

Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation

MINUTES

Board of Directors Special Meeting

Meeting Date: November 15, 2012

Members of the Board in attendance:

Jim Buechle, Clyde Fisher, Ray Sanders

Members of the Board not in attendance:

Elise Robocker, Pete Woll

Also in attendance:

Jed Fisher, Superintendent; Gordon Jewett, Assistant Superintendent; and Michele Haarr, Clerk

Others Present:

Allen Sieler – Sam Bibler Commemorative Trail

Terry Welder – Sam Bibler Commemorative Trail

Mark Campbell – Flathead County Fairgrounds Exterior & Pedestrian Enhancement Plan

Butch Woolard – Flathead County Fairgrounds Exterior & Pedestrian Enhancement Plan

Tim Harmon – Flathead County Fairgrounds Exterior & Pedestrian Enhancement Plan

Katie Fries – Stillwater River Trail at Flathead Valley Community College

Steve Larson – Stillwater River Trail at Flathead Valley Community College

Iola Breneman – Gateway To Glacier Trail

Jacob Bell – Gateway To Glacier Trail

Terry Divoky – Gateway To Glacier Trail

Val Parson – Gateway To Glacier Trail

Mary Ruby – Gateway To Glacier Trail

Call to Order

A special meeting of the Board of Directors, Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation, was held at 309 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana, on November 15, 2012. The meeting convened at 9:00AM, Chairman Sanders presiding.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Site Tour of Four CTEP Project Proposal Sites

- The Sam Bibler Commemorative Trails Project – Requested Allocation \$827,600, One Mile Trail

Sam Bibler Commemorative Trail representatives Allen Sieler and Terry Welder reviewed and toured the one mile pathway project area, explaining that sewer and power pole concerns dictated the trail be on the west side of the road. Interested donors will not commit to funding unless and until the project receives a CTEP funding. Ongoing maintenance plans were questioned.

- Flathead County Fairgrounds Exterior & Pedestrian Enhancement Plan – Requested Allocation \$361,865 / Approximately .9 Mile Pathway and Landscaping Improvements

Fairgrounds Exterior & Pedestrian Enhancement Plan representatives Mark Campbell, Butch Woolard and Tim Harmon reviewed and toured the project area with the Board. This proposal calls for significant landscape improvements which total approximately 327K, with a loop trail running roughly the perimeter of the fairgrounds. A main pedestrian entry with a roofed timber structure is proposed at the southwest corner. The trail bed will be reinforced for asphalt to accommodate maintenance and emergency vehicles.

- Stillwater River Trail at Flathead Valley Community College – Requested Allocation \$490,700 / 2.6 Mile Trail

Katie Fries and Steve Larson of Flathead Valley Community College toured the proposed project with the Board. This is a scenic corridor with much connectivity in a populated area. Local businesses that stand to benefit from the project have not been contacted for contributions. These businesses include Kalispell Regional Medical Center, Walmart Supercenter, Kidsport, Hutton Ranch Plaza leaseholders including Signature Theatres, Sportsman & Ski Haus, Cabelas (has not yet been constructed) and Hilton Homewood Suites. In addition, this project's budget increased substantially when it was determined that using in-house labor and equipment did not conform to CTEP policies.

- Gateway to Glacier Trail – Coram to West Glacier Segment – Requested Allocation \$871,745 / 6.8 Mile Trail

Iola Breneman, Jacob Bell, Val Parsons, Terry Divoky and Mary Ruby represented the Gateway to Glacier Trail group and reviewed the proposed project area with the Board. Ms. Divoky and Ms. Ruby participated in the driving tour. This project has connectivity along the southern end with a path extending from Hungry Horse to Coram. Addition of the proposed 6.8 mile trail would continue from Coram to the West Glacier entry of Glacier National Park. The group has raised 58K in private donations.

Discussion ensued. The board will complete and submit Trail Evaluation Forms per Appendix C of the Trails Plan. Forms will be submitted to the Commissioners.

Other Business

The Board toured Big Sky Park off of Two Mile Drive in Kalispell. This park is the subject of correspondence received last month from Quentin & LaDona Vitt, adjacent landowners who are interested in purchasing the park. Additional potential surplus properties will be reviewed by the Board at a later date.

Adjourn

Jim Buechle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30PM.

Clyde Fisher seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor ~ the motion was carried.

The time and place of the next regular meeting is Monday, December 3, 2012 at 8:30 AM in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana.