

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019 AT TRINIDAD TOWN HALL, 409 TRINITY STREET

I. CALL TO ROLL/ROLL CALL (4:34 pm)

Committee Members Present: Kelly, Davies, Kenny
Alternate Committee Members: Laos
Committee Members Excused/Absent: Morehead, West, Brown
City Staff: Zetter, Naffah
HSU Students: Braziel, A. Brown, Olin, White

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 26, 2019

(Kenny/Kelly) moved to approve the March 26, 2019 minutes as submitted. *Motion passed unanimously (4-0).*

III. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

None

IV. STAFF/COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager Naffah stated all members will be signing a Code of Ethics document, however currently a new version is being composed. He confirmed the document will address both the City Council and committees. He indicated the document is expected to come before the Council in May for approval.

Davies stated the Short-Term Rental (STR) Resolution (2019-07), establishing the STR Advisory Committee, passed. Davies also confirmed that the Council discussed the application proposal for HCAOG funds to enhance crosswalk safety in the school zone, and they adopted resolution 2019-08 supporting the local Dungeness Crab Fishing industry. Davies also stated a Committee Resolution is being composed.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Committee member Kenny stated she made the observation that vegetation maintenance has begun on Trinidad Head. Committee member Laos and Planning Commissioner Kelly had nothing to report.

VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. HSU Students Support Regarding Trails Policy Development

A draft Trails Policy was provided, and the Committee agreed to review one section at a time.

HSU student Braziel advised that they included a "reference" section in the policy, listing the abbreviations. Davies stated that he likes the table on page 9 of the policy. Kelly echoed Davies statement and advised that she would like to see "day use" added. Laos stated that she likes the addition of "parking," as it has been an issue throughout the City.

Braziel stated that a small section on signage has been included in the draft policy, but the students made the suggestion that signage regulatory processes be omitted. Kelly and Laos both opined that trail names need to be cross-referenced with the General Plan, as it is common for a trail to have multiple names.

A discussion regarding the inactive stewardship program took place. Davies stated there were issues with the program expectations, but opined that the City could pursue starting a program again. Braziel suggested taking advantage of programs that provide equipment, due to the City's limited resources. Alternative programs for trail maintenance assistance were discussed, such as Inmate Work Programs. The Committee considered removing "maintenance work by prison crews is prohibited," but Kenny advised that the Committee should check the City's current policies before removing.

The financial aspect of the bench policy was discussed. The Committee agreed that it should be revisited and amended, if necessary, at a later time.

Braziel questioned the composition of the monitoring report, while adding that it should be included in the policy. Kenny confirmed a template was taken from the Land Trust, and modifications were made. Laos stated the Committee wants the students to review the template and offer improvement suggestions. Naffah stated that if there are means to identify issues, the City should seize the opportunity. Braziel noted the policy must be reviewed by the City's Attorney.

Davies advised that page 12 of the policy should state maintenance is performed by the City of Trinidad's "Public Works Department." The Committee discussed the bullet points on page 12, and confirmed that they are under consideration, as some address the same issue. Laos and Davies discussed the "agency name" and confirmed it would be appropriate to have it listed as "City of Trinidad."

Kenny questioned if the annual inventory report was the same as the monitoring report, on page 13. HSU student Olin indicated an annual inventory report would be conducted by the City's Public Works Department, and the monitoring report is a public resource. Kenny advised that the monitoring report was created to assist the Public Works Department. Olin stated that Public Works can review the monitoring reports and use them to guide their annual report. Naffah questioned the use of the term "renegade trails." Laos advised that they are now called "social trails." Kenny stated that "trail watch" should be changed to "trail stewards," on page 13.

The Committee discussed governmental jurisdictions, the inclusion of existing City codes, the Tsurai Management Area Advisory Plan, and the policy for Trinidad Head. Both Kenny and Laos agreed that the Trails Policy should reference additional documents.

The Committee discussed scaling down the safety section in the policy. A. Brown stated the safety section could be listed as a recommendation. Laos discussed the problem that the Rancheria encountered with the lack of house numbers, stating that it caused problems distinguishing sites of emergency. Due to this, she stated that the inclusion of GIS coordinates could be beneficial, or the policy could state to follow the City's Emergency Plan. Kelly stated she will review the General Plan to obtain the GIS coordinates, if available. Kelly questioned the amount of crime on the trail. Laos confirmed that individuals break into cars on Scenic Dr.

The Committee discussed funding on page 16. Braziel stated the Committee needs to sell the importance of the trails to the Council and public, because as they degrade the public will lose out. Kelly opined that the American Trails Association's documentation would be beneficial for the Committee to review, and suggested an annual fundraiser. Laos advised that seeking outside funding is key, as T.O.T. will fluctuate.

The Committee discussed the importance of photos, specifically how they are beneficial in identifying risks. The need to identify risks with markers was debated. A discussion regarding the importance of visible information, such as the presence of a kiosk, was discussed.

The Committee confirmed with the students that they will be providing a presentation to the City Council on May 8, 2019.

Public Comment:

S. Madrone (Greater Trinidad Area Resident) provided comments throughout the meeting, as summarized. He found the background section to be culturally insensitive, as Trinidad was not discovered in 1595; he suggested the Committee work on rewriting it. In regards to funding, he suggested that the City's Grant Administrator apply for grants, instead of using 10% of the City's budget. He also mentioned the importance of having regular volunteer meeting times, as volunteers are more likely to participate. He further mentioned that Inmate Work Programs, such as SWAP, are a good resource and allows for skill building. Madrone stressed the importance of trails, as they bring people together. He also discussed the City's liability, stating that once a risk is brought to the City's attention and not addressed, liability falls upon the City.

VII. REQUEST FOR FUTURE ITEMS

Review of the Committee Charter and discuss/draft a resolution.
Discuss the nomenclature of trails.
Van Wycke Trail

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm. Next meeting scheduled for 4:30 on May 21, 2019.

Submitted by:

Angela Zetter
Administrative Assistant

Approved by:



Tom Davies
Council Member