



**Garden
Spot of
Colorado**

PORT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Town Board Room
807 Mountain Avenue
Town of Berthoud, Colorado
Wednesday, November 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

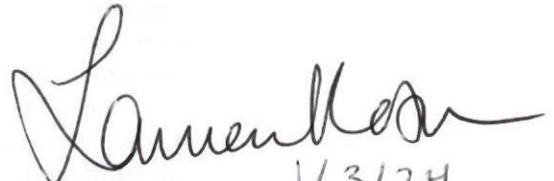
1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 6:01PM.

2. Roll Call

- Tim Grover – Here
- Lauren Roth – Here
- Anna Murphy – Here
- Carolyn Hobson – Not Here
- Callie West – Here
- Kristle White – Here
- Sean Henry – Here
- *Vacant*, BYAC Liaison – Not Here
- Karl Ayers, Trustee Liaison – Here
- Keith Knoll, Staff Representative – Here

3. Elections: Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary

- A. Murphy nominated L. Roth for Chair. T. Grover seconded. All in favor.
- C. West nominated C. Hobson as Vice-chair. L. Roth seconded. All in favor.
- C. West nominated A. Murphy as Secretary. T. Grover seconded. All in favor.


11/3/24

4. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, September 6, 2023

- T. Grover motioned to approve minutes from the previous PORT committee meeting. C. West seconded. No discussion. All in favor.

5. Public Comment – Non-Discussion Items

- No public comment.
- K. White and S. Henry briefly introduced themselves to the PORT committee. K. White moved to Berthoud with her family in Summer 2023. S. Henry moved to Berthoud with his family in Spring 2020. Both are looking forward to serving on PORT.

6. Discussion Items

- **A. Berthoud Bike Park – Bikeway Connections & Park Improvements, Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager**
 - K. Knoll gave a quick overview of the bike park, which opened in September 2023. The Berthoud Bike Park is one of the largest in Colorado. He noted the pump track was intended to be for kids on one side. There appeared to be confusion with the pump track routes, so Town staff are considering adding more lines. There's the mountain bike skills course, entry level jump lines (beginner/intermediate), and to the north are intermediate/advanced jump lines/dual slalom. Overall, feedback has been very positive. K. Knoll sought the following feedback from the PORT committee members on the Bike Park:
 1. What do you think?
 - a) Have you been to the park? How is it? What community feedback have you heard?
 2. What type of improvements do you feel are necessary for the park?
 - a) Trees, shade, features, extended trails.
 - b) Our current social media posts/closures
- <https://www.facebook.com/BerthoudBikePark/>
 3. How are people getting to the park?
 - a) Is there support for a designated bike route from downtown to the bike park? (Possibly to be other routes added in the future?)
 - b) Our current trail system - <https://trails.colorado.gov/>
 - L. Roth shared feedback from her experience with the bike park. Her house backs up to the bike park, and her kids really enjoy the bike park. She did highlight a couple of concerns. For the first three weeks when the bike park opened, there was a lot of dust from cars going in and out of the road to the bike park. This was remedied with magnesium chloride. L. Roth also noted that a speed limit register was placed near the entrance by the sheriff. She expressed concerns with kids crossing from the sidewalk (e.g., on the west side of Meadowlark) at the same time that cars are coming in/out. She noted that there have been several days where the parking lot has been 100% full. Cars will park on the side of the dirt road, and someone even set up a camper on the road with the awning out on the South side, with coolers and chairs. People are parking both parallel and vertical on the dirt road. No one has parked on the street for the most part. The town is looking into adding striping to designate parking spots on the dirt road.
 - Additional signage was suggested e.g., a speed limit and pedestrian signs. A rubber speed bump or something similar was suggested to slow down cars as they enter the bike park. L. Roth noted the narrow red rock trail that goes

along the West Side can get busy with both pedestrians and bikers using the trail. Near this trail is an old access trail for farm equipment. L. Roth suggested making this old access trail into a walking path so there could be more space between walkers and bikers. K. Knoll noted that eventually, there will be a regional trail; however, this won't happen until the North side gets developed a bit more. K. Knoll also noted that there are plans to potentially expand parking on the south side.

