

Minutes of the Parks, Trails and Outdoor Recreation Committee Meeting

Monday, July 24, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5 pm at PLPOA Vista Conference room. Present were committee members Russ Durrer, Dennis Medina, Ken Wilbert and Lisa Foss. Staff present was Larry Lynch, DPE Manager and Allen Roth, GM.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting and discussed the greenbelt field trip in early June.

The committee then discussed the continued assessment and progress of updating the 2013 Parks and Trails Master Plan and continued discussions of a master list of future park and trail improvement projects with costs for the board to consider in future capital improvement planning and budgeting. Currently around 9 trail projects and 2 park projects are described in the list, several of which are uncompleted projects from the 2013 Master Plan and several would be considered new projects in the overall park and trail development of the community. New projects could include extending the North Pagosa Blvd trail north to Apsenglow Blvd and extending the Park Ave trail from Holiday Ave to Cloudcap Ave for example. The committee agreed that a fairly solid list of potential long range capital projects could be attained before the end of September.

Lynch updated the committee on the progress of the Northlake Ave trail project, currently set to begin construction in the coming days.

Lynch also gave the committee an overview of the greenbelt wildfire mitigation work and the possibility that such work could open up some greenbelts to additional park uses and development, clearing brush and undergrowth and thinning trees.

Allen described to the committee the fact that the board was working with the CDC and the county on a possible grant that could help fund some affordable housing in the Chris Mt II area and that the grant could include some funds to develop a park and a bus stop in the area. The committee had taken a field trip to these greenbelts a few weeks prior and were familiar with the layout and the ground in the area. Allen asked the committee for future input on the development of the potential park including amenities and location.