



CITY OF LARAMIE
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
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CITY OF LARAMIE
PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

MEETING DATE: May 8, 2013

TIME: 11:30 PM

LOCATION: Recreation Center large conference room – 920 Boulder Drive

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes from the April 24, 2013 meeting.

Motion by _____, seconded by _____, that the consent agenda be approved and that each specific action on the consent agenda be approved as indicated. (Items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed above. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Committee Member or citizen so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered on the regular agenda.)

Regular Agenda:

1. Review of public comments and further discussion of the draft map showing proposed parks and recreation amenities.

New business:

1. Public Comments

Next Meeting Date: May 22nd at 11:30 pm

CITY OF LARAMIE
PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 24, 2013
Minutes of Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amy Williamson, Dan McCoy, Dave Hammond, Mike Moeller, Peggy McCrackin, Vicki Henry, Nadia Kaliszewski

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Amber Travsky, Bill Gribb, Evan O'Toole, Joe Lord

CITY OF LARAMIE STAFF PRESENT: Paul Harrison, Parks & Recreation Director; Derek Teini, Senior Planner; David Schott, Parks Manager; Cody Jennings, Assistant Planner; Mel Owen, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS: Kimberly Starkey, Sandra Eiky, Reed Pedrick and other members of the public were present but did not sign in.

The regular meeting was called to order by the Chair at 11:35 a.m.

Consent Agenda:

1) Approval of the minutes from the April 10, 2013 meeting.

Motion by Williamson, second by Moeller, that the consent agenda be approved. Motion carried 7-0.

Regular Agenda:

1) Review of public comments collected from the recent public meetings.

Teini went over the summary of comments collected. The following items were addressed by the Committee in relation to specific comments received:

- Motion by McCoy, second by Williamson, to locate a BMX Park on the west side of LaBonte Park and to add a BMX Park within West Laramie at a location to be determined. Motion carried 7-0.
- Motion by McCoy, second by Henry, to adopt the right of way between McCue Street and the Greenbelt (in the area west of the UP property) as a shared use path with a bridge over the river in order to promote access to the Greenbelt and make the area a trailhead. Motion carried 7-0.
- Motion by Williamson, second by McCrackin, to designate the area where "The Grove" sales office sits as a pocket park or destination area due to the viewshed and to connect that area to the nearby shared use path; if the City can acquire the area. Motion carried 7-0.
- Motion by McCrackin, second by Moeller, to move the playlot on North 15th Street south and the bike area in the same service area be moved north. Motion carried 7-0.
- Motion by Henry, second by Williamson, to place within the text of the Master Plan that when possible, ponds should be added throughout the Parks system to act as bird habitats and community fisheries, which would be stocked by Wyoming Game and Fish. Motion carried 7-0.
- Motion by McCrackin, second by Henry, to designate the lake on the BP Amoco property as a potential water amenity. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business

Harrison introduced David Schott, the new Parks Manager for Laramie Parks and Recreation, to the Committee.

Public Comments:

-Kimberly Starkey addressed the Committee and noted that many paths and park areas are shown on the draft maps outside of the City limits. She also noted that the large natural area shown over the Aquifer Protection Zone is over private property. County residents and property owners within the APO already struggle with trespassing; the concern from many of these property owners is that showing potential future amenities on the Master Plan draft map would only encourage such trespassing. Ms. Starkey requested that all trails, parks and natural areas that are shown on the draft map over private property be removed unless a specific agreement is reached with those property owners.

