



City of La Verkin

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www.laverkin.org

Confluence Park Executive Board and Technical Advisory Committee Minutes Wednesday, August 21, 2019 3:00 p.m. La Verkin Trailhead Confluence Park

Present:

Board Members:

Richard Hirschi	La Verkin City
Paul Heideman	Toquerville City

Advisory:

Rhett Boswell	UDWR
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Others:

Kathleen Nielson	Washington County Grant Writer
Patricia Wise	La Verkin City Council
Susan Crook	Washington County Historical Society
Randee Sanders	Washington County HCP
Derek Inlay	La Verkin City staff
Christy Ballard	La Verkin City staff

I. Meeting Called to Order:

There was not a quorum present, so this is an information only report.

III. Business:

A. Update on the Trailhead grant.

Kathleen passed out her notes, see Exhibit A.

She reported Commissioner Iverson would like the trailhead completed by the end of 2019.

The color of the restroom needs to be decided. She passed out a color chart and a picture of the restroom.

There are options for the restrooms such as anti-graffiti coating for an additional charge. The base price was \$45,302 but we have added electric hand dryers, a changing table for one restroom, and sanitary napkin disposals.

Mayor Hirschi would like to add a time lock. He would also like to upgrade from a porcelain toilet bowl and sink to stainless steel.

Kathleen pointed out stainless steel plumbing fixtures are \$1,460 per restroom.

The La Verkin Creek Trailhead does not have electric lights because there are windows and that hasn't been an issue. This restroom will need either a skylight or an electric light. She would prefer a skylight but there will be power at the restrooms.

The City would like automatic locks installed on the restrooms.

Kathleen reported one of the neighbors requested a gate be installed at the park entrance but that would be up to the City. Another neighbor told her he was not happy with the placement of the restrooms, but they are at least 10 feet away from the property line.

Derek said the City will not be installing a gate.

Kathleen asked if the Board/Committee would like skylight or electric lights.

Rhett mentioned Confluence Park is a nature preserve and does not need luxury accommodations.

Patricia agreed but pointed out the restrooms will be in a city park.

Kathleen repeated, the Board/Committee would like electric hand dryers and timed locks. She questioned what Hurricane does with their restrooms.

Mayor Hirschi called Clark Fawcett to ask him about Hurricane's restrooms. Clark thought the trailhead restroom was on an automatic system. He was not sure what kind of lighting system it has.

Kathleen continued, there will be no toilet seat covers or waste baskets inside the restroom. There will a garbage can outside the restroom and sanitary napkins disposals inside. Would the Board/Committee like the anti-graffiti coating?

Both Derek and Rhett replied the coating is a good idea if it could be budgeted in.

Kathleen put that note by anti-graffiti coating. The restrooms will just be one color, including the roof. She asked the Board/Committee members what color from the chart they would like them to be.

Rhett said the easement has a little bit of language regarding structures, that they should match the aesthetics of the Park. He suggested taking the color card to the location and pick one that matches. A color that matches the basalt may be a good idea.

Kathleen said the Oatmeal color matches the dirt surrounding the restroom.

Rhett pointed out the restroom is not on Confluence Park property.

Mayor Hirschi said the City still wants to work with the Park.

There was a discussion on the color of the restrooms.

Kathleen reported the timed locks are \$4,000 each.

Derek feels automatic locks are worth the expense because the City will not be able to lock the restrooms at night. The difference in the Wanlass Park restrooms once automatic locks were installed is huge. The City was spending \$3,000-4,000 per year in repair costs.

Kathleen passed out a map showing the 25-foot property Gary Groom would like to purchase. As part of the agreement, Mr. Groom stated he would plant vegetation on the backside of the block, which would be his property.

This purchase will not affect the restrooms or the parking lot.

Derek said he thinks the property is 10 feet, not 25 feet deep.

The trail is not located near the property line.

The neighbors have not voiced any concerns with the trail.

The trail is six feet wide and will not be close to the edge so it will not have railing. However, there will be a large railed in viewing area for people.

The engineers have developed a plan for the stairwell.

The trail builder will begin work on September 1st. He is very knowledgeable and has a very impressive resume.

She briefly went over the path of the trail. There will be rest stops along the trail.

B. Update on the LeRay McAllister Grant

This was also included in Exhibit A.

E. Discuss power station improvement/stabilization

Kathleen reported Commissioner Iverson is excited to get something done with the power station and wants it done soon. See Exhibit A

Kathleen will contact Bill McMurrin, president of the Virgin River Land Preservation Association, and an architect, to look at the power station to give us ideas.

