June 24, 2020
Trails and Open Space Advisory Committee
Meeting Record

Members Present Electronically
Mike Ferris, Committee Chair
Bob Schiowitz, Vice-Chair
Martyn Pearson, Member
Jim Wightman, Member
Kenneth Sexton, Member

Others Present
Ken Ladner, Mayor
Jaime Embick, Staff

Members Absent
Peter Gorman, Member
Dan Dietzel, Member

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm

Approval of Minutes: Mike made a correction to change Grant Street to F Street. Ken moved to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2020 meeting as corrected. Bob seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote of 5/0.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Input
None

Committee Discussion:
Mike reported that the Viva Connects Grants are being completed. There is a possibility for another $4,000 for San Vicente. Bridgette and Michelle will be working on it.

Boston Hill Report:
Martyn reported that the 30 Something Group will have project funding available. It could possibly be used to pay for the kiosks and trail maintenance. He read the application that he will be submitting to the group. It will include the potential flow trail and mapping. Bob asked what the selection process will be and Martyn stated that there will be three selection steps and the amount of award will be $30,000 or less. Mike thanked Martyn for all of his hard work. Mayor Ladner offered a letter of support for the application.
Mike called for a vote on the application. Ken moved to support the application. Bob seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote of 4/0. Jim did not vote as he had temporarily left the meeting. Martyn will get the information to the Mayor and report back to the group at the July meeting.

Bob stated that there are no further updates on the Boston Hill Viva Connects Grant. He said the logo has been approved. Mike thanked Bob for all of his hard work.

San Vicente Report:
Bob reported that the Youth Conservation Corps is working on a ramp under the Broadway Bridge. This is the last week of the project and he sent photos to the group via email. He also stated that he notified a property owner of a campsite on private property. He has not seen any evidence or arson or fire.

Mike stated that the group will need to look for funding for San Vicente Creek. Bob stated that more planning needs to be done first and that the ATV access needs to be closed first. He also stated that the Alcorta property needs to be acquired and a property owner is willing to work on a pedestrian easement along the trail. Jaime was asked to follow-up on the barrier at Chuckar. Bob stated he has seen very little vandalism of San Vicente Creek and has seen black hawks. He also stated that fence posts and wire were removed on the property acquired from Bruce McKinney.

Ken stated that he viewed the Town Council Meeting and that he was happy with the discussion that was had about tourism, its risks and opportunities.

The Mayor thanked the group for making a difference in the community. He stated that the Town is seeing a lot of visitors and that outdoor activity is important especially during this time. He also stated that a mask wearing campaign will be started soon and that the Phase 2 re-opening will be slowed due to an increase in COVID-19 cases in the state. Mike thanked the Mayor. Jim stated that an area in Texas where he previously lived went from 1 case to 44 in twelve days.

Staff Report
Jaime notified the group of a possible arsonist acting in San Vicente Creek and asked that any suspicious activity be reported to Central Dispatch. She reminded the members whose terms have expired to contact the Town Clerk if they wish to re-apply.

Adjournment: 5:45pm

Approved:
Michael Ferris,
Chair _____________________________ Date: _____________________________