- Reed Pedrick spoke and noted that as a private property owner in Albany County he already struggles with trespassers and he will not agree to public access on his property. Mr. Pedrick noted that many residents are concerned with wildlife being run off from their natural habitat if such unfettered public access is encouraged.
- Sandra Eiky stated that the Committee is commissioned by the City however its work has clearly extended beyond the city limits and into the County. Ms. Eiky spoke about trespassing issues and dogs harassing wildlife in this region. She stated that the Master Plan draft map should not be made available to the public, especially because many members of the public already think these areas are available for public access.
- The Committee clarified that the areas shown on the draft maps were suggested, "ideal" placements only, and the draft map is merely a framework for a parks system to grow into over the next forty years. The placement of trails, parks and natural areas have been based upon citizen requests and ensuring equal access to park facilities. Many of the locations shown on the draft map are placeholders only; the actual locations will likely be relocated over time depending upon property donations and acquisitions as well as population growth and the changing needs of the community.
- Ms. Starkey requested again the removal of any and all icons denoting trails, trailheads, natural areas and parks which are over currently held private property.
- The Committee placed the matter on the May 8th Agenda to allow for further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mel Owen
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation
City of Laramie

Paul Harrison

From: Paul Harrison
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 7:21 PM
To: 'Mr. Stacy Snook'; 'Edward C. Cassidy'; 'Shelley J Leonard'; 'Brownell Jr., Robert L.'; 'connie petrie'
Cc: Janine Jordan; Council; Derek Teini; Melissa Owen; David C. Gertsch; David Derragon; David Schott; Dave Hammond; 'Joe Lord'
Subject: Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Committee Comments

All concerned citizens:

Please note that within the past two (2) weeks the city staff have received a number of email comments and suggestions from concerned citizens of Laramie regarding the proposed future parks and trails within the one (1) mile buffer around the city limits, with connections showing beyond the one mile buffer to show potential, long range future connectivity. Also, at the April 24th Ad Hoc Committee meeting, public comment period, Kimberly Starkey, Reed Pedrick, and Sandra Eiky all spoke expressing their concerns and suggested changes to the proposed trails and parks on private property east of Laramie, that the proposed trails and parks will encourage public trespassing and will negatively impact the wildlife within the area.

With this being said, please note that all of the proposed parks and trails are draft locations only, and are part of a long range (forty year) plan for parks and recreation services in our community; as such many of these proposed areas and amenities are largely on private property and are therefore clearly not available to the public. Again, there is no public access allowed at any proposed sites listed at the maps, doing so is trespassing on private property and violators can be subject to prosecution. This language was added to the city's web site under the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, Proposed Parks and Trails after the April 24th meeting.

As the Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan is still in draft form, and has not yet been recommended for adoption by the City Council, the Ad Hoc Committee will continue to receive input, suggestions and public comments; therefore the next regular meeting scheduled for May 8th at 11:30 am in the large conference room at the Laramie Recreation Center, the first agenda item for discussion shall be the public comments received at the April 24th meeting and the email comments received on this issue to date for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Committee.

I would encourage all concerned citizens to attend this meeting, or to send an email with your concerns and suggested changes to the draft plan to: PTRMasterPlan@cityoflaramie.org.

The proposed Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan can be reviewed at: <http://cityoflaramie.org/index.aspx?NID=456>

Thank you for your time and attention.

If you have any further comments or suggestions, please let me know.

Thank you,

Paul

Paul Harrison
Parks & Recreation Director
P.O. Box C
Laramie, WY 82070
ph: 307-721-5260
fax: 307-721-5284
cell: 307-760-6620

Any opinions, statements, advice, or recommendations contained in this email are my own and may not reflect those of The City of Laramie. All City of Laramie electronic correspondence and attachments may be treated as public records and may be subject to public disclosure.

Paul Harrison

From: Clifford D. Ferris [cdferris@bresnan.net]
Sent: Friday, May 03, 2013 11:44 AM
To: Paul Harrison
Subject: Ad Hoc Master Plan

Dear Parks and Recreation Director, Paul Harrison,

Apparently you and your committee have blatantly ignored what **private** property means with regard to your parks and recreation proposal. **Private** means just that - not open to public access. Don't you understand the meaning of the word **private**?

Additionally by current Wyoming state law, cities (Laramie included) have no jurisdiction beyond their city limits.

Your proposal also ignores the laws associated with **private** property rights and illegal trespass. Also ignored are issues of legal liability including damage to **private** property and injury to trespassers illegally entering said property.

