and revamped.

Gardiner asked about a parking agreement with Ashland Christian Fellowship that would allow hikers to use the parking area as a trailhead. McFarland stated that there was no formal agreement. Gardiner suggested that the term “generous parking” be changed to *parking*.

Chapman stated that “The trail could provide a safe route for students to walk or bicycle to these schools and playgrounds” be changed to: *The trail could provide a safe route for students to access the schools and playgrounds*.

Heycke advised that the sentence “A trailhead at the top of Granite Street could provide...” be stricken because there was an existing trailhead with plenty of parking. He proposed a change to “A trailhead at the top of Granite Street provides a point of entry.” After further discussion, it was determined that the sentence was out of place and should be removed.

Gardiner suggested that the words “...enjoyment of Ashland Creek...” be changed to “*appreciation of Ashland Creek...*”

It was agreed that the sentence “The desire is to continue the overall character of Lithia Park along this route” would be removed. The sentence “Bicycles and horses are not allowed on the trail from upper Lithia Park to Nevada Street” would be stricken as well. Heycke explained that trying to account for the changing uses along the trails was confusing given the number of permutations along the trails. The following sentence shall read *Alternative*

bicycle routes are established to allow cyclists to travel the corridor and reach City facilities. The final sentence, "The northern and southern may present an opportunity for equestrian use" will be stricken.

Motion: Chapman moved to approve Chapter 8 – the Ashland Creek Corridor – as amended. Lewis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Roundtable Discussion

Chapman announced that he had a jury call and therefore might not be able to attend the meeting of May 25, 2018. Richards also reported that she would be unable to attend.

McFarland noted that the Chapter on the Bear Creek Greenway had been completed and would be discussed at the next meeting. In other news, he announced his retirement date of July 13, 2018. He stated that the date had been selected so that if there was a final TMP meeting on that date he could attend. He indicated that McGinnis was still working on his assignments (Central Bike Path and the Ditch Trail). Jensen has several small items such as the Executive Summary to complete. McFarland stated that more Chapter photos were needed.

Gardiner announced that on June 21, 2018, an Open House was planned by the consultant on the preferred routes for the Greenway. It would be an evening meeting with the time and place yet to be determined.

VI. UPCOMING MEETING DATE

May 25, 2018 @ Siskiyou Room, Community Development Building @ 10:00 a.m.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – 11:50 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Manuel, Minute-Taker

These Minutes are not a verbatim record. The narrative has been condensed and paraphrased at times to reflect the discussions and decisions made. Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission and Subcommittee meetings are digitally recorded and available upon request.