



City of LaVerkin

435 North Main St., LaVerkin Utah, 84745

(435) 635-2581 Fax (435) 635-2104

www.laverkin.org

Confluence Park Executive Board and Technical Advisory Committee Minutes Tuesday, November 20, 2018 3:00 p.m. 435 N Main, La Verkin, Utah

Present:

Board Members:

Cameron Rognan	Washington County – HCP
Clark Fawcett	Hurricane City
Paul Heideman	Toquerville City

Advisory:

Rhett Boswell	UDWR
Steve Meisner	VRP

Others:

Kathleen Nielson	Washington County Grant Writer
Blair Gubler	Ash Creek Sewer District
Patty Wise	La Verkin City Council representative
Derek Imlay	La Verkin City Public Works Director
Kyle Gubler	La Verkin City
Christy Ballard	La Verkin City staff

I. Meeting called to Order:

There was not a quorum present. It was decided to move forward as an information report.

II. Business:

A. Update and discussion on the trailhead grant.

Kathleen passed out several areal view maps of the proposed trailhead with the changes marked on them.

The staircase has been a concern for several reasons, mainly the stability of the soil, the safety of the staircase and the cost of installation. So, they have been looking for a place that was more reasonable for a trail.

She explained the location of the parking lot, La Verkin's city park, the trailhead and the restrooms.

Kyle mentioned there is an issue with the entrance that will need to be addressed. One of the neighboring property owners has an issue with the proposed entrance and parking lot. He would like to meet with Kathleen and Commissioner Iverson to discuss those concerns.

Kathleen went on to explain the original plan for the trail down to the Park as well as the rim trail. The rim trail will be paved, ADA accessible and will have a railing.

There is an area along the top where the basalt is like a platform with step type crevices going down in a 3-4-foot area. She met on sight with an engineer from the County and they determined that would be a perfect “jump off” point for a staircase.

She then explained where the staircase would go and the location of the trail into the Park.

The ground is much more stable and while the staircase would be steep it would be a shorter length.

This appears to be the safest way to access the bottom.

The trail would begin with the staircase then have a few switchbacks and cross over a culvert. It will then continue along the lava wall where there are trees lining the area and another staircase could be installed easily if necessary.

Paul Heideman arrived at 3:17pm.

There is a quorum present.

Kathleen continued, the area is a deer trail and is a beautiful location. Before she talks to the State Trails about moving the location of the trail, she needs approval from the Confluence Park Board.

The safety and cost of the trailhead is in favor of the change.

Rhett asked if the stream was ephemeral and about the culvert.

Several people have reported it is a historical runoff, where the old irrigation ditch dropped off.

Kathleen said Todd felt a culvert was the best use of the area for a crossing. One side is higher than the other and it could be touchy on getting an abutment there, but it didn’t look like the drainage would even come up onto the trail.

Cameron explained there was a similar situation in the Reserve and they had Eagle Scout projects make wooden bridges that were easy to cross. That could be an option if they don’t like the culvert idea.

Kathleen explained the water will not be deep, but the ditch is, and people need to get to the other side. This trail will give people a different vista of the Park.

Cameron is supportive of the best and safest way down.

He also suggested the recommendation allow for some wiggle room during construction to allow for the best and safest trail possible.

Clark is in favor of the changes.

Kathleen discussed the area for the trail and mentioned the bottom passes through a narrow area and the pond is on one side of it. Todd said the pond would need to be reinforced on the end by the trail before it could be used.

Motion was made Clark Fawcett to approve the change to the trail location as discussed, second by Paul Heideman. Heideman-yes, Fawcett-yes, Rognan-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Kathleen mentioned there does need to be a public hearing for the proposed trailhead before construction can begin.

Kyle told Kathleen the public right of way will need to be given by Ash Creek Special Service District because they are the property owner. La Verkin City is purchasing the property from them. La Verkin City will facilitate the public hearing, but he would like Kathleen there to answer any questions.

Paul Heideman left the meeting at 3:36pm

There is no longer a quorum. The remainder of the meeting will be information only.

B. Discuss erosion control options for the Confluence View Tail.

Cameron asked Clark if Hurricane City was able to investigate the situation.

Clark replied they have not, but he will look into it before the next meeting.

Cameron said it looked like most of the problems were on that high end and the erosion was largely taking place on the private property. It doesn't hit the Park property until the very bottom.

Rhett said he looked at the area also and it looks like a dead-end drainage ditch. It does have curb and gutter. If there was a diversion it should fix the issue.

Cameron pointed out that until the issue is fixed up top there is no point in fixing the trail. This item will be discussed at the next meeting after Clark has had a chance to look at it.

C. Discussion on rock climbing options within Confluence Park.

Cameron explained approximately one year ago there was a rock climber that made a proposal to the Board. He has contacted Cameron again to see if a decision was ever made.

Cameron reported he talked to the attorney who thought rock climbing could be allowed without any liability issues since recreational use is protected. He did mention he would like the climbing walls limited to certain areas within the Park.

Rhett would like Justin to look into where the raptors are in the spring. There will need to be something in place where parts of the Park can be closed off from climbing when there are nesting raptors. He thinks the proposal needs to be narrowed down and it needs to not be a formal agreement with the County and/or DWR for liability reasons.

Cameron will meet with the person that made the proposal to find out the climbing routes they are interested in before giving any authorization. He will try to avoid the raptor issues if possible. There may need to be seasonal closures.

Once the scope of the project has been narrowed down and the County feels comfortable with it, he will bring it back to this Board.

D. Update on other Park projects.

Cameron reported the new fence with the step over on the Hurricane side has been completed and looks very nice. However, the old fence is still standing. He is currently working with someone to get that removed.

There have been new nesting boxes installed as an Eagle Scout project. The County has cleaned out the existing boxes and was happy to find they are being used.

They would like to install a picnic table or bench by the kiosk at the tortoise facility. There is someone interested in doing that for an Eagle Scout Project, but it is not definite.

Derek said his list has been completed, he is waiting on direction from Commissioner Iverson.

The City may do work on the trail by River Rock Roasting Company cleaning up any rock fall or debris.

Patricia Wise stated there is a large boulder on that trail.

Kathleen reminded the Board that any work done for the proposed trailhead cannot be counted toward the grant until the environmental has been completed.

She also reminded Derek to keep track of the hours his crew spends working in Confluence Park.

III. Board Member Concerns:

Clark asked if Cameron cleared up the easement concern at the SR 9 trailhead with the Mikas.

Cameron replied the easement is 30-feet and he did meet with Janet Mika. She is okay with that and both he and Janet agree where the easement should be on the ground, but it is different on paper. They will work with the attorneys to get that discrepancy cleared up.

IV. Public Concerns for Board Consideration:

Patricia Wise mentioned she is in favor of allowing rock climbing in the Park and feels it would be great for the area.

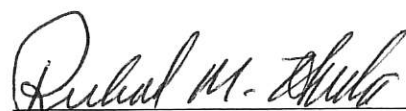
Rhett suggested January's meeting be in the Park.

Cameron agreed and said the January 16th meeting will begin at the La Verkin trailhead and we will carpool the proposed trail.

The meeting ended at 3:51pm

Minutes taken by Christy Ballard.

4-17-19
Date Approved


Richard Hirschi, Chair