

**ESTES VALLEY TRAILS COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**

*Tuesday, January 20, 2016*  
*6:00 P.M.*

*Estes Park 18-Hole Golf Course Clubhouse*  
*1480 Golf Course Road*  
*Estes Park, CO 80517*

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**ATTENDING:**

**Voting Members:** Danny Basch, Hal Dalzell, Dan Marshall, Gary Matthews, Lisa Plaut, Dick Putney, Ken TeSelle

**Non-voting Members:** Ben Greer, Ron Duell (*EVRPD Board Liaisons*)

**Staff:** Janet Carabell (*EVRPD Administrative Assistant*), Tom Carosello (*EVRPD Executive Director*), Herb Loveall (*EVRPD Parks-Trails Maintenance Manager*), Kim Slininger (*EVRPD Comprehensive Trails Master Plan Manager*)

**ABSENT:**

**Voting Members:** Ed Hayek, Amy Plummer [excused absences]

**Non-Voting Members:** Tina Kurtz (*Town Community Development*), Phil Kleisler (*Town Community Development*) [excused absences]

**GUESTS:** Patsy McEntee (NPS/RTCA)

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*Prior notice of this meeting was given by posting a notice at the Town of Estes Park's Municipal Building, the Estes Park Public Library, Estes Valley Recreation and Park District's Administration Office, the Larimer County Clerk's Office in Estes Park, the Boulder County Clerk and Recorder's Office in Boulder.*

*Trails Committee President, Gary Matthews, called the meeting to order at 6 P.M.*

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Moved by Ken TeSelle, seconded by Dick Putney, to approve the December 1, 2015, Trails Committee meeting minutes, as presented.

Ayes – 5. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

*(Dan Marshall arrived shortly after the minutes were approved.)*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Approval of the October 31, 2015, Treasurer's Report was tabled until the January meeting. EVRPD's Finance Director provided updated October financial report and a December financial report for this meeting.

Year-to-date reports include a trails fund balance and a trails expense report that compares this year's budget to last year's budget. The Trails Fund balance as of December 31, 2015, is \$709,217. Trails Expenses: YTD actual operating expenses are \$22,595.16; YTD actual non-operating expenses are \$265,270.76; YTD operating budget is \$25,654; total YTD trail expenses are \$287,865.92 (most expenses due to the Fish Creek Trail flood repairs).

Moved by Dick Putney, seconded by Danny Basch, to approve the October 31, 2015 and the December 31, 2015, financial reports, as presented.

Ayes – 6. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

*(Lisa Plaut arrived shortly after the financial reports were approved.)*

#### **EVRPD UPDATES**

*Tom Carosello, EVRPD Executive Director, provided the following updates.*

Matt Hines, who has served as EVRPD'S FEMA Project Manager since February 2015, has taken a job in North Dakota. Matt's last day at EVRPD is Friday, January 22, 2016.

#### ***Estes Valley Community Center Update***

EVRPD is working with Don Diones and other George K. Baum staff on the second issuance of bonds for the community center, which will be sold in \$5,000 increments.

After releasing an RFQ and evaluating submittals, a review/selection committee made a recommendation to EVRPD's Board to begin contract negotiations with Ohlson Lavoie Collaborative Architecture (OLC) for architectural/engineering design services. EVRPD's Board approved the recommendation to move forth with the contract negotiations. RLH Engineering serves as EVRPD's Owner's Rep for the community center project and will oversee this process.

#### ***Comprehensive Trails Master Plan RFP Update***

Trails Committee input on the trails master plan maps have been sent to Mike, Beach (SE Group). Online comments are being taken until March 2016.

Patsy McEntee (NPS/RTCA) led a trails master plan discussion after the business portion of this meeting.

#### ***Homer Rouse Trail***

Larimer County, in conjunction with the Town of Estes Park, will be installing high voltage power lines in the upper area of the Homer Rouse Trail. The trail will be closed while this work is being performed. Tom Carosello will send email updates to the Trails Committee as closures occur.

#### ***Dry Gulch Road Update***

The Town of Estes Park and CDOT would like to install a trail underpass on Hwy 34 near the Lake Estes Marina (where the current bridge exists). The underpass would connect the Lake Estes Trail to Dry Gulch Road sidewalk the Town plans to install. Town staff will attend a future Trails Committee meeting to discuss this project after they have permits and final plans in place. The Bureau of Reclamation is also involved since the lake Estes Trail and Marina are located on BOR property.

It was noted that Cornerstone Engineering previously conducted an engineering study for a trail on the west side on Dry Gulch Road (exact date of this study is unknown). Ben Greer requested that EVRPD ask the Town of Estes Park to include a dirt shoulder along the Dry Gulch Road sidewalk for runners and recreational users.

### ***Easement Committee Updates***

Otie's Trail – Gary Matthews stated that Otie's Trail is an important linkage/trail connection to other Estes Valley trails and it should be considered in the comprehensive master trails plan. Ron Duell reported that he has talked with the Pratt property owner's son as to why the Pratts fenced-off Otie's trail on their property. The Pratt's son told Ron that neighbors were complaining about people walking through their properties. Ron said the Pratts may be amenable to installing gates on the south side of the property for trail access. Ron has left messages for the Pratts, but he has not heard back from anyone. Ron suggested that he and Amy Plummer meet with the property owners to further discuss the issue. He also noted that electric and water easements exist along the south side of the property. Ron will continue to pursue this issue with the property owners.

Aspen Brook Trail – A suggestion was made to wait to meet with the new YMCA Director regarding the Aspen Brook Trail until after the Trails Committee meets with EVRPD's Board and until trail priorities are identified in the trails master plan. It was also suggested that EVRPD and/or Trails Committee members meet with Rocky Mountain National Park's new Superintendent, once on-board. Kim Slininger stated that there is public support for the Aspen Brook Trail.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Discussion included the importance of having a Town of Estes Park liaison on the Trails Committee; cancelling the scheduled February 2 Trails Committee meeting in lieu of the February 18 public meeting regarding the Trails Master Plan, to be held from 3:30 to 8 p.m. at Town Hall; and re-scheduling the March 1 Trails Committee meeting and instead holding a joint work session with EVRPD's Board.


Moved by Dick Putney, seconded by Ken TeSelle, to cancel the February 2, 2016, Estes Valley Trails Committee meeting due to the February 18, 2016, Trails Master Plan public meeting.

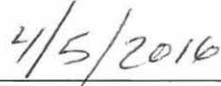
Ayes – 7. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION OF TRAILS MASTER PLAN (PATSY MCENTEE, NPS RTCA)**

EVRPD received a grant from the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) for help developing the Comprehensive Trails Master Plan. Patsy McEntee (RTCA) has been working closely with EVRPD staff and the SE Group to facilitate the process and public outreach components of the project. Patsy prepared a presentation and led the Trails Committee in a discussion about the trails planning process, goals, priorities, and recommendations. Patsy will provide her notes and presentation to the Trails Committee.

*Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.*

  
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Amy Plummer, Vice President

  
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Date

*Recorded by Janet Carabell*