TOWN of BERTHOUD
Est. 1888

Garden Spot of Colorado

PORT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Town Board Room
807 Mountain Avenue
Town of Berthoud, Colorado
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 6:00 p.m.

This is an IN-PERSON meeting at the location and time noted above.

This meeting will be streamed live on YouTube. The live stream is accessible by visiting www.berthoud.org/stream

A. Call to Order

C. Hobson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

B. Roll Call

- Lauren Roth – Chair (Not present)
- Carolyn Hobson – Vice Chair (Present)
- Eleanor Hasenbeck – Secretary (Not present)
- Anna Murphy (Present)
- Kari Wiesen (Present)
- Michael Brennan (Present)
- Callie West (Not present)
- Cloud Clark, BYAC Liaison (Present)
- Casey Grace, Trustee Liaison (Present)
- Keith Knoll, Staff Representative (Present)

C. Approval of minutes April 1, 2026

A. Murphy offered comments on multiple items in April minutes that were identified and will be corrected/redistributed for approval.

D. Public Comment – Non-Discussion Items

None.

6/3/26

E. Discussion Items

a. Bike Park Improvements - Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager

K. Knoll presented current bike park as it exists and town-desired improvements, including:

- Mountain bike skills course. Town staff is of the opinion that additional obstacles can be added to further increase utilization of the space and opportunity. Staff is confident that additional obstacles can be installed utilizing town assets and would not require outsourcing of work. Majority of expenses would solely be on materials. This would be considered the in-house phase.

- Second focus is addressing the space between the kids' course and mountain bike course (identified in attached graphic). Intent is to create an additional space that would generate a mixed pump track and flow course to offset 'traffic' challenges with current pump track. Additionally, would be exploring procurement and installation of shade structures along the eastern side of the park. Current concept is a shade structure that would allow for riders to enter under with their bikes and then egress at their leisure. Initial goal would be a large structure and then multiple smaller ones, with consideration toward installation of additional trees (see graphic).

Committee Feedback:

C. Hobson recommended placing benches under large shade structure if able. Identified the lack of shade for smaller structures due to sun alignment.

K. Wiesen identified templated shade structure placement as potentially being problematic with proximity to boundary fence and where shaded area would fall during afternoon hours.

A. Murphy:

Q: For the pump track: Is there a reason it would not be asphalt?
A: K. Knoll responded on cost, placement and subsequent maintenance.

Q: Would the different tracks/user levels be identified?
A: K. Knoll responded that there would be a need for signage to convey intent for specific users.

Q: Is there a budget for this?
A: K. Knoll responded there is ~$200k available for bike park expansion and modification, in addition to a $75k maintenance budget for items such as reseeding, erosion control, etc.

Provided a shoutout to the bike park and overall positive experience her family has during their visits to the location.

Identified picnic table location and need for additional tables to meet seating and eating requirements. Also supported idea of large shelter being located nearer to child track due to current popularity of existing shelter with parents and onlookers. Recommended a secondary large shade shelter placement location IVO bike repair station.

K. Wiesen identified that most common areas for parents and onlookers to gather are elevated.

C. Hobson recommended to A. Gustafson the future potential for biking programs at the bike park.

M. Brennan recommended encouraging local Scout organizations and other volunteer organizations to consider recreation locations (e.g. bike park) as potential project sites.

K. Knoll shared how town staff interact with neighboring localities during maintenance days and sharing best practices and lessons learned.

b. Pioneer Park Garden – Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager

K. Knoll presented graphic that identifies additional parcel that is owned by the town (identified in attached graphic in RED). Most recently, parcel bordered in BLUE has been donated to the town. Staff did realize success with community garden location, specifically planting beds and coordinating with Berthoud Local which runs the location. Pioneer Pocket Park location is being considered for plantings, low maintenance walking path (YELLOW in graphic). Additionally reviewed proposed 'Dead End Configuration' concepts to delineate the space from neighboring subdivision.

K. Knoll identified potential for funding support through Northern Water grant program(s), however, that funding would not be available until Fall 2026, if selected.

Committee Feedback:

C. Hobson inquired if there was any feedback when original volleyball courts in this location were removed. K. Knoll did not identify any.

K. Wiesen inquired how utilized the community garden was. Also inquired who would be responsible for plantings and maintenance, K. Knoll confirmed this would be town maintained.

K. Knoll posited that the town forester and open space staff would likely make the determination(s) of appropriate plantings and how to best 'seed' the location.

A. Murphy endorsed Dead End Configuration B with its plantings, utilization of rocks as bollards with reflective markings and inquired if the town would pursue grant opportunities with Northern Water, which K. Knoll confirmed would be sought out during Summer 2026.

c. Berthoud Arboretum

K. Knoll shared an update that project bids were received on 7 April 2026 and they were entered into Board of Trustees agenda. Board of Trustees voted to hold funding until 2030 and town staff is still in talks with preferred contractor to finalize projected costs. Additionally, Tree Advisory Committee is positioned to provide an informational briefing to the Board of Trustees on the educational and environmental benefits of an arboretum. Cited projected cost as ~$12.4M based on bids received and board having latitude to scale up/down based on contractors proposed amount(s). Discussed different value engineering tactics that would assist in meeting budgetary requirements (e.g. costs of child play areas at ~$110k per).