- Question on whether there is a goal in terms of capacity with parking? Demand seems to be exceeding expectations for parking. Will this demand continue? K. Knoll noted the bike park currently has 52 parking spaces. Other towns are putting in their own bike amenities. When the north side gets developed, there will be additional parking. Question on whether the north side parking lot can be prioritized as work on Richardson begins? It was noted that connector trails be at the front of the schedule, and Richardson may be closed until fully finished.
- A. Murphy noted that the bike park is great for all ages. Entire families were out at the bike park, walking, watching their kids and others, etc... A. Murphy also agreed with L. Roth's observation about the red asphalt trail. It is narrow, and it would be nice to have a trail running around the entire park, near Hwy 287. She also noted that it would be nice to have some of the current dirt trails turned to asphalt to improve accessibility. While there are a couple of trees, it would also be nice to have a little more shade or shade structures, potentially also some water stations.
- Discussion about whether to push for more obvious connectors from the Berthoud Rec center to the bike park. A. Murphy noted she biked over to the bike park from the rec center, and it was a challenge for several reasons, including no designated bike trail to the bike park and no designated crossing along Berthoud Pkwy. Town staff approached Larimer County sheriff to see if the speed limit could be dropped from 45mph to 35mph. It's difficult with wide open spaces on both sides to decrease the speed limit. It still remains at 45 mph further north on Berthoud Pkwy.
- Kids who attend Turner Middle School cut across the fields at Waggener Farm Park and cross over from Berthoud Pkwy to Lake Ave. to go to the bike park. The Town is considering adding an extra trail across the fields to accommodate these kids. Discussion about a lighted pedestrian crosswalk sign to allow for crossing along Berthoud Pkwy at Lake Ave. PORT was supportive of both.
- Question about whether the cross-country trails were in. Yes.
- K. Knoll noted additional feedback from bike park users that there wasn't enough speed. He noted that courses are moving away from big inclines for safety reasons but also to teach bikers how to gain their own speed/momentum and pump.
- S. Henry has experience with XC mountain biking and was excited to see Berthoud build a bike park. This is a big cultural shift. He echoed K. Knoll's comments that the incline was well-designed given what they had naturally at that location. He's heard positive words from BMX riders, too. With the challenges during construction, he noted it was nice to have the bike park finished before the cold season. He noted time is needed to establish vegetation. He suggested the Town monitor the traffic and see if

crowds dissipate over time. The Town will continue to grow, so it's hard to say what parking needs will be. He noted it would be great to have a trail network from the South and East.

- Question on whether the trail connection at Mathew's Farm connect further? We believe yes. Suggestion to add a designated bike path from Lake Ave. to Mt. Meeker past Meadowlark to the west of Matthews farm. This will be explored. Suggestion to add bike lanes on Meadowlark. It would be wide enough for sharrows. This will be explored.
- Question on whether there's a post on the town website when the bike park is closed. Not on the Town website. Communication is mostly happening through the Facebook page. The gate is closed, and there are extra barricades with closure signs. While some kids have been on the pump track during closures, by and large, people are respecting the closures. E-bike issues have dwindled down.
- A bike striping project was completed this summer.
- It was noted that Mt. Meeker connects to the trail system. Also, Gateway Park Blvd. currently has bike lanes. Question on whether there's plans south of Tundra Ave. That area is currently zoned as commercial.
- Question on connections at CR 10E and Berthoud Pkwy. This is a challenging area, but connections are being explored.
- Plans to use access road on Handy ditch? Possibly in the future.

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

- K. Knoll – Regarding names of parks in Berthoud: It was noted that Town Park is called Berthoud Park when searching on Google Maps or Berthoud Town Park on the website. K. Knoll and staff have been working on a short list of names for Richardson. The finalists were: Mountain Vista, Grassroots, Eagle Ridge, and Reservoir Ridge. PORT ranked their top four names (write-ins were accepted). After an initial vote, Mountain Vista was at the top of the rankings; however, write-ins (Handy Park and Berthoud Community Park) were discussed. PORT then voted again and unanimously voted to recommend "Mountain Vista Community Park" as the future park name to replace "Richardson".
- PORT will not meet for the Jan. 3rd meeting.
- Amanda Gustafson noted a number of items in parks and rec. The Winter brochure opened today. The craft fair is coming up on Dec. 2. Over 120 vendors signed up; however, only 63 vendors were accepted. Names of remaining vendors were turned over to the Wildfire Arts Center. Cocoa with Santa coming up on Sunday, December 3.
- The Rec Center held the first "Kids After Dark". 93 kids attended; this will be offered quarterly and may be separated by age and time (e.g., earlier in the evening for younger kids).

7. Committee updates

- No committee updates.

8. Adjourn

- L. Roth motioned to adjourn meeting; C. West seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

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