

GEM Committee Minutes – April 4, 2012

1. Attendance: Jim Ormsbee, Steve Clarke, Eric Householder, Kent Lyons, Ross Mertlich, Richard Webb. Excused: Frank Cumberland, Ron Gleason.
2. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted as written.
3. The April 3rd Planning Commission meeting was reviewed:
 - a. CV-1, CV-2 (Chapter 18B) clean-up – modifications to the prologue, the formatting, and uses are proposed by staff. The Planning Commission felt a more thorough review was justified if such modifications were to be made, particularly in the rationale for two separate zones and discussion about the pages of uses. It was concluded the intent of the modifications was to quickly make it easier to read, and to modernize the language of uses, eliminating obsolete ones and combining redundant ones. The staff will simplify their changes and present it to the commission again, hopefully for a quick review and approval.
 - b. OV Pathways Master Plan – Justin Morris presented the work of the last 8 months with Richard Webb, Paul DeLong, Terry Davis, representatives of Wolf Creek and Powder Mountain, and others to make the master plan more closely reflect the GEM trails recommendations. The resulting plan accomplished that goal in the view of Steve Clarke (the only GEM attendee at the meeting). The text of the Master Plan also looked good except for the lack of a solid funding recommendation to handle trail maintenance. Staff agreed to consider the options more carefully and add a recommendation in that area.

It is also a concern to Steve that the plan does not address motorized trails. GEM recognized this need, but advocacy is limited and the group (including the County) did not want to address it.

The North Fork Park trails are not included in this master plan. Jennifer Graham has concluded a separate master planning process will be done for North Fork Park. This effort will allow planning in the spirit of GEM's recommendations – e.g. to plan with an integration of uses.
 - c. Node Study Timetable – Director Scott indicated that the staff will be prepared to review the work plan in a few weeks, possibly next month. Vice Chair, Pen Hollist (who conducted the meeting) gave impassioned remarks about the importance and urgency of this work. The remaining commissioners seemed to concur.
4. Demographics of the Wasatch Front – Steve reviewed Pam Perlich's (U of U) remarks about demographic projections for the State of Utah. The conclusion is that in 30 years Utah will be characterized by an older white population supported by minorities. Steve postulates the effect on Ogden Valley will be an acceleration of the trend of growth in the number of older residents

with a continued reduction in school age children.

5. USU's report on Pineview Water Quality was reviewed – The summary for GEM's purposes is that the great majority of nutrients (N and P) come to the reservoir during the spring run-off from sediment and dissolved fertilizer of various types. Ground water contributes a small percentage of intake water which has a disproportionate share of pollutants, many of which come from septic systems. Huntsville is the largest contributor. This means it would be useful to sewer the most dense areas, not less dense areas, and to focus on education regarding use of fertilizer and minimizing sediment in the water during spring runoff. The build-up of nutrients in the reservoir is neutralized in great measure when the water level is drawn down each fall. The greater the draw-down, the greater the benefit.
6. Sign Ordinance – A suggested work plan was reviewed. The next day Steve and Fred Smullin met to discuss implementation of the work plan and concluded:
 - a. Collect photos of existing signs in the Valley – Fred
 - b. Meet with County Staff to determine compliance/non-compliance of existing signs – Fred and Steve
 - c. Meet with at least one sign company who does internally and externally lit signs to discuss the ordinance and ways to create rural atmosphere – Steve lead (all invited)
 - d. Understand computerized signs – Fred
 - e. Meet with staff to discuss the issue and their view – Fred and Steve
 - f. Meet with business owners to determine their view of the proposed amendment and look for other issues they have with the sign ordinance – Steve lead
 - g. Draft the text amendment application, including examples – Fred
 - h. Round up the \$300 and submit the application – Steve lead
7. The next meeting will be held May 2nd at 5 pm in the Huntsville Library
8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00. Following adjournment we had a very interesting discussion about secondary and higher education issues related to Kimbal's work with Weber State.