

**COMMUNITY TRAILS COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

This meeting was conducted as a video conference meeting in a remote location. All votes during the meeting were conducted by roll call.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Community Trails Committee of the City of Highland was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Novak through video conference.

Present:	Chair	Jeff Novak
	Vice Chair	Robert La Chausse
	Member	Richard Bowman
	Member	Brent Merideth
	Member	Matt Myers

Staff Present: Lawrence Mainez, Community Development Director  
Salvador Quintanilla, Associate Planner  
Camille Goritz, Administrative Assistant III

Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeff Novak.

**COMMUNITY INPUT (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)**

None

**REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY TRAILS COMMITTEE**

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2021-2022.

Community Development Director Mainez gives an overview of the Brown Act and opened the floor for nominations for the seat of Chair and called for a vote from the members.

Member La Chausse nominated member Novak for the seat of Chair. All members agreed with the election of member Novak to the seat of Chair. Vote passed 5-0.

Community Development Director then turned the election for Vice Chair over to Chair Novak.

Chair Novak nominated member La Chausse for the seat of Vice Chair. All members agreed with the election of member La Chausse to the seat of Vice Chair. Vote passed 5-0.

The election for Chair and Vice Chair was closed by Chair Novak.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. Minutes from the March 12, 2020 Special Meeting.

**A MOTION** was made by Member La Chausse, seconded by Member Bowman, to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote, 5-0.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

Community Development Director presented the staff report.

Member Merideth asked how many duties were removed when the change was made within the last couple years to take responsibility from the trails committee and put it into the Planning Commission? Were there other roles and responsibilities removed from this list that you have?

Community Development Director Mainez stated in terms of policy and creating those maps, the Planning Commission will focus with trails when they deal with new development. Your responsibility as the committee is mostly maintenance and getting the public out there to participate in our trails and then receive feedback if anything is damaged and needs replacing.

Member Novak stated maybe that can be an agenda item regarding maintenance and where we are spending our money and budget. Is that possible for next time?

Community Development Director Mainez stated that is a good suggestion. In fact, I'll be starting the budget process very soon and once I do that, I will figure out a timetable to come and present to you.

### 4. Dennis Johnson Memorial

Associate Planner Quintanilla presented the staff report.

Member Merideth stated back when I was on before the problem was that the land was privately owned, but it sounds like that is not the issue anymore. The city now has the land to do the trail, but it's technically difficult due to cost is what it sounds like.

Community Development Director Mainez stated that is a great question, but at this time we do not have the answer. This is more of a receive and file. We just want to honor Dennis Johnson and show he was appreciated as a member of the Community Trails Committee.

### 5. Update on the Recreational Trails Grant (Natural Parkland Trail)

Associate Planner Quintanilla presented the staff report.

Community Development Director Mainez stated we were very instrumental and fortunate to receive this grant of \$1.5 million. We were happy to get the funding. It is going to take a couple of years to get to a point where this is finished, but Associate Planner Quintanilla is going to bring parts and pieces to you for input. We will be bringing back educational signage, Amphitheater, and the location of the new trail alignments that connect a couple of trails. Again, this is all within our general plan policy area, so there's really nothing that we need to take back to the Planning Commission.

Chair Novak asked do we have an estimated start date?

Associate Planner Quintanilla stated not at this time. We are still working with the State to finish documentation.

Community Development Director Mainez stated I think we have till September to finish up most of what the State is asking. After September that we can start looking at construction contracts and possibly early next year we will be bringing exhibits and materials related to construction.

Member Merideth stated this is terrific, I really appreciate it. What happens to the existing markers that are there? Are they going to be replaced?

Associate Planner Quintanilla stated eventually the existing markers depending on what the community decides to do, either replace them to something newer or keep it to the historic design that they have already.

Member Novak stated ok, there will be graffiti and they get defaced and perhaps going forward be able to maintain them, because I know several trails, we see that.

Associate Planner Quintanilla stated we will be using the graffiti coding on top of that.

Community Development Director Mainez stated building parks and trails is a wonderful thing when you have the resource. It is that long term maintenance that comes afterwards that that's the problem, and that's why when we go through the budget cycle, we are replacing some of these signs currently. It is one of those things I will be looking at. We will be looking at a different material something like metal or another type.

Member Merideth asked what the bench exists where the trail ends to the furthest point that loops around from the green back to the yellow is?

Community Development Director Mainez stated no, it should loop around and connect at the top. We want to put a connection, but we did not want to be too specific, so we just did the switch back.

Member Merideth stated ok, so that switch back in not necessarily the final.

Community Development Director Mainez stated we just want to try to get some additional lineal footage.

Member Merideth stated with the educational perennation area, there has been limitations of what can be done to a natural area. Was there a rough idea of what that would include? Would there be shade of any kind be allowed?

Community Development Director Mainez stated it does and it does not. We visited the site and there was a tree there so perhaps we can incorporate trimming that tree and try to preserve it for some shade. We do not want to put too many permanent structures up there that we would have to maintain long term.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Associate Planner Quintanilla discussed continuing Trails Day Planning discussion in future meetings.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chair Novak declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

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Camille Goritz,  
Administrative Assistant III

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Robert La Chausse,  
Community Trails Committee Chair