

## **Minutes of the Parks, Trails and Outdoor Recreation Committee Meeting Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

Present were Patrick Donovan (board liaison), Kurt Raymond (chair), Larry Lynch (staff) and Allen Roth (GM). Also present were newly appointed committee members Lisa Foss, Russ Durer, Dennis Medina and Ken Wilburt.

Lynch gave an overview to the new committee members of the 2013 Parks and Trails 7-Year Master Plan, summarizing which projects had been completed and which have not. Of note, most of the major trail segments in the plan have been completed along with the development of 2 new parks; uncompleted projects include a major trail segment on Park Avenue and 2 of the proposed park areas (in North Village Lake and the Dutton Trailhead) and 2 segments of proposed natural surface trails near Vista.

Allen Roth described the newly board approved Northlake Ave 4-foot wide gravel trail, giving the committee some background on the NVL settlement funds and the NVL committee recommendations. The trail is a highly rated project in the 2013 Master Plan and will be a key east-west connector within the larger trail plan, while providing safer pedestrian travel on busy Northlake Ave.

Patrick and Allen asked the committee to focus on goals of updating the now 10-year-old, 2013 7-Year Master Plan and to take a close look at the newly acquired greenbelts in the coming months to assist the board in evaluating recreational parks and trails potential in those open spaces. Lynch provided the committee an overview of the greenbelts with several maps and discussion points.

Lynch gave the committee an overview of the Town to Lakes Trail, primarily a town and county long time project. Describing how the PLPOA in a joint project funded the Pinon Causeway connector near the highway several years ago to tie into the TTL trail; and that the town is still working on possible alignments and funding sources for the trail. A segment of the trail from Walmart up to Harmon Park is fully designed and funded but awaiting some traffic studies to be completed by the town concerning joint alignment with a potential new roadway.

The new committee members are very familiar with the park and trail amenities within Pagosa Lakes and are avid outdoor enthusiasts, representing several neighborhoods. Several questions were asked about possible new projects and existing projects.

It was determined that the committee should meet on a fairly regular basis and that it would be a good idea for the new committee members to convene for a couple of field trips in the spring to view potential on-the-ground projects and some of the greenbelts and open spaces.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15.

