

MAPLETON CITY
TRAILS SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 14, 2009

Members in Attendance:

Cathy Jones
Tracy Padgett
Rick Maingot

Others in Attendance:

Doug Jones, District Ranger

Staff in Attendance:

Cory Branch, Planning Director
Matthew Brady, Planner I
Stacey Child, Parks & Recreation Director

Minutes Dictation by:

April Houser, Executive Secretary

Item 1. Trails Sub-Committee Minutes – August 17, 2009.

Motion: Member moved to approve the Trails Sub-Committee Minutes for August 17, 2009.

Second: Member

Vote: Unanimous

Item 2. Mapleton City requests a discussion with Doug Jones, District Ranger for the Spanish Fork Ranger District of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest regarding:

- 1. The draft Mapleton City Trails Plan.**
- 2. Grant for motorcycle off road trail above Whiting Campground.**
- 3. Tribute to scouts for 7 to 9 eagle projects that went to improve little left hand fork.**

Matt Brady went over the trails shown on the draft Mapleton Trails plan. Doug Jones, District Ranger, stated that there are “Inventoried Road-less” areas, which makes it difficult to do anything in regards to motorized trails, as motorized access is not permissible in these areas. However, new non-motorized trails are permissible assuming the environmental studies and requirements are met. Right now the Forest Service has no money to use towards the development of new trails. Some of the questions that need to be answered are who would install the trail and who would maintain the trail once it is installed.

The Crowd Canyon Trail and Big Slide Canyon trails that have been proposed by the Trails Sub-Committee were discouraged by Mr. Jones. He felt the steepness could be an issue, as well as the close proximity to intermittent streams, which have setbacks required by the Forest Service. The purpose of these regulations is to protect the water quality of these areas. Many old Forest Service trails along streams would not be permitted under today’s regulations. Landslides are also an area of concern in both canyons. Discussion took place on how the City would tie into the Sterling Hollow Trail up Spanish Fork Canyon. Mr. Jones felt that this could be a good regional trail route, as long as the environmental, construction, and maintenance issues were addressed properly.

Mr. Jones stated that there is also not much use of dead end trails, unless it leads to something people want to see, therefore he would tend to shy away from these types of trails. Matt stated he has looked and looping areas and there are too steep of canyons to make these type of loops possible at this time, but he would continue to look at options on Mapleton Land to make some loops.

The Bonneville Shoreline Trail (south of Maple Canyon) was discussed as to what would be needed for the Forest Service to grant access for this trail. To get an approved trail with the Forest Service the main thing that needs to be done is to define the easements through all of the properties along the trail line area, and submit an application for administrative approval. There are currently two areas of land that are owned by the Forest Service along the power line route. Developing a trail plan should be relatively simple. Mr. Jones felt the Forest Service would not be willing, at this time, to pay for the trail, and that the maintenance of it on their end would be sporadic. Mr. Jones stated that the trail could possibly be left in its current state is if the easement was in place. Mr. Jones talked about the application by Mr. Wendell Gibby to get road access through the Forest Service land to the north of his property. The application was denied because the area is part of the Inventoried Road-less area.

The proposed Bonneville Shoreline Trail (north of Maple Canyon) was also discussed. Tracy asked if we could make an application to the Forest Service to utilize the existing unofficial trail. Mr. Jones stated that the environmental review process would be pretty stringent for this route. He recommended keeping it on the map as a possible trail route, but that the Forest Service would need NEPA clearance. Cory stated that the current proposed trails plan states this trail would continue to the west through the Smoot property connecting northward through the Maple Glen Subdivision to 1600 North and eventually to the Hobble Creek Parkway Trail.

Currently the trails committee is looking at trailhead connection options for connecting to the Bonneville Shoreline Trail from 1600 South. The trail would be all on City property.

