

MINUTES
CAMP VERDE TRAILS AND PATHWAYS COMMISSION
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Tuesday, January 8, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Minutes are a **summary** of the actions taken. They are not verbatim.
Public input is placed after Commission motions to facilitate future research.
Public input, where appropriate, is heard prior to the motion.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Chairperson Haddon, Vice Chairperson Reddell, Members Mitton, Piner and Whitt were present; Members Strubhar and Richmond were absent.

Also Present: Administrative Assistant Jessie Jones and Recording Secretary Margaret Harper.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by Haddon.

4. Consent Agenda – All those items listed below may be enacted upon by one motion and approved as Consent Agenda Items. Any item may be removed from the agenda Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a committee member so requests.

a. **Approval of the Minutes:**

1) Regular Session – December 11, 2007

b. **Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**

1) Regular Session – February 12, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

On a motion by Piner, seconded by Mitton, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

5. Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda

There was no public input.

6. Update and discussion with guest speakers Bill Stafford and Judy Adams from the USFS Coconino Forest Ranger Station regarding Jackson Flat.

Chairperson Haddon said he had a report that both of the subject guest speakers had called to say they could not make the meeting as scheduled. Haddon suggested that the Commission consider drafting a letter to invite them to the next meeting, adding that it was recommended that the letter might want to "copy the Town Council, maybe even a member or two of the Arizona Delegation to Washington, to at least put the Forest on notice that we are not going to just lay down and play dead on this item, and that we are going to seek higher powers if we don't find a resolution." Haddon opened a discussion on the suggested letter of invitation; Reddell suggested also copying the Red Rock Ranger District Manager. There was a brief discussion on possible reasons for the subject speakers not being able to attend this meeting. As for the invitation letter, it was suggested to not "put all our guns on the table at one time, just bring in one member of the Town Council, Town Attorney, or somebody, and save some bullets for when we really get after them." Haddon said that by addressing it to one member of the Delegation, "that might indicate to them that we have communication with one of the offices that makes a difference to their budget and so on, and that somebody is watching in Washington what they are doing and at least get them to take us more seriously."

Referring to the portfolio of many years of interest compiled by Reddell and previously discussed, there was further discussion regarding possibly inviting three of the past Chairpersons to the meeting because of their involvement in the past history of the Jackson Flat issue, including Suzy Burnside and Ron Smith; it was also suggested that perhaps others could be invited as well, perhaps some past Mayors. Reddell advised the members that she had found out today, had been told and has requested some written documentation, that the

public school across the street from Jackson had an Intergovernmental Agreement with the U.S. Forest regarding Jackson Flat for educational purposes. Reddell said that the information came from a very reliable past School Board Member who was on the Board at that time; Reddell will share any information she is able to gather.

Staff tried to suggest that the discussion may be getting off the agenda; Haddon stated that the discussion is "exactly on the agenda, the discussion item is Jackson Flat; we don't have Bill Stafford and Judy Adams here to also consult with, but the item is Jackson Flat, and we are discussing our strategy of inviting Bill and Judy back again and what items that we are going to be bringing up to them when we do."

The discussion then continued with a question as to whether it is known exactly the position the Forest Service and the Tribe are at right now. Haddon said that all that is known is that according to Stafford "it is in the works, and that sometimes it takes a number of years, and that it also has to be passed by Congress to allow land to be transferred to private ownership, which is what it would be." There was also a question whether anyone has talked to the Tribal Council regarding that issue. Haddon said that the \$10,000 grant that had been given to the Forest Service was to cover Jackson Flat, and in his conversation with Bill Stafford it came out that the Tribe had some kind of prior commitment by the Forest Service, so it was questionable whether "we could even do it or not." Haddon said that is when Reddell got the documentation together "to prove that you can't say that that was prior to our interest." The discussion also reviewed the history of other trails that were being worked on in addition to the Jackson Flat area, referring to the historical documents portfolio. Mitton commented that he believes the Committee will not be able to successfully combat the land sale, or swap, or whatever they are dealing with the Indians; it will take the Town to fight that battle. Also, in Mitton's opinion, talking to the Indians, or the Tribe, in his past experience an agreement to put a trail down there means nothing; they could wake up one morning and decide, no, that's it, if they own it. Mitton referred to what happened in Pinetop; there was a little lake that the Indians took over. The people woke up one morning and were told by the Indians, "you're outta here," and they were out.

