

Minutes
Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee
January 16, 2025

In attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Jim Deshler, Mark Martin, Susan McDowell, Janette Shaffer (5:41- 6:30 PM), and Greg Rouleau (5:41-6:07 PM)

Guests: Amanda Gustin and Carie Rouillard

1. **Call to Order:** 5:41 pm. Late start due to technical issues
2. **Adjustments to Agenda:** SnoBee's update - Greg.
3. **Agenda Items:**

Communication Agreement & Mission Statement – Reading

Approval of Minutes- November 21, 2024. Incorrect spelling of Janette's name noted. Motion- Greg: Approve Minutes. Seconded - Susan. All in favor motion passes.

Sno-Bee Update: Greg submitted for Council approval the annual Property Owner Permission Form. Mark Cote will ensure all required signs are posted on the Cow Pasture property and that the gate is open. Mark will be training someone else to take over pre and post season work. December 15-April 15 is the permitted trail use season, assuming there is enough snow and trails are open. There hasn't been enough snow for grooming in this area.

ERSA Update and Decisions:

Routes, Signs and Trail names: The Committee reviewed the trail routes and names previously discussed and approved the sub-committee proposed locations of way finding signs with maps (5) and trail name signs (9). There was a discussion on renaming one of the trails after the SnoBees.

Motion – Greg. Rename a trail with a SnoBee related name. No seconded. Motion fails.

Motion – Jim. Accept the Trail Names, routes and locations of wayfinding signs discussed. Seconded Mark Martin. All in favor. Motion passes.

Chris will send the map with associated information to Zac Freeman (ApexTrails LLC) and will provide a list of boundary line adjustments that are needed.

ERSA Correspondence: The Sub-Committee is drafting a letter to the State to request that 3 trail projects (M2-1, M3 and S-2) not be completed at this time due to changes in circumstances.

Trail Work: The Committee will be completing trail work on the S3 (Ridgeline), S8 (Cow Pasture Loop) and M1-2 (Wolf Tree) trails. A Trail Day will be scheduled.

Tools: Jim finalized the purchase of trail tools.

Advisory Group Updates:

Invasive Plant Control: Susan has been in communication with the Fire Dept. and has obtained a permit to burn the buckthorn pile. The fee for the permit was waived. February 1st from 1:30 until fire is extinguished. In case of inclement weather (Wind) the burn date will be February 2nd @ 1:30.

Motion – Susan. Burn the buckthorn pile on the date(s) suggested. Jim. Seconded. All in favor motion passes.

Conservation & Access: Shout out to Mark for removing many downed trees along the Owl Trail. Mark will organize an Advisory Group meeting to discuss the S-1 Trail (Crow) entrance to the Pasture.

City Council Request: On January 28, 2025, the Committee will present the requested Committee Charge previously agreed upon. The Committee will take this opportunity to highlight goals and accomplishments.

Green-up and National Trails Days: Green-up Day activities in the Pasture conflict with other City-wide activities. National Trails Day could be an opportunity to highlight the new trail. Will be discussed 3-20-2025.

Committee Membership and Member Recruitment (1): Chris will revise the Committee expectations document for Committee review and approval. There is a need to list the skill sets /rolls that the Committee identified in a prior meeting that would be desirable skill set the Committee is looking for.

Adjourn:

Motion: Adjourn @ 7:00. Seconded Susan. All in favor. Motion passes.