Tracy updated the committee on the Eagle Scout bench projects that were being done on the Lower Left Fork Trail in Maple Canyon. Tracy mentioned that she would like to have a trail dedication to highlight the trail and give recognition to the work that has been done with the Eagle Scouts. Cathy stated there are many residents that do not know about this trail and want to be able to help publicize this trail. Tracy was told to work with the Forest Service in regards to the Trail Recognition for those that worked on Eagle Scout Projects. Monday, October 12th at 5:30pm was the tentative date for this recognition. The Committee was directed to get the trail standards from the Forest Service so that they have a guideline to follow when moving forward with the creation, installation, etc. of trails. It was discussed that a meeting should also be held with the Division of Wildlife Services as well in regards to the trails on their property. When developing trails a parking area needs to be considered sufficient for those using the trails in the future.

Tracy asked the committee if they had any comment on the existing motorcycle trail that starts east of Whiting Campground and goes to the Strawberry Reservoir area. Rick, Cathy and Stacey felt that there was no need for any improvements at this time.

Mr. Jones was asked to get a complete copy of the trail standards to help with the 1600 South trail connection to the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

Item 3. Mapleton City requests to discuss the status of where the draft Trails Plan is with Transportation Advisory Commission, including recommended bike routes.

The Transportation Advisory Commission is still in the process of reviewing this. Tracy asked Matt if he

could put together a trails map, showing connections to Spanish Fork and Springville. Matt stated that these areas are already shown on the map. Staff was asked to move the Trails portion of the map on to the Transportation Advisory Commission, however Tracy wanted to see the trails plan before it moved on to Transportation with the changes discussed in this meeting. Tracy stated she is concerned about the amount of time that the Transportation Committee is taking to approve the trails plan. She suggested with the deadline of the grant for the Mapleton Parkway Canal Trail in December, that the approved trail plan would need to be submitted to the Planning Commission and the City Council.

Item 4. Mapleton City requests to discuss the status of the trail easements in the Preserve Subdivision Plats “F” and “G”

Cory Branch discussed the status of the requests by residents of the Preserve Plats “F” and “G” to remove trail easements from the recorded plats. This item has been before the Trails Sub-Committee, Transportation Advisory Commission and the Planning Commission as a discussion item. All three of the bodies felt it needed to remain in place. The Planning Commission has told the developer/residents that they can try coming up with an alternate trail easement through that portion of the City if they feel it is possible.

Item 5. Mapleton City Trails Sub-Committee requests to discuss next steps on the Mapleton Lateral Canal Parkway Trail, including recreation impact fees status and fundraising ideas (runs, bike races, etc).

This item is waiting for feedback from the City Council. A Staff Report for the Council had been put together by Bob Bradshaw, which will be sent out to the Committee Members. Matt was asked to have Jim Price, with Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), attend one of the Trails Sub-Committee Meetings to talk to the members in regards to their Grant.

Item 6. The Mapleton City Trails Sub-Committee requests to discuss the role of the Trails Sub-Committee in relation to the Transportation Advisory Commission.

Rick Maingot felt that it was a waste of time for the Trails Sub-Committee to report to the Transportation Advisory Commission. If there were items that the Trails Sub-Committee felt the Transportation Advisory Commission needed to see, Staff would ensure those items went to the Transportation Commission. It was felt that this change would help to streamline some things. Tracy will talk to Councilwoman Ann Tolley about bringing this item before the council for consideration.

Item 7. The Mapleton City Trails Sub-Committee requests to discuss ways to help publicize trails available in Mapleton (website, flyers, maps, etc).

This item was continued.

It was discussed that next month the Trails Committee would like to discuss what the next steps are for the Mapleton Parkway Canal. Rick mentioned that he is concerned if the application moves forward for the grant; it could delay the opening of the trail for public use. Cory went through a brief review of what a title company and engineer would need to do to get the required easements and to get the trail approved.

Adjourned at 11:00am

April Houser, Executive Secretary

Dated:

Cory Branch, Planning Director

Dated:

Tracy Padgett, Chairwoman

Dated: