

**Cottonwood Heights City**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**  
**May 25, 2022**  
**2277 E Bengal Blvd., Room 124, Cottonwood Heights, UT**

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**Present:** Melissa Fields; Erin Davis; Paula McFarland; Ben Hill, Executive Director, Cottonwood Heights Parks and Recreation Service Area (CHPRSA); Chris Owens; Ronna Cohen; Sarah Ricketts

**Management & Staff:** Mayor Mike Weichers, Mike Johnson, and Councilmembers Doug Peterson and Ellen Birrell

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**Summary and Key Actions**

- Mike Johnson will present draft content for wayfinding signage at Big Cottonwood Canyon Trail (BCCT) at the next committee meeting for committee feedback.
  - Committee members are to think about names for the Park Stewardship program and provide their ideas at the next committee meeting.
  - Committee members are to think about ideas for more city walks and provide them to Committee Member Ronna Cohen.
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**Welcome**

In the absence of both the Committee Chair and Vice-chair, Ms. Paula McFarland, Committee Secretary, called the meeting to order and welcomed Committee members, management, and staff.

**City staff / Council / CHPRSA Update**

Mayor Weichers joined our meeting this evening and responded to the previously submitted committee questions. A copy of the Q&A is included as Attachment 1 to these meeting notes.

**CHPRSA Update – Ben Hill, CHPRSA Executive Director**

- Antczak Park – The CHPRSA received the bid for the park upgrades, and it was over budget by quite a large amount, so they are back to the drawing board. The community’s #1 desire is a walking path around the park; however, the #1 need is to replace the tennis courts. The CHPRSA is looking at various options and it’s likely that pickleball courts will no longer be put into that park. The CHPRSA found it to be less costly to replace the existing tennis courts since they can place concrete on top of the existing asphalt. Replacing only 2 tennis courts will take almost all the Phase 1 budget. Options are being explored to complete at least part of the walking path with any leftover budget. Asphalt is being considered as a less costly option than concrete, as well as other funding sources. The #2 need is a new playground, but there is not enough budget to replace it in Phase 1. The CHPRSA has budgeted \$15,000 to repair some of the playground equipment this year. There is also not enough funding to add lighting to the MJP pickleball courts at Butler Park this year.

- Tourism, Recreation, Culture & Convention (TRCC) Funding - The application window recently opened for projects in 2023. The CHPRSA will apply for funding to upgrade (by priority) the Bywater, Antczak, and Mill Hollow playgrounds in 2023. The CHPRSA will match TRCC funds received. If there isn't enough funding to complete all the parks, budget will be applied to parks in order of priority.
- Park Donation Program – All donated items have been received for Ferguson Park.
- Butler Park Lease – Butler Park is owned by the county and cannot be deeded to the CHPRSA due to water/land conservation issues. Fifty percent of the rec center is on county-owned property. The CHPRSA recently signed a lease with the county and will take over managing the county-owned park. This will add costs to the budget but will allow CHPRSA to have more control over the park.
- Gravel Pit Annexation -The gravel pit annexation into the CHPRSA is nearing completion. This will better align the CHPRSA with the city boundaries.
- Hammock posts for Golden Hills Park have been received and will be installed next Tuesday.

**Staff Update - Mike Johnson, CH City Community & Economic Development Director,**

- BCCT – Wayfinding signage design is progressing. Mileage markers will show mileage on both sides from Knudsen Park and the BCC Park and Ride. There will be enhanced signage and striping at the more confusing areas, such as the crossing at 30<sup>th</sup> East. The project budget is \$120,000, with \$80,000 earmarked for trail reconstruction and \$40,000 for wayfinding signage. Mike will bring draft content for the wayfinding signs to the next PTOS committee meeting for committee input/feedback.
- Park Center Hillside Trail – This project has been contemplated for a while and there may be excess budget from Salt Lake County to complete it this year. The project is to link the residential areas south of the Park Center shopping area with a paved trail down the hill from the neighborhood to the shopping center. The property owner is tentatively in favor of the project.
- Corridor Preservation Grant – The city acquired frontage property between the two big apartment projects on Ft. Union Blvd with this grant money. The grant only covers the property acquisition. The long-term plan is to eventually put in a protected biking and walking path in this corridor. The path won't reduce the lanes on Ft. Union Blvd. Long-term plans include landscaped medians on Ft. Union for traffic calming.
- Golden Hills Hammock Posts – will be installed by May 31, 2022.
- Mountview Pollinator Garden – VODA is continuing to revise the plans for available budget. The current plan shows seeds versus plants, which would have less initial cost, but would be significantly more labor-intensive.
- Ferguson Park – Plaques have been ordered for donated items. They will be like the one shown in our prior meeting. A \$250 general donation will get a plaque as well. A bike repair station has been donated and will be installed at the BCC Park and Ride lot. Ferguson Park is on track for completion by the end of the summer, but the parking lot is delayed due to cost issues with the contractor. The park will open with a dirt parking lot that will be paved later.

**City Council Update – Doug Peterson, CH City Council Member**

Council Member Doug Peterson had to leave for a prior commitment and was unavailable for an update. Committee Member Erin Davis reported that she and Mr. Peterson met with Patrick Leary from Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation (SLPR) to discuss concerns and needs for Crestwood Park. The meeting was positive, but without firm commitments from SLPR except that the Crestwood pool will be open this summer.

**Committee Chair Update**

- Draft minutes from the April 27, 2022, were discussed but could not be approved due to lack of a quorum.
- Committee Member Ronna Cohen reported that she met with volunteers for both Antczak and Bywater parks and shared the vision for the program. Volunteers (Christian, Alex and Michael) are enthusiastic and are storming ahead to identify needs and find volunteers for their respective parks. Ms. Cohen requested the committee’s help to come up with a good name for the program. She also requested the committee’s approval to use the remaining \$1,500 in 2022 budget funds for tee shirts for the volunteers. Since there wasn’t a quorum, the request will be discussed in the next PTOS meeting. There may also be some funding in the city budget for tee shirts, if needed.
- Ms. Cohen also informed the committee that the PTOS Committee will be sharing a booth with the CH Historical Committee at Butlerville Days. She and Gail Conger will be leading two community walks due to the popularity last year. Ms. Cohen is seeking committee input and suggestions for other city walks. She presented her idea for a CH “Water Wonders” walk. Her suggested landmarks are included as Attachment 2 to these minutes. Committee Member Chris Owens inquired about the status of fireworks during Butlerville Days this year. Mike Johnson said the city would comply with the state regulations in effect at that time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Ms. McFarland adjourned the meeting.

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Michael Johnson

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Date

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Greg Reid

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ATTACHMENTS (2)