C. Hobson inquired if the arboretum could be brought forward at any time between now and 2030 if a re-bid/cost adjustment is made that would be feasible, K. Knoll confirmed and C. Grace furthered that following the Tree Advisory Committee briefing it could be revisited.

Tree Advisory Committee informational briefing is scheduled for 26 May 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting.

A. Murphy:

How did the arboretum get paused and fall off? Cited historical timeline and amount of effort through meetings, analysis, motions, etc. that went into consideration for the arboretum project. Elaborated on budget being identified and expressed feeling significantly disappointed with recent change in trajectory. Is seeking to mitigate such occurrences of projects being 'killed' in future iterations. Also shared disappointment in last opportunity to comment for the PORT Committee was in January 2026 and then zero touchpoints for PORT thereafter; how can there be a better feedback mechanism?

M. Brennan shared in concurrence with A. Murphy's comments and furthered that future instances of inaction or vacillation are a negative optic for the town for future land donations and trusts from prospective donors.

K. Wiesen shared that it also floored her with the Boards decision and how the project had already gone to bid.

A. Murphy furthered that this was an item that had been budgeted for over two years and additionally is a negative 'slap in the face' to the town staff.

C. Hobson viewed the action as purely political and is optimistic that it will not stick and the project will eventually move forward.

Motion: C. Wiesen motioned to express PORT Committees disagreement with Board of Trustees decision regarding the arboretum project and the PORT Committee requests the Board revisit this project in alignment with community desires. Additionally PORT requests that staff value engineer based on bid amounts received to bring bids into alignment with budgetary allocation.

C. Hobson seconded the motion and it passed committee unanimously.

K. Knoll clarified water and sewer requirement budget (~$900k) being separate from overall project budget

Public Comment:

J. Vielehr, 980 Mountain Avenue expressed sincere appreciation for amount of effort given by the PORT Committee toward the arboretum. Concurred that she was equally as blindsided by the decision to postpone the project and expressed desire for the timeline to move quicker than the projected 2030. Encouraged the PORT Committee to further emphasize the project and push for a more favorable timeline than the current 2030. Addressed the comment by M. Brennan regarding the donations of land and desire of legacy in concurrence that when such donations are disregarded by the town, it is not in keeping with the desire of the donor and their intent for a legacy. Inquired to K. Knoll if any discussions had ever occurred with Northern Water for the arboretum and recommended it would be beneficial to the overall project. K. Knoll confirmed the project engineer had engaged but was not sure to the extent of those discussions.

A. Murphy provided a follow-on comment to J. Vielehr's feedback in that combined effort(s) with the Tree Advisory Committee would be to the overall benefit of continuing to advocate for the arboretum project. PORT could attend Tree Advisory Committee work session on 10 May 2026 for possible collaboration. C Hobson encouraged attendance of PORT members at these sessions and the upcoming Board meeting on 26 May 2026.

C. Grace offered that she will be conveying comments from this meeting and encouraged PORT members to attend, if able, to further share feedback and work completed to-date.

P. Karspeck, 1000 Massachusetts Ave, expressed appreciation of PORT Committee, Tree Advisory Committee and Staff contributions to the arboretum project. Expressed that given the level and amount of effort already put forth, it would be a waste of money to table it until 2030. Felt it was an arbitrary, sudden reversal, to include by a trustee who had presented as being in favor of the project throughout, up until the recent vote. Shared that this project encapsulates the strong desire for trails and open spaces which are shared across the community. Identified that the town administrator has confirmed the funding already exists and reiterated concern that it was suddenly pushed to 2030. The arboretum has something for everyone and is not exclusive to a specific demographic, with multi-season opportunity and expressed appreciation for PORTs desire to continue to advocate for this project.

F. Staff updates – Parks, Open Space, Recreation, and Trails

K. Knoll mentioned trend of PORT Committee doing a summer tour of sites (A. Murphy recommended future Richardson location; K. Wiesen posited Newell Farm Park; Jaskowsky could also be an option). Newell concept design will be an agenda item for June 2026 PORT meeting.

A. Gustafson provided reminder of summer hours beginning at end of May 2026.

G. Committee updates

C. Clark—none

A. Murphy expressed a welcome to C. Grace as the new Trustee Advisor to the PORT Committee.

K. Wiesen—none.

C. Hobson shared that the town ballfields were identified during Berthoud event crowd-sourced feedback as an item to be preserved.

M. Brennan also welcomed C. Grace.

C. Grace confirmed that she will be sharing PORT comments, specifically pertaining to the arboretum project and would be inquiring further on actions to date, along with processes for projects moving forward.

H. Adjourn

C. Hobson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 PM with A. Murphy seconding.

Next meeting: June 3, 2026. If you require special accommodation, please contact the Town Clerk 24 hours in advance at (970) 532-2643.