



City of LaVerkin

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Confluence Park Executive Board and Technical Advisory Committee Minutes Wednesday, July 17, 2013 4:00 p.m. 435 N. Main, LaVerkin, Utah

Present:

Board Members:

Karl Wilson	LaVerkin City
Bob Sandberg	Washington County – HCP
Annette Kleinman	Toquerville City

Advisory:

Steve Meisner	Virgin River Program
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Others:

Kaden DeMille	Hurricane City
Kathleen Nielson	Grant Writer
Ray Justice	La Verkin City Council
Christy Ballard	LaVerkin City

Clark Fawcett is not present.

I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Karl Wilson called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

II. **Approve Minutes:**

Motion was made by Bob Sandberg to approve the May 15, 2013 and the June 19, 2013 minutes as written, second by Annette Kleinman. Motion carried unanimously.

III. **Business:**

A. La Verkin Stake Service Project update and coordination-Bob Sandberg

The La Verkin Stake Service project is scheduled for Saturday morning, July 20th at 7:30am. They are hoping for 240 people. The irrigation system will be the main focus. La Verkin City has put the sleeves in the parking lot for the drip irrigation tubing and there are people down digging trenches for the main lines. On Saturday there will need to be hand dug trenches to each tree.

The PVC pipe was donated by a company out of Cedar City, the Back Country Horseman arranged for that.

There will be a meeting at the La Verkin Stake Center tomorrow, Thursday, at 6pm with Mike Marriot. Each ward should have someone attending but if anyone from this meeting would like to be there to be a team captain on Saturday that would be great.

There will be other projects such as mowing the dead grass, re-shaping the trails with wood chip and cleaning around the power house.

The irrigation will be off the Hurricane water line.

Kathleen asked Bob to get a record of how many people attended the project and the amount of time they were there.

B. Update on potential land exchange-Bob Sandberg

Bob reported that Mr. Blackmore has an initial estimate of the cost of the appraisal but it seems low. Bob has talked to the Washington County HCP Advisory Committee who gave him quasi approval to use HCP money to help with the appraisal if needed.

Kathleen said that Mr. Blackmore explained to her that the cost of the appraisal should cost less because it has already been done. It should just be a review with a number adjustment.

Bob said the appraisal will have to meet federal standards.

Mayor Wilson commented that he feels the low cost of the appraisal means it is a land value only appraisal. Federal appraisals address the biological value as well.

Bob has also talked to the Virgin River Land rep who told him they are continuing to talk with Cache Valley Bank about purchasing the Ken Anderson property but are having trouble getting a definite answer from the bank.

Mayor Wilson mentioned that he knows the president of Cache Valley Bank, if VRLT would like him to go with them to talk to the bank he would.

C. Bee Sanctuary-Bob Sandberg

Bob wanted to get the opinion of the Board on this item.

There has been a gentleman who is in the bee business approach him about a group of people wanting to find a place to keep their bees that doesn't have pesticides. They are looking into grants to help them create this type of place and Confluence Park was suggested. The idea is the grant could possibly help the Park get irrigation water. Bob explained to him the plan with the fields was to plant a pasture crop or alfalfa crop and have a tree farm. He also pointed out to that the Park is open to the public and wondered about the safety issue of having bees there.

Annette asked how much property he was asking for.

Bob answered that the gentleman talked about putting different plants in to flower at all times of the year so the bees would have a perennially supply of food. They would be fine with using the outskirts of the fields. The plan is very preliminary. He didn't have a lot of answers.

Part of the question is if this is allowed would it be allowed to anyone wanting to put bees down there and how many hives would be permitted.

Mayor Wilson didn't think the conservation easement or the plan prohibits it or allows it, he suggested pursuing it, weighting all the pros and cons.

Kathleen is not opposed to bees but wondered about the plan talking about commercial gain for other people and the fact that Confluence is a natural park. If a bunch of flowers are planted in the fields that is not a natural park and the Quality Growth Commission does not like anything that is not a native plant.

Mayor Wilson replied that the plan does state commercial gain is prohibited and it is a natural park but also an agricultural park.

Annette commented that if the bees were put down there they would have to be there without the flowers because of the nature of the park.

Bob pointed out that if we put alfalfa in the fields we could end up spraying.

Mayor Wilson suggested talking with Trail about the idea first and then go from there.

Ray Justice mentioned that there are bees on the north end right before the park.

IV. Public Concerns for Board Consideration:

No comments were made.

V. Board members concerns:

Bob gave an update on the Hurricane Trail Run. Tom Dansie sent him a letter stating that all of the money made was donated to the Hurricane High Cross Country Team and they were very excited for it. There were 43 runners; he doesn't anticipate it getting much larger over the next few years.

Annette asked how big the Committee was willing to let the run get.

The Board was not sure the exact number; the minutes from that meeting will need to be checked.

Bob received a call from USGS that there were goats in Confluence Park. There were four goats on the Hurricane side. Animal Control was called and is trying to find a home for them.

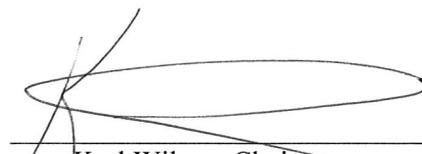
VI. Adjourn:

Motion was made by Annette Kleinman to adjourn, second by Bob Sandberg.

Motion carried unanimously at 4:35pm.

Minutes taken by Christy Ballard.

September 18, 2013
Date Approved


Karl Wilson, Chair

