

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 14, 2020

4:00 PM

Virtual Meeting: Live Stream and On Demand: <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/webcasts>

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5fnfMPFGSk8Gwq6F5UoqGg>

Live call in phone numbers: 1 (253) 215-8782 1 (888) 475-4499 (landlines only) Meeting ID: 960
049 3694

Members present: Eric Anderson, Kristine Akland, Charles Besancon, DeAnna Bublitz, David Cole, Rob Erickson, Julie Gardner, Alexis Gibson, Daniel Gundlach, Catherine Ipsen, Edward Monnig, Regan Whitworth

1. Administrative Business

1.1 Roll Call

1.2 Approval of Minutes

Edward Monnig moved to approve minutes as posted. DeAnna Bublitz second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public/Guest Comments

None

3. Announcements

No announcements

4. Discussion Items

Grant Carlton informed the committee that 4.1 and 4.2 should be combined as one item and 4.3 and 4.4 is another item that should be combined.

4.1 Schmidt Road - Milwaukee Trail to Mullan Road

Grant Carlton welcomed Julie Gardner to the committee.

Grant Carlton presented a potential new project being referred to as the Schmidt Road. This will connect the Milwaukee Trail to Mullan Road.

Edward Monnig- Would the 11,000 only buy the easement on the portion of the blue strip north of the Milwaukee road it wouldn't encumber anything south of the Milwaukee Rd?

Grant Carlton- I'm going to push to included the southern piece too as I don't see why there isn't any reason we shouldn't.

Catherine Ipsen- Why don't you just have a trail coming off on that along the Knife River property to get to Mullan?

Grant Carlton- At this point Knife River would have to grant that and I believe that is a active gravel site and there is some public safety issues there. Knife River probably would not be open to that because it is a on going operations. We want to keep the Milwaukee Trail as close to the Milwaukee Trail as we can.

Kristine Akland- What's the deal with the connection between, how are we going to connect to this property if we can't even go over the river? Is there going to be a bridge that is going to be built and what's the status on that?

Grant Carlton- We have received bids on the bridge construction. It's in process now and have received bid packets and we just need to select one. The plan is to have a commuter corridor wide bridge and trail system over the different channels of the river. The island will have a birding trail on it that will be open to pedestrians. It will be a natural preserve in the area with a commuter trail running through it.

Kristine Akland- Is the money to build a bridge coming out of the levy?

Grant Carlton- I believe so as far as I know it is not coming out of the Open Space bond. It could also come from Park District too.

Edward Monnig-Is the parcel just north of the corridor that we have been discussing in public ownership?

Grant Carlton- No nothing over here is in public ownership.

Charles- What is the big picture idea here? Are there other missing connections that are being missed?

Grant Carlton- Potentially the connection over the river channels to downtown is acquired, functional and operational right now. The subject property that we are talking about is on the market right now. More broadly I mentioned the Mullan master plan and the build grant that is essentially planning for development of this area here the airport to Mullan road all the way to Flynn and Mary Jane.

Reagan Whitworth- Near the bridge area is the a contingency plan for people who camp there?

Grant Carlton- I can't speak to the actual plan it's sort of in process right now it is part of every conversation we have with respect to that area. Major concern to public health and safety.

Kristine Akland- Historically where have the funds come from when city purchases specifically for the Milwaukee Trail.

Grant Carlton- Being so new I would have to assume it is from the previous bonds and probably park district. I think there are easements along portions of it as well. I can look into that, I don't have the best answer right now.

There was discussion about the bridge work and the design process out for bids.

4.2 Connector Project Introduction

4.3 Update on Open Space Advisory Committee Project

Grant gave update that he is been on working with Missoula County and their project evaluation process that relates to the open space bond and they are fairly consistent and have made progress. That process is a very hands on process and would like to hold off on virtual.

Discussion was had on ideas of how to hold in person meeting vs virtual meeting.

4.4 Evaluation Process Enhancement

4.5 Update on 1505 E. Broadway Project

Grant provided a update on 1505 E Broadway project is set to close on May 21, 2020.

5. Action Items

None

6. OSAC Board Member Q&A on Non-Agenda items

None

7. Future or Held Items

Committee members would like an update of the Knife River ponds.

Interlocal agreement with the County update for next meeting.

8. Adjournment

Adjournment at 4:48