

VPNA BOARD MEETING | MINUTES

January 18, 2018 | 6:30-8:00 pm | Davis Park Apartments

Meeting called by Matt Ciranni

Attendees Board Members: Matt, Tyler, Laura, Patricia B, Rae B, Ron, Brian C, Brian K, Mary C
Guests: Sara Arkle, City of Boise Open Space Manager

AGENDA TOPICS

I. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Matt provided an update on the Roundabout sculpture. Construction will start in a few weeks. We have \$500 left over from this project that we can use.
- We circulated the Whittier Art Boundary design proposal. Per an email from Kathleen Lacey, City of Boise, the artists are finalizing their estimate for cost of materials and powder coating. Then, the review committee will meet to prioritize the designs; there's a possibility that all 12 panels can be fabricated and installed within the approved budget. The Boise School District prefers the panels be installed during the summer.
- There were articles in the *Idaho Statesman* about the possible West End land swap (idahostatesman.com/news/local/community/boise/article54628580.html) and Esther Simplot Park's cleanup (idahostatesman.com/news/local/community/boise/article54496060.html).
- A new neighborhood bar is opening at 3506 W State Street. There's an open house 6-8 pm Thursday January 21.

II. FOOTHILLS OPEN SPACE

Sara Arkle, City of Boise's Open Space Manager, joined us to talk about open space in the Boise foothills. The City of Boise owns 4K acres and is in management relationships with other agencies/a private partnership for another 6K. The Ridge to Rivers trail system is a program of the City, and agencies contribute to it.

Matt expressed frustration about development in Arrowhead Canyon by the golf course.

Sara responded that several factors influence development and whether development includes trails. Some factors include that foothills development is not just a City of Boise issue; ACHD is also involved. Also, Idaho's Land Use Planning Act doesn't allow municipalities to require land developers to preserve open space—so, really, there's not much the City can do when foothills land is privately owned. It falls to the developer to recognize that open space/trails can enhance the value of their homes.

The City has \$1.3 million left over from the original foothills levy in 2001 but none of this is earmarked for new land acquisition. The 2105 levy will help the City be more proactive in acquiring property. However, the first installment won't be available until January 2017.

Brian K noted that he read some levy funding will be available for urban open space (i.e., outside of the foothills) and asked if anything is designated for acquisition/preservation in our neighborhood. Sara responded that the levy is focused on making connections between water quality (Boise River) and open space preservation, but that she couldn't comment on specific properties.

Sara also noted that Ridge to Rivers is going through significant planning and the City is taking citizen output. There will be a draft in the spring.

III. PO BOX

Matt said that our PO box fee is due. Cost is \$98 for 12 months.

A motion was made by Matt to keep the mailbox for another year and pay the fee.

Motion carried.

IV. BOARD POSITIONS/ELECTIONS

Erin S (not present) sent a note stating that she will be stepping down from VPNA for the near future due to other commitments.

Matt recognized Melvin (not present), who's been on the board for 8 years and also said that he (Matt) wants to step down from the president position in April.

V. ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be April 18.

Action Items:

- Matt will reach out to Taft Elementary first, then Collister Community Church, or reserve the Veterans Park shelter for the meeting.