

Minutes of the GEM Committee – December 6, 2007

1. Attendance: (13 asked to be excused) – Present: Steve Ransom, Steve Burr, Ken Camello, Terry Davis, Jim Ormsbee, Paul DeLong, Ross Mertlich, Denzel Rowland, Roland Bringhurst, Sharon Vause, Richard Webb, Shanna Francis, Pam Kramer, Kathy Allen, Steve Clarke.

Steve Clarke welcomed people attending for the first time:

- a. Steve Ransom – Pioneer Bible Camp
 - b. Ken Camello – GEM Committee
 - c. Terry Davis – Ogden Nordic group
 - d. Roland Bringhurst – State Parks and Recreation
 - e. Richard Webb – Back Country Horsemen
 - f. Steve Burr, Director, Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (USU)
2. Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.
 3. Steve Clarke reported on the progress of the ordinances:
 - a. Sensitive Lands – Commissioners accepting email comment, not voted on yet.
 - b. Resort Zone – in work sessions with the Planning Commission.
 - c. TDR – not yet in work session.
 4. Steve Clarke reported on the Powder Mountain Rezone request – It has completed public hearings with the Planning Commission. They are expected to vote on it in their next meeting, December 10 (Monday) at 4:30 pm.
 5. The Committee had a discussion on forming subcommittees to address creating the recommendation. Steve Clarke indicated Paul Riley had suggested the approach. Several commented in support, none against. The following subcommittees were offered as a suggestion. Members will note that the subcommittees parallel the draft outline of the recommendation with two exceptions, Public Land use and Private facilities are suggested in different subcommittees, and management and funding are combined in one subcommittee.
 - a. Community Recreation Facilities (e.g. Parks, Swimming, Ice Rink, Community Center, ...)
 - b. Public Lands (e.g. Camping, Picnicking, Trails, Equestrian, Fishing, ATV, Snowmobile, Parking, Watersports, ...)
 - c. Private Facilities (e.g. Resorts, Camps, Swimming, Horseback riding, ...)
 - d. Tourism (e.g. Visitor Center, Reservations, Marketing, Education, ...)
 - e. Management and Funding (e.g. County, Special District, Fees, Taxes, RAMP, Philanthropy, ...)

During the subsequent discussion of issues it was noted by Richard Webb that roads, air quality, and water concerns are likely to become limiting factors and that perhaps a separate subcommittee should be established to form a position. Steve Clarke

encouraged the committee to note the concern and press those issues, which are likely to involve a good deal of professional research, towards the upcoming Master Plan effort.

The Committee accepted these definitions of subcommittees. Each member is asked to sign up for participation in one or more subcommittee. Please communicate your preferences to Steve Clarke by Monday December 10. Otherwise he will assign members to the subcommittees and indicate a temporary lead person to call the first meeting. Each subcommittee will establish their own leader/spokesman. The subcommittees will be called on in each subsequent GEM meeting to report on their work and to seek input from the larger group.

(Steve Clarke will publish separately a list of Subcommittee membership)

6. As requested in the last meeting, members reported issues in their areas of specialty to the group.
 - a. Buck Froerer had asked Steve Clarke to present new information to the Committee regarding Valley Elementary. The School Board has anticipated remodeling the school for some time. Plans have been drawn up, cost estimates provided. After review the Board is leaning toward leaving the current property and building a new school on property located at 1900 North and 5900 East (referred to as the Sontag property). The new property is about 10 acres, the old about 3.5 acres. Buck indicated that if this decision is concluded it would provide extra space for recreation facilities.
 - b. Pam Kramer presented (in exemplary detail) the issues of the Forest Service and DWR regarding public lands with some suggested remedies. Details were distributed in the meeting. Roland Bringhurst presented similar detailed issues for the State Parks and Recreation Snowmobile area (and boating management on Pineview). Of interest, he noted the Snowmobile parking area sits on about 5 acres of a 160 acre parcel and that expansion is being contemplated.
 - c. Ross Mertlich presented concerns, with assistance from Sharon Vause, on the local parks and Community Recreation Facilities, with some suggestions. Stephanie and Mike Loud had participated in formulating the response as well and also contributed a floor plan of the new Bountiful recreation center.

7. Other items:
 - a. Shanna Francis suggested we invite youth to be part of the Committee. Steve Clarke is looking for suggested approaches to make this happen.
 - b. Steve Burr, Director of the Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism for USU, made several comments (in retrospect we wish we had allocated more time for his input):
 - i. Citizens need to decide “what we want to become”.
 - ii. Groups like State Parks and Recreation might use clubs and associations, etc. to help with issues at sites like the snowmobile parking site.

- iii. The Committee might study other successful plans to get more input on formulating our recommendation. Steve Clarke asked Steve to assist by offering the Committee any references he could give and Steve agreed to do so.
 - iv. USU is potentially an excellent resource for work on some of the “limiting factors”, like traffic, water, and air pollution, although such work might take longer than if contracted to a consultant.
8. The Committee will work toward an update for the County Commissioners in late January. Diligence in the subcommittees will make this most effective. All members of the Committee are invited to the update.
9. The next meeting will be held **January 3rd at 5:00 PM** in the Huntsville Library.
10. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 PM.