In my subdivision, the roads are maintained through a maintenance district and the property owners pay an annual assessment as part of their property tax bills. Neither the City of Laramie nor Albany County pay one cent to maintain these roads. We do not need additional wear and tear from recreational traffic.

The proposed plan as it currently stands needs to be scrapped. Any new proposal should include only land owned by the City of Laramie or Albany Co., and any associated thoroughfares should be only those maintained either by the City or the County.

C. D. Ferris
Sherman Hill Estates

Melissa Owen

From: Kimberly Starkey [capnetwork@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 1:05 PM
To: Paul Harrison
Cc: PTR Master Plan; Council; tsullivan@co.albany.wy.us; tchesnut@co.albany.wy.us; jkennedy@wyoming.com; Richard Bohling_AC; Janine Jordan; David Derragon; Derek Teini; Glenn Moniz; phil.nicholas@wyoleg.gov; matt.greene@wyoleg.gov; kermit.brown@wyoleg.gov
Subject: Ad Hoc Master Plan

Dear Parks and Recreation Director, Paul Harrison,

I am a resident and property owner in the Sherman Hill Estates subdivision, which is located in the unincorporated area of Albany County. I am also the Co-Chair of a homeowners' organization, the Casper Aquifer Protection (CAP) Network. CAP Network has a highly informed, engaged, and educated membership with a serious mission statement: **"Preservation of clean, safe groundwater now and for generations to come, while retaining our property rights."** The two stated objectives are on equal footing.

Upon review of the Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee website, minutes, and draft Master Plan, I have come to the conclusion that the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee (herein referred to as the "Committee") **has lost sight** of the task assigned to it by the City Council. Specifically, City Council Resolution 2011-25 established the Committee to "assist" with developing a Parks, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan for the **"city and city owned properties."** The words in underlined-bold are used **five times** in the approximately 370 word-resolution. The Council could not have been more clear.

Since you, Mr. Harrison, were the "Responsible Staff" who recommended Council form the Committee, you are acutely aware that the Master Plan was to encompass **city and city owned properties ONLY**. You knowingly allowed the Committee to extend the draft Master Plan beyond city and city owned properties. Shame on you.

I believe your enabling the Committee to create a draft Master Plan to include properties outside the corporate limits and not owned by the City has fostered the "we know better than you" attitude and the "for the greater good" comments that Ms. Eike, Mr. Pedrick, and I received from two of the Committee's members on April 24.

Most of CAP Network's members own property in the subdivisions east and southeast of Laramie. We bought our properties, pay to maintain and improve our properties, pay property taxes, and pay a road assessment to maintain our private roads for our benefit, not the benefit of the general public.

That you would allow this Committee to design City-generated maps indicating locations for "future" open space, trailheads, trails, and parks on private property is a deliberate act of disrespect toward the owners of these properties and displays blatant disregard for property rights.

Many of the property owners, particularly those with larger parcels, already contend with activities such as: general trespassing, dumping, four-wheelers tearing up their land and driving on their expensive wastewater treatment drainfields, and people on horseback peering into windows. Should the current draft Master Plan be adopted, these "future" recreational uses indicated on the City's map will only encourage more of this kind of activity as well as the prospect of increasing the numbers of strangers on foot or bicycles entering our quiet neighborhoods.

Simply noting on the Committee's website that trespassing is a violation which can be subject to prosecution does not relieve you (or the City of Laramie) of the responsibility for producing recreational uses maps over areas for which the City has jurisdiction but not beyond.

On behalf of CAP Network, I respectfully request that the Committee delete all "future" recreational uses on the draft Master Plan from the private properties in the subdivisions east and southeast of Laramie before sending your recommendation to Council.

As a private citizen, I respectfully request that the Committee honor the charge given to it by Council—to develop a Master Plan for city and city owned properties only—and delete "future" recreational uses on all other private parcels (from a park and playlot on Warren Livestock's corrals to the shortest length of trail on property that the City does not own), before sending your recommendation to Council.

