



**Garden
Spot of
Colorado**

PORT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Town Board Room
807 Mountain Avenue
Town of Berthoud, Colorado
Wednesday, February 1, 2023 6:00 p.m.**

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

You may also join virtually using Zoom

Phone: 1-346-248-7799 or 301-715-8592

Web: www.zoom.us/join

Use this Meeting ID: 602 408 1190

1. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 6:03P.M.

2. Roll Call

- Tim Grover – Chair - Here
- Lauren Roth – Vice Chair – Here
- Anna Murphy – Secretary – Here
- Jose Cabrera – Virtual, Here
- Carolyn Hobson – Here
- Callie West – Here
- Vacancy – Not Here
- Daniel Hatton, BYAC Liaison – Not Here.
- Karl Ayers, Trustee Liaison – Here
- Keith Knoll, Staff Representative – Here

3. Approval of Minutes -Wednesday December 7, 2022

- Motion to approve minutes. C. West has edit on 5e: In addition to heat concerns, please add a note on the safety/health concerns of different types of turf. L. Roth motioned to approve the minutes with the additional edit, C. Hobson seconded. All in favor.

4. Public Comment – Non-Discussion Items

- Linda Wilson from Berthoud trying to gain awareness of how the town works. Wants to learn more about government and the town. Involved with the tree committee.

5. Discussion Items –

- **Waggener Farm Arboretum – Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager**
 - Tree advisory committee will work with PORT on the Berthoud Arboretum concept. Property split into two pieces. North portion had a deed restriction (more active-type

Keith W. Knoll 3/1/2023

activities). South portion has conservation easement. Colorado Open Lands oversees the easement. PORT has not seen the deed yet; however, K. Knoll highlighted specific things that you can do to the property (e.g., passive recreation, ag-theme, public education). Active recreation is not allowed. Structures and buildings were also not allowed. Space was partially master planned a few years ago. WENK is doing the conceptual design.

- Tentative first draft for review at end of June. PORT agreed to meet with Tree Advisory Committee (TAC) for a joint TAC-PORT meeting on Monday, June 26 at 6:00PM to review the first draft from WENK. The June 26 meeting will replace the July 5th meeting for PORT.
- Categories for review: Berthoud heritage; natural vs. organized; non-botanical interests (hardscapes/amenities); plant spacing; trails; movement through park; focal point of the park; pond; water conservation; plants; varieties of the region. Public park with a focus on education on trees. Bees. Arboretum at CSU (try interesting varieties to see if it works) / research opportunities. Plant trees that work well in Colorado.
- PORT agreed that the fewer the structures and hardscapes the better. A place for people to contemplate and enjoy the views. Information on the history of the town, family photos, etc... were suggested. Both PORT and TAC discussed planting corn and pumpkins for a corn maze/pumpkin patch.
- **Berthoud Heritage** – Question about water to the land. Currently, alfalfa is planted in the South portion (dryland). This property holds two water shares through Loveland Lake and Ditch. Shares generally should be used. Discussion about how water is delivered to the property. Larger, underground pipes were placed on the property. Property hasn't had access to water because the tank by rec center, was removed at the time the rec center was built, and there hadn't been an opportunity to convey water from Loveland Lake down to the farm. Put in a tank last year. Water conservation (e.g., types of emitters, potable vs. non-potable water) was discussed.
- Jane Waggener (maiden name) joined the meeting and discussed the property. This is a Centennial farm. The Town purchased from her brother (Mike) in 2009. Since then, it's been dryland alfalfa farm for the past 4-5 years. Farming falls under a potential use, as does arboretum. Family would like to have a memorial for Jane's brother. Ideas include benches, picnic tables, and plantings. Would like to see a phased approach to developing this property.
- **Natural vs. Organized** – Hillsdale was discussed as an example of a passive space in town. Natural. Shade trees.
- **Non-botanical interests (hardscapes/amenities)**
 - Pamphlets with numbers, videos – QR codes
 - Little signage, simple, minimal (e.g., Hillsdale). Too much signage negates the relaxing green space. Nothing unnecessary.
 - Xeric/native species
- **Trails through the park**
 - Demo garden or trees vs. stuff spread all over.
 - Little nooks to contemplate.
 - Meandering, not linear.
 - Having no snow removal doesn't stop people from going.
 - Soft surface.
- **Pond**
 - Non-potable Master plan. Send water to pond – irrigation ponds. Pioneer Park pond as example. Pond and need to manage recreation – access to water and safety.
 - Pond as an example of a focal point. Could there be other focal points e.g., Longs Peak/mountains, memorial, dock, etc...?

- **Farming and Agriculture ideas**

- Berthoud Local group was originally Friends of Waggener Farm Park. Had ideas to do a CSA. Good group to partner with, and community gardens are nice in concept (divide out plots, see cool things grow); however, there was not enough interest/volunteers to make community gardens grow.
- Demo plots: How fields are being watered for the future? How much land to make it worth the while for a farmer? Irrigation system will always be key. Equipment considerations. Jane would like to see farming continue.
- Experimental crops. Ag companies to sponsor a corner of the property for testing seeds. CSU extension was mentioned.
- Water conservation – Partner with Northern Water to show water conservation plots. Demo garden would see this more.
- Showcase native plants of Colorado
- Pollinator friendly. Apiaries. Possible risk of allergies. In line with requirements for new development. Another educational opportunity. Dragonfly/bat houses.

- **Richardson/Bike Park Naming – Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager**

- Company the Town is working with and the Town came up with names for the bike park. Berthoud Bike Park was recommendation from PORT. Similar to Berthoud Recreation Center at Waggener Farm Park, we could have Berthoud Bike Park at [insert park name]. PORT discussed naming trails after a theme and liked the suggestion from L. Roth to name after birds in the area (e.g., eagles, osprey, owls, etc...).
- Group discussed names for the park and did not come up with a name. PORT requested more information from Berthoud Historical Society on information about the property or the area, the history of Berthoud, any stories, any Native American/indigenous themes, etc...
- Discussion that the park name could be tied to a geographical feature, e.g., Handy ditch, Loveland Reservoir, street names, etc...

6. Staff updates – Parks, Open Space, Recreation, Trails

- Rec updates reported by Keith
 - Mom and son nerf mania is March. 25th
 - Spring craft fair is April 15th
 - Skateapalooza is April 29th
 - Pickleball league – over 15 teams are registered
 - First senior trip Candlelight dinner theater Feb. 25th
- Keith gave a Bike Park update.
 - Pickleball – proposal to the board in February.
 - North Berthoud Parkway trail is still in the works. Trying to get a trail across the ditch through a CDOT grant (lots of paperwork). Found a spot to move away from golden eagle's nest.
 - South Berthoud Pkwy trail – waiting on the weather (from Spartan to Bluebell).
- Karl Ayers: Town closed on Newell Farm Park in January (10-12 acres)

7. Committee updates

- C. West noted she skied (set a track) around Hillsdale park. Snow is all packed in and good.
- C. Hobson – question on snow removal, the stretch in front of the Mormon church by Ivy, South of Nielson greenway. Staff to look into it.

8. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at C. Hobson motions and L. Roth seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:56PM.

Next meeting: March 1, 2023 @ 6:00 pm. If you require a special accommodation, please contact the Town Clerk 24 hours in advance at (970) 532-2643.