Haddon said he has spoken to the Town Council on two occasions; once when he was giving a Quarterly Report, and on another occasion when the Mayor asked for a packet and was given one. The Mayor was very much aware that the Town in the past had expressed interest in Jackson Flat. Haddon acknowledged that once a plan of action is agreed upon by the Commission, then it is up to the Town to implement such a plan.

Haddon said that by general consensus a letter will be drafted, and Reddell will work with him on it; Haddon reviewed points to be made in the letter to the parties at the Forest Service setting forth the arguments to be made and the questions to be answered, including when and where the agreement was initiated with the Tribe. After discussing whether to direct staff to contact the Clerk's Office regarding preparing the letter and its appropriateness, Haddon decided that he personally will contact the Clerk's Office to confirm the procedure.

7. Update and discussion by Bea Richmond regarding the Dead Horse State Park Trails Coalition followed by possible discussion of the report.

Bea Richmond was absent; there was no one else who had any input to offer.

8. Update and discussion by Bill Mitton regarding the proposed Ryal Canyon Trailhead.

Mitton said he has heard from Blair Jenner that Jenner and Dee Hines had met and discussed how they could make it happen, whether it would be a land swap, to purchase it outright, all the different scenarios and what each would be willing to do was discussed. They agreed to follow up on the issue after the first of the year; Jenner told Mitton he will let him know.

Mitton said he understands Jenner wants it to happen, and the Forest Service wants it to happen. Mitton reminded the members that Jenner is a businessman; he will not give anything away.

9. Update and discussion on the draft Trails and Pathways Policy.

Member Piner said that one of the items discussed at the Work Session was building a Glossary; she has been working toward that. Two other issues Piner would like the Commission to begin to work on would be doing an inventory of what trails and pathways and trailheads currently exist, and to eventually start putting together a "wish list," or proposed ideas for trails. Piner has taken photographs of trails in Flagstaff, the entries and signage, for ideas to include in the physical portions. There was a brief review of the trails currently being wished for, including the General Crook, Woodcutter's, Jackson Flat, Ryal Canyon Trailhead, and Copper Canyon, and in which order they should be considered. Pinal said she would like to see those five plans briefly outlined as well as existing trails that the Town has worked on, adding that another Work Session might be helpful to keep moving forward.

There was comment that a final draft of the Policy had been emailed to Lynda Moore, approximately a month ago; Haddon said that the members will not be getting copies unless they request them from Moore. Haddon instructed Jones to get copies printed, and mail a copy to each Commissioner if they have not picked them up within a week or so. There was also a discussion regarding not making the "wish list" a part of the Trails & Pathways Policy.

10. Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.

There was no public input.

11. Commission Informational Reports

The members discussed items to be brought back for the next agenda, specifically Items 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Whitt commented on the handout she had distributed to each member prior to the meeting being convened.

Piner apologized for being absent from the last meeting; she had been called out of town.

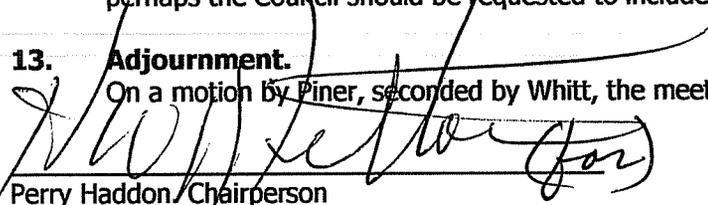
Haddon said that his new endeavor will be having a Folk Music Night this Saturday at 7:00 p.m.; everyone is welcome to attend. Haddon added an apology for cutting the Recording Secretary off short, that he did not mean to offend, but said that it is the Chair's decision that the discussion was according to the agenda.

12. Staff Report and discussion.

Jones reported on her research on a file cabinet as had been requested by the Chairperson. Jones said that there was nothing budgeted for office supplies for the Trails Commission. Haddon explained in detail what he had requested on a couple of occasions as well as the reasons for the request; that was followed by a general discussion of the benefit of having a file set aside in a Town office for the Commission documents. Haddon suggested that perhaps the Council should be requested to include some budget funds for such equipment.

13. Adjournment.

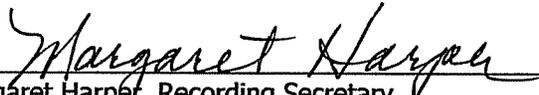
On a motion by Piner, seconded by Whitt, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.


Perry Haddon/Chairperson

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the Trails & Pathways Commission of the Town of Camp Verde during the Regular Session of the Trails & Pathways Commission of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on the 8th day of January 2008. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 12th day of Feb., 2008.


Margaret Harper, Recording Secretary