I have blind-copied the membership of CAP Network on this e-mail and added a few names that you may recognize to the CC box. I would like to know if you will honor my request, preferably by 5pm tomorrow, Friday, May 3. Please Reply to All, as I think everyone included in this correspondence would like to receive your response on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Starkey, Co-Chair
CAP Network

Melissa Owen

From: Brownell Jr., Robert L. [RBrownellJr@wyotechstaff.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2013 11:21 AM
To: PTR Master Plan
Cc: Council

Let me get this straight. Private property in some of your eyes is not private. For the better good is what I heard. Please give your addresses so I can walk my dog, ride my horse, hike and camp on your property. It is for the better good. Bob Brownell, Sherman Hills

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Melissa Owen

From: connie petrie [connie_petrie@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2013 11:12 AM
To: PTR Master Plan
Cc: Council
Subject: Master plan for hiking trails and paths outside city limits of Laramie

Thank you to all who serve on these committees.

I applaud people who exercise and would like to use these trails. I note that most or, at least many, of these trails are on private property. I am curious what the city and county plans will be to routinely clean up these trails. Also, I am sure you are aware that the private citizens in these areas maintain our own roads. Will the city be paying for the added traffic and the cost to maintain the roads? I am sure you have thoughts on these issues and plans in place in order to not infringe on the rights of private property owners.

Thank you,

Connie M. and James C. Petrie
3238 Evergreen Dr.
Laramie, WY 82070

Melissa Owen

From: Mr. Stacy Snook [stacy@wyosnooks.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2013 4:32 PM
To: PTRMasterPlan@cityoflaramie.org.
Subject: Appointed by City?

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I notice a large percentage of the parks and paths suggested by the "Large Parks & Recreation Map" are outside of the city limits, and are, instead in the county.

I'm curious as to how/why the "Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee" was, then, "Appointed by the City Council." If this plan includes a large percentage of County property, then I feel it would have been wise to also grant some of the appointment "powers" to the county. Has the committee considered using representation/appointment based on percentage of proposed usage? (i.e. It would seem to make sense that if 70% of the proposals are within the city, that 70% of the committee should be appointed by the city, with the remaining 30% being appointed by the county.) Without further information (I fully admit my own ignorance at this time), I am somewhat concerned that county residents might be under-represented.

Also, I am somewhat confused by the differences in the definition of "Who is the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee" when comparing the 2-26-13 PowerPoint presentation on the website, with the current definition on the <http://cityoflaramie.org/index.aspx?nid=456> website. They are different, with no explanation on the difference.

I only recently heard of this committee, and would be interested in attending the meetings, though I discovered today's meeting too late to accommodate it, I am interested in future meetings. The website states that such meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 11:30am till 1pm; but lists no further meetings in the schedule section...could you please verify whether further meetings will continue on the twice-monthly schedule?

I'm trying to become informed, but there seems to be inconsistent data as I look through the various offerings on the website and I would appreciate any clarifications you might offer.

Thank you,
Mr. Stacy Snook

Melissa Owen

From: Edward C. Cassidy [Cassidy@uwyo.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2013 8:15 AM
To: PTR Master Plan
Subject: proposed city bike trails

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I note that in the Comprehensive Parks, Trails, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan for the Laramie parts of your grandiose plans extend into county and private property. While I am completely unconcerned with any silliness you inflict on the city, I strongly object to your attempt to inflict it on me. A bike trail down Bill Nye, in front of my house is completely unacceptable. I suggest that you restrict your meddling to areas where you have some minimal influence. Ed Cassidy
Ed Cassidy
5905 Bill Nye Ave.

Melissa Owen

From: Shelley J Leonard [sjtowler.laramie@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2013 6:50 AM
To: PTR Master Plan
Subject: Constant interference.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

The City and County have constantly. And I mean every single year for the entire Twenty years that I have owned land in the Sherman Hills area been doing something to interfere with the quiet enjoyment of the land owners in the Sherman Hills area. Now you are proposing again to take people's private land for a public purpose. And to have the public trekking across private land' private roads and privately maintained, roads. Every single year. This malignant coercive government. This will be fought. Leave us alone.

Shelley Leonard
7407 Black Elk Trail