

Ash Creek Ad Hoc Committee
Meeting minutes
1/24/2020

The January 24th, 2020 Ad Hoc meeting of Ash Creek Community Forest “park” was called to order at 10:45 am by Chair Steve Williamson; those present were Steve Williamson, Melissa Luck, Chad Cosgrove, Juli VanCleve, DNR and Tammy Cannoy-Bender.

Motion made by Chad Cosgrove to approve the agenda and proof of publication, second made by Melissa Luck. Motion carried.

3. Grant application; Melissa Luck has spoke with DNR regarding the fact that the county has multiple projects happening. The DNR representative suggested that all projects be presented separately. Rehabilitation and maintenance of existing trails is ranked highest with the grant process. The application for the grant will be based on the outdoor recreation plan. Some of the big-ticket items would be the parking lot off of Hill View Dr. Having a picnic area with a shelter and pit toilet. Chair Steve Williamson suggested that the picnic area & pit toilet be tied in with the walnut sale in the near future. Step 1 would be the parking lot off of Hill View Dr, need to talk with Ken regarding the estimates for the lot. Trail rehab. Set up a cross country skiing route. Step 2 2021 would be the picnic area & pit toilet. Developing a plan for evasive species spreading. What kind of paperwork would be needed to place a flat bed bridge across the creek for a cross country ski trail? The grant application is due May 1st, 2020. Melissa has the 2020 application, Chad Cosgrove suggested that we should request as much as possible. Donations (in kind labor), Steve is going to work on the bridge, the blazers, trail markers, trail maintenance & parking lot for sure, the bridge and ski trail establishment (they looked at the map) 1 bridge the first year and then a second bridge another year. Melissa will relay all that was discussed to Cathy so she can get this into the outdoor recreation plan update. Steve’s main goal is to be able to connect the city to Ash Creek Community Forest.

4. Brochure; Mellissa shared a draft with the committee. Ash Creek Community Forest is not on Google Maps, it is called something else, we need to contact google to get this corrected. We need more pictures of Ash Creek Community Forest. She will present this to the full committee in February. We need to have a better web presence for Ash Creek. Need to have signs stating where someone is on the trail. Some money from the Ash Creek fund will be used for the printing (copying) of the brochure.

5. County Recreation Plan; This was discussed while working on the grant application. Melissa will forward on to Cathy all that was discussed.

Steve went back to discussing intersection numbers on the trail and placing numbers on the map at the main entrance off of State Highway 80.

6. Forest Management Plan; Chair Steve Williamson asked Juli what the status is of the plan. She is working on updating the existing plan. At this point it was discussed that once we apply for and or Accept a grant for improving the Ash Creek Forest property it has to be used as public property.

The next round of business will be discussing the plan and the long-term goal. Melissa reiterated that we need a good page for the Ash Creek Community Forest on the web.

Motion made by Melissa Luck to adjourn the meeting; second made by Chad Cosgrove. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at Noon.

Tammy Cannoy-Bender
Secretary