

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes – Special Meeting
January 27, 2015

Pursuant to the notice as required by law, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board of City of Ponca City, Oklahoma, convened in open session at 5:30 p.m., January 27, 2015, in the Barnes Room, City Hall, 516 E. Grand Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bivins, Moore, Riley, Throop, Young, and Polito.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cox, Troutman, and Wentroth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeremy Sacket, Leadership Class; Jim Sindelar, Director and Katie Goss, staff; citizens present; Steve Dye, Ponca City News; Beverly Bryant, TEAM Radio.

1. Call to Order

Riley called the meeting to order and asked those at the table to introduce themselves and their responsibilities.

2. A. Conduct a Public Hearing on Subparagraph (b) Hereof.

Riley asked Roy Pemberton to provide an overview of how the request to build a mountain bike trail started. Pemberton explained he started a Facebook page one year ago to see if there was enough interest and as of this day has over 300 likes for the Facebook page. He then connected with the Oklahoma Earthbike Fellowship and the group just connected with International Mountain Bicycle Association. The first big work day the group had at Eagle View, Kaw Lake, had twenty volunteers; however, this trail is a twenty minute drive outside of Ponca. The group would like to have something closer to town and are trying to get the community more active. The proposed location is between Wentz Camp and Hubbard Road and should provide a five to seven mile one way loop.

Comments in support of the proposed project were received from Darin Petty, Michael R. Morriss, Pat Gladd, Jeff Rawdon, John Shears, Casey Anderson, Aaron Reynolds, Earl Ball, Kevin Flashpohler, Christian Petty and George Davis. There were no citizens present in opposition to the proposed project.

Darin and Christian Petty, father and son, asked how long the trail would be and if it would extend to the other side of the lake. They wanted to be sure there are technical areas.

Aaron Reynolds commented there would be various skill levels and bail out areas along the trail

Mike Morriss commented there should be no shortage of experienced workers to build the trail.

John Shears, a former Ponca City resident, is an avid cyclist and travel the state to ride. Shears stated OEF will be here to help build the trails.

Sindelar commented the advisory board has looked at the proposed project and given approval for the request to go the City Commission for consideration. There will be License issued, which will allow the trail to be constructed and maintain. The trail will be open to the public. The intent is for the trail to be a pedestrian and mountain bike trail. This will not be an equestrian or motorized trail.

Riley asked the group in attendance if cyclist could coexist with cyclists. Ball commented as always pedestrians have the right of way.

George Davis stated he had visited with Chris Henderson some time ago about the possibility of developing a trail from Kygar Road to the lake giving kids access to Lake Ponca. Sindelar explained work is currently underway developing a plan for additional trails which would give kids access; however, this was a separate project.

Kevin Flashpohler asked about parking/access. Pemberton said there would be two trail heads one on Hubbard Road and in winter at Wentz Camp parking area. The city will be providing kiosks similar to the one located at the disc golf course; as well as directional signs, caution and skill levels.

There will be no fees charged and this is a "Ride at Your Own Risk" course. Shears said the course will be designed for users of all levels.

Earl Ball commented this project has been a dream of his for 20 years. He continued, stating thee have been mountain bike groups here before. This project will be a big experiment. The group will have to have focus – be organized, police the trail and maintain the trail. The trail will be a huge asset to the north end of the lake. Ball continued stating that building and maintaining the trail, if it works and the group gets it right, has the potential for expansion around the lake. Ball further commented that as far as tourism goes, this would have huge potential.

Riley asked what time frame the group is looking at. Once approved, Shears said they can build loops and build the trail in sections. Pemberton will be looking to local businesses for support. Aaron Reynolds asked Pemberton if there would be another give away with a big trail day like they had at Kaw Lake. Pemberton commented that was possible.

Ball asked about the possibility of getting an IMBA (International Mountain Bike Association) work team to help with the project. Since the lake is a water source, the project needs to be environmentally sound. Pemberton comment the OEF (Oklahoma Earthbike Association) is aware of what needs to be done. An IMBA work team is pretty expensive; however, Shears said IMBA has a design team and the group is looking into working with them. The group wants to keep the trail as natural as possible. The group does have IMBA as a resource and has had the new regional director here to look at the proposed area.

Al Moore, Advisory Board, commented it was obvious there is interest in the project and asked if there was anyone present who opposed the proposal. Casey Anderson said he was supportive of the project and had tried to figure out what the negatives of the project

might be. The area is currently underutilized; the biking area would not interfere with the fisherman.

Kara Polito, Advisory Board, asked what prevents any motorized vehicle from using the trail. Jeff Rawdon, OEF, commented there will not be any practical way to block off access. If they want to get in they will; however, the trail is too narrow for ATV's and too tight with too many curves for motorcycles to have any fun. The biggest deal for this trail is getting volunteers. Rawdon commented the worst case is after it is built there is no interest and not maintained. If not maintained the trail will turn back to nature quickly.

Trail runners are potential users of the proposed trail and if the trail is built properly there is race potential for the trail. Pemberton said he could see holding weekend camps. Ball commented the group needs to build the trail and develop a strong organization to hold events for the community. Rawdon said Oklahoma City trails see a lot of kids, as well as families, using the trails. There is a national "Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day" which be organized locally to bring awareness.

Mike Morriss express concern about deer hunting. Sindelar stated there is No Hunting allowed at Lake Ponca. Hunting is only allowed on private land.

Ball asked when the proposal would be presented to City Commission and Sindelar commented it would be presented the first commission meeting in February.

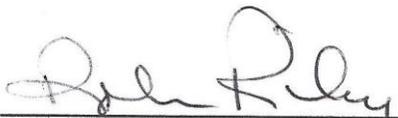
Riley closed the Public Hearing.

2. B. Consider and vote on a recommendation to issue a License to the Ponca City Mountain Bike Society to construct and maintain a Mountain Bike Trail located at Lake Ponca. Riley asked the board for a motion. A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Throop to recommend the city issue a License to the Ponca City Mountain Bike Society (OEF/IMBA) to construct and maintain a Mountain Bike Trail at Lake Ponca on Snake Road from Wentz Camp north to Hubbard Road. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Moore, Riley, Throop, Young, and Polito. No – None. Abstention – None.

3. Adjourn

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded and the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:



Robin Riley, Chairperson



Minutes prepared by Katie Goss, staff

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| Name | Address | Organization |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Beverly Bryant | 102 E. Grand | Team Radio |
| Michael R. Morris | 567 W. Tower Rd | IMBA, OEF, & PCNBS |
| J. Wolfe | 2500 Bluestem Rd | ? |
| Alex Craven | 108 Victor St | |
| Steve Dik | | |
| Chris Baldoni | | |
| Darin Petty | | |
| Christain Petty | | |
| St. Kelly | | |
| Brady Ladner | | |
| Zac Ladner | 2116 Melrose | |
| Roy Pemberton | | |
| Kevin Flaspohler | | |
| PAT GLADD | | |
| JEFF RAWDON | | |
| John Shears | Edmond, OK | OEF |
| Cary Abraham | 1104 Kylan | OEF |
| Chad VanHoesen | 1205 El Camino | OEF |
| Aaron Peyralle | 2105 Kingston | |
| Natalie Hill | 244 Kymel | |
| Earl Bau | 2404 Donner Ave | OEF |
| Chris Mudd | 1216 Princeton | |
| Suzanne Derinney | 7 E. Hillcrest | |
| George Davis | | |
| Kyran Lynn Davis | | |
| W.C. Fuller | 3015 L.A. CANN | |