

## CONSERVATION LANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 9, 2019

4:00 PM

Currents

600 Cregg Lane

Missoula, MT 59802

**Members present:** Beverly Dupree, Kathleen Kennedy, John Pierce, Chris Ryan, Karen Sippy, Hannah Specht, Jamison Starbuck, Giles Thelen

**Members absent:** Carol Fischer

**Non-voting members present:** Patrick Bridegam

**Others present:** Staff Present: Jolanda Cummings, Morgan Valliant, Corena Maurer  
Public Present: Jack Seboll,

### 1. Action Items

#### 1.1 Approval of minutes from April 8, 2019 and July 16, 2019

The minutes were approved as posted.

### 2. Public comment on non-agenda items

Jack Schultz stated he was attending the meeting because he is interested in more restoration at Greenough Park.

### 3. Discussion items

#### 3.1 Brief update of upcoming fall 2019 projects on Conservation Lands

##### 3.1.1 Trail reroutes on Jumbo, the North Hills and Rattlesnake Greenbelt

Morgan Valliant discussed reroutes and contracts to complete projects; Mt Jumbo Saddle, Rattlesnake Greenbelt Scenic Outlook and Sunshine Loop on North Hills.

Chris Ryan- Will NorthWestern Energy be completing the restoration work?

Morgan Valliant- They are paying the to restore product.

##### 3.1.2 Close out of NorthWestern Energy's power line relocation project on the Tower Street Conservation Area

Morgan Valliant announced the power line project is complete.

There is a Conservation Easement on 80 acres near tower street trail.

### **3.1.3 NorthWestern Energy's new power line replacement project on Mt. Jumbo Saddle**

Morgan Valliant informed the committee about NorthWestern Energy's new power line replacement project. The towers are not meeting specs and they will be replacing poles.

Kathleen Kennedy- Who will be doing the restoration after project is completed?

Morgan Valliant- Work will be contracted out by Parks and Recreation.

### **3.1.4 Greenough Park bank stabilization project**

Morgan Valliant - discussion was had in regards to the damage of 2018 floods and the plans for the restoration project just up from Cherry Gulch. The city is going to work to stabilize the banks similar to the work that was done when the banks failed in 2012.

Trout Unlimited will help to oversee this project and Morgan was hopeful that the city would be hiring a conservation assistant to help with project.

## **3.2 Update on Open Space Program Manager and 2018 Open Space bond capital improvements**

Morgan Valliant announced that the city has hired the new Open Space Program manager Grant Carlton who will start full time October 7.

Jolanda Cummings was introduced and it was announced that her position is the first position that was hired out of the Conservation and Stewardship Levee.

Discussion was had about the Open Space capital projects and that the Inter local agreement is moving forward.

Morgan Valliant - Discussed individual projects and cost for each project. Projects included; Clark Fork Trail and River access points, Reforestation project, Missoula Trails and Trail heads and Waterworks trail head.

## **3.3 Development of a Recreation Management Plan for the Clark Fork Islands Parcel (multiple new properties connecting to the Tower St. Conservation Area)**

### **3.3.1 Review of Conservation Lands Management Clouse inventory report from 2017**

Morgan Valliant presented the Clouse/Kolendich Property inventory. Discussion took place regarding the history of the parcel; resource inventory, mapping infrastructure and general inventory for parcel. Morgan informed the group that there is not much data for current use of site.

### **3.3.2 Review current draft proposed access and trail map**

Morgan Valliant communicated there are multiple properties involved in the development and phasing of Clark Fork Island Parcel. One requirement is an item in the development needs to included the name Koly.

Karen Sippy- Is the city aware of any other city is doing a similar developments?

Morgan Valliant - No but would be great if anyone had time to look into this and provide the information.

Discussion was had about the type of trail that would be used. The development plan included the Milwaukee line corridor quarter acre park that came with this town home development. Active use areas (playground for children). High development of transitioning.

Possible access points to the property are at Tower St, Roderick, Hiberta and the Kolendich property.

### **3.3.3 Discuss management goals, issues and appropriate uses**

This parcel is being recommended to be a Park Preserve.

Morgan discussed the goals for the Clark Fork Island Parcel. Goals included creating an area specific for birding (center island) similar to Lee Metcalf.

Issues that were discussed were how the area would be managed with the lack of enforcement in area. River access has changed and the city is looking at options of possible boat ramp. Walk in access off commuter trail.

Chris Ryan- Are you going to give us a more updated draft?

Morgan Valliant - Going to get draft to committee next week.

Discussion was had in regards to trail surfacing and trail type, what commuter trail will look like and the design. Morgan encouraged the committee to get a feel for property and possible placement of trail.

Karen Sippy- Could a gravel trail be asphalted over?

Morgan Valliant- Definitely.

Morgan asked the group to explore the Clark Fork Islands parcel and become familiar with the property.

## **4. Future items**

Kathleen Kennedy requested an agenda item be added to all future meetings for a question and answer time with Morgan.

## **5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm

Submitted by Jolanda Cummings Accounting Technician