Mayor Hirschi hasn't had a chance to speak to Rocky Mountain Power yet.

Derek will call his contact to find out who is the best person to meet with.

Susan is an expert in historic preservation and is at this meeting to help the Board with the process. She can provide framework for doing historic documentation and interpretation.

Kathleen would like the Mayor to speak to Rocky Mountain Power regarding the possibility of them investing in some interpretative signage for the power station as soon as possible.

She also mentioned two different entities have a deed from Gordon Woods for the pen stock property.

Patricia asked Susan about the interpretive signage.

Susan said the first step is to come up with an interpretive plan. You get all the research together and determine what are the most important aspects of the historic place and then decide how to put the signage together.

There are various grants available for interpretation. The major work, that will take some time and will require consultants with expertise in this area, will be to gather the information. If the building hasn't been nominated to a national registry, it needs to be, and her group can provide guidance on how to do that.

You do have to pay a consultant to do the nomination. It is an honorary sort of thing so there are no restrictions on what you can do with the property.

Kathleen would like to have a platform looking down onto the machinery below with signage and videos explaining things.

Mayor Hirschi explained people lived in the upstairs of the building.

Patricia Wise mentioned she would like to recognize the seven species of fish that are found only in the Virgin River.

Kathleen said that will be on the signage for the new trail.

IV. Public Concerns for Board Consideration:

Patricia commented she hiked the trail below the garbage dump, and it is bad.

She is a Councilmember for La Verkin City. The City has passed a Master Trails Plan and because of the work being done by this Board for the new trailhead, the City would like to move forward with getting the work done for the park at that same property.

She and Kyle would like to meet with Kathleen to discuss the possibility of the City applying for a grant from the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant (UORG).

Kathleen explained the County is going to ask UORG and RTP, Recreational Trails Program, to help fund the bridge. The County and Hurricane City are both going to contribute. She hopes La Verkin City and Ash Creek Special Service District will be able to help as well.

The meeting ended at 4:21pm

Minutes taken by Christy Ballard.

September 18, 2019
Date Approved


Richard Hirschi, Chair

Exhibit A

Notes for August Meeting to report.

Trailhead Grant

- A. Change of completion date to end of year 2019
Why??? Possible reason is due to neighborhood uprising
- B. Restrooms
 - 1. Restrooms/color etc.
 - 2. Discussion on Gary Groom property line
 - a. Entrance
 - b. Property purchase along current property line
 - c. Discussion on parking border stones to divide property
 - d. Gary offering to plant vegetation on his side of line
 - 3. Discuss hook ups
- C. Paved Trail
 - 1. 3 different Viewing locations with interpretive signage
 - 2. 6' wide
 - 3. Some natural vegetation on view side, possibly on north side as well
 - 4. Trail will be higher than current ground level
- D. Staircase trail/hand-built trail
 - 1. We have had engineers look at soil.
 - 2. Staircase changed to be down half-way to a landing and then a 180 turn to go back to reach ground level. Concrete pad to support top section at start-off, supports of center landing and again at ground level of final stair.
 - 3. Waiting for drilling expert to "have a look" of where to place to drill for support structures.
 - 4. Hand built trail people are ready to start September 1
 - 5. They will try to create ample opportunity for rest spots and seating on trail switchbacks and other wider places.
- E. LaRae McAllister Grant
 - 1. Fieldtrip with their Commission is scheduled for September 4 at 3:30
 - 2. They are looking to see what has been accomplished in the past with their funding and what we are planning on now.
 - 3. They are a unique group from the Governors Office of planning and budget. Remember, our legislatures thought restoration and conservation of unique land parcels was not worthy of funding and closed the opportunity to reward funds for the past several years. Luckily enough people complained, and it is now back on the grant cycle. Let's hope it stays there.
 - 4. The commission in the past included top members of State and Federal agencies related to land management and other partners from around the state. This is state money.

5. Give Your Land A Hand will take place on August 28th. Large group of volunteers will be there. We will be able to use their hours as match for LeRae McAllister and possibly LaVerkin TH if needed.

F. Power Station

1. We are looking into some aggressive moves to approach restoration and preservation at some level for the Power station. Susan Crook, Washington County Historical Society President is in attendance to help us with some direction of this. Randee, from the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve Office will also be helping. The Commission is wanting something constructive to take place Very Soon.

G. Bridge.

1. Coming Soon but not today. This also is on the hot burner.

