



**Garden
Spot of
Colorado**

PORT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Town Board Room
807 Mountain Avenue
Town of Berthoud, Colorado
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 - 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

A. Call to Order – The PORT Committee meeting was called to order by L. Roth at 6:02pm.

B. Roll Call

- Lauren Roth – Chair – Here
- Carolyn Hobson – Vice Chair – Here
- Anna Murphy – Secretary – Here
- Callie West – Here (virtual)
- Kari Weisen – Here
- Sean Henry – Here (virtual)
- *Vacant* – Not Here
- Audrey Roth, BYAC Liaison – Not Here – Cloud Clark (BYAC substitute) - Here
- Karl Ayers, Trustee Liaison – Here
- Keith Knoll, Staff Representative – Here

C. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, November 6, 2024

- K. Weisen motioned to approve the minutes from the Wednesday, November 6, 2024 PORT Committee meeting. L. Roth seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

D. Public Comment – Non-Discussion Items

- Sarah Lincoln (virtual) for the PORT committee to consider planning for Newell Park as one of its 2025 priorities.

E. Discussion Items

- a. **2025 PORT Projects** – Keith Knoll, Public Works Operations Manager


2/5/25

- K. Knoll summarized the 2025 PORT projects, pending Town Board approval:
 1. **Pioneer Park** – A GAGA ball pit will be installed.
 2. **Hillsdale Trail Flooding Improvements** – There are plans for improvements along the west side of the trail, as water from the east and west is converging at the trail and causing flooding. Engineers will need to evaluate the design with additional development planned south of the trail. It also gets muddy by the tree nursery. Flooding improvements include increasing the size of the berm along the west and lifting the trail higher, as well as possibly converting a section to concrete. One PORT committee member noted it is unfortunate there has to be concrete there. Additionally, there will be work on fixing the docks.
 3. **Berthoud Reservoir South Gate** – The gate will move closer south at the back entrance to improve security.
 4. **Park Signage** – Signs will be installed at Town Park and the Berthoud Bike Park.
 5. **Community Garden Project** – This project is currently under construction by park staff. Staff selected rough cedar wood garden beds, 24-36 in. high. This is what Berthoud Local has had success with. Soil for the beds and ground coverings were being installed today. The materials for the beds cost approx. \$20k, with the total project around \$35-40k. There is also an arbor, split-rail fencing, and pergola. PORT committee members said the Community Garden looks great.
 6. **North Berthoud Parkway Trial Connection** – Construction is expected to start late January/early February 2025. Staff are meeting with a contractor on a weekly basis. Some of Berthoud Pkwy will be concrete, and some will be crusher fines. They are also working on a trail to the Bike Park. Question regarding whether there are any future talks about having a bridge across Hwy 287? This is very expensive. They are not considering a cantilever anymore. It was noted that the junction of 10E and Hwy 287 is still under review. There was also discussion about which roads (e.g., CR 4E, Hwy 287, etc.) may be affected by the Ludlow Farm development.
 7. **Farmstead Adaptive Playground** – This is the playground led by Berthoud resident Lauren Bowling. The Town is holding parts for the playground but has no part in this playground. Work on the playground is expected to start around May 2025. It is still unclear whether people will be able to use the playground upon completion because developments may not allow people into undeveloped areas (need to build it out).
 8. **Bike Park Improvements** – Staff are meeting with consultants next week. This is the same group that built the current park. Staff are hoping to add a pavilion and additional kid-focused skill progression areas, maybe some additional trails with jumps. There are no plans yet for trails to be built along the west side of the bike park. This would come when Richardson Park gets developed.
 9. **Major Crossings** – Hwy 287 & Berthoud Pkwy crossing. Town staff have applied for a Federal grant, including redesigning the whole intersection at Hwy 287 & Berthoud Pkwy. This would be an underground design. CDOT doesn't have plans to work on this for 15 years. To enact this change, the Town will have to pay if they want it sooner. Also, it was noted the Spartan Avenue Railroad Crossing would begin at earliest, end of 2025/early 2026.

10. **Jaskowski Property Conceptual Design** – The concepts/ideas will go before board in early 2025.
11. **Berthoud Arboretum Construction Docs (CDs)** – Staff are hoping for 60% completion of CDs by the end of Feb./early Mar. 2025 to better understand cost, with CDs finished late summer 2025. Staff are still reviewing whether to keep or remove the pond from the design. The original idea with the pond was that it would be used for irrigation purposes (vs. a feature pond). It may be more efficient and cost effective to create a new pump system and tie into the ditch with automatic gates (“ditch riders”). Additionally, the groundwater is lower there (~8ft), so pond would be maybe 5-6’ deep. Finally, long-term maintenance costs associated with the pond can be pretty high and require labor over the years. One PORT member was hopeful there could be a water feature at the arboretum. PORT members also discussed sidewalk crossings, and K. Knoll noted there are numerous flashers beacons planned throughout town next year. The unofficial left lane into the Berthoud Recreation Center (BRC) will be re-done. The Town is looking at the 10th and Spartan intersection. A PORT member noted the juniper trees keep roads icy with shade, and it is hard to see cars coming.
12. **Waggener Farm Park** – Staff had their first meeting with the group that designed the BRC pool to discuss the outdoor pool conceptual design and hope to discuss this design with PORT and the Town Board in Feb. 2025. They would like this to be a generational pool and are working through code changes and how best to tie the outdoor pool in the current rec center. The current thinking is to enter through the BRC and then go to pool. Considerations include expected number of visitors, number of bathrooms, showers, whether to have a separate facility, long-term plans/what else could be done with the property, etc. Staff would like to extend the grass lawn, have a zero-entry area, lap lanes, etc...The goal is to complete the pool by summer 2026 if everything moves as it should.
13. **Newell Farm Concept** – This is on the list, and staff will continue to evaluate as they knock off other items on their 2025 priority list.
 - **Thanks to Keith.** PORT committee members expressed thanks to Keith and his team for all their work. Everyone was pleased to see the progress, and there is lots getting done in the next two years.

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

- K. Knoll – The Parade of Lights will be held this Saturday in Fickel Park. Santa will be in the fire truck and will turn the lights on. Also, the Town is hosting a holiday lights contest.
- K. Knoll & L. Roth need to connect on a PORT meeting for a report.
- No January PORT committee meeting is scheduled. PORT will meet again in February.

G. Committee updates

- C. Clark – BYAC met this morning. No additional comments.
- L. Roth – Question about Snow Fest. There will not be one this year. Question about status of vacant position. No information yet.

- K. Ayers – Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC) gave their yearly presentation to the board on Nov. 12, and they do a lot of public outreach via website, at events, etc. BYAC and Tree Advisory committee have provided information at booths at community events (e.g., Berthoud Day, Oktoberfest). PORT was open to further outreach, whether having a booth or coordinating with Tree Advisory Committee or the BRC.

H. Adjourn

- A. Murphy motioned to adjourn the meeting, and K. Weisen seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 5, 2024 - 6:00 pm. If you require a special accommodation, please contact the Town Clerk 24 hours in advance at (970) 532-2643.