

PARLEY'S RAILS, TRAILS AND TUNNELS [PRATT] COALITION

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2008

Time: 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Place: Salt Lake County Government Center located at 2001 South State Street, Room S1002
Robin Carbaugh conducted the meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions

PRATT Board Members Attending: Robin Carbaugh, Ken Jones, Milton Braselton, Rick Johnston, George Ramjoué, Lynne Olson, Steve Lester, Rita Lund, Helen Peters, and Steve Lester.

Excused: Matt Sibul, Suzanne Weaver, Juan Arce-Larreta, and Julie Peck Dabling.

Others in attendance: Brian Bonell, Lex Hemphill, Walt Gilmore, Rick Michael G. Kavanagh, Dan Bergenthal, Dell Cook, Steve Gilbert, Mike Horrocks, and Hank Welch.

2. Approval of July Minutes

Once a quorum of Board members arrived, they approved the minutes of the July Board meeting.

3. Project Reports:

Walt Gilmore provided an update of progress on Trail construction.

Phase II, I-215 Crossing: As reported last month, the general contractor was returning to the site to make some slope repairs to control erosion and stabilize the slopes with rock. This work was completed along with clearing the drainage pipes, so they are no longer clogged with debris. Fender board and sealant were installed along the highway, and a new grate was installed to prevent debris from clogging the pipe again. The Trail was swept of rocks and debris. Walt said the fence around the re-vegetation area will stay for another growing season and he plans to drill-seed that area again this fall to guarantee its success.

Phase III, Parley's to Tanner Trail Segment: Brian Bonell from Lochner talked about the areas where Kleinfelder did some soil drilling and bore logs. They mobilized a small drilling rig, but where they had to go to access the trail was remote. Although they tried to use the existing access trails, there were some very dense areas where they had to flatten the grade and clear the way. A significant section was graded and some Oak Brush trees were removed. Lochner will look into stabilizing the disturbed soils immediately before fall and winter. Robin said that, in future, the contractors should be sensitive to the existing environment. She said this is a priority for PRATT and Salt Lake County. Walt said the County will make sure the soils are stabilized and will start by putting erosion control blankets or mulch down now.

Rick Johnston, George Ramjoué, Robin, Dell and Walt attended the UDOT plan in hand meeting on Aug 12. Plans are at 30-40%. Brian noted comments: They discussed environmental commitments to the historic elements of the park, especially environmental issues at Mary's Spring. Dell said that Rick Graham has a meeting on Friday with Mayor Becker about the impact on the park. Dell said we need to do everything we can to minimize the impact on the trees. Salt Lake City is finalizing a consultant team to do a baseline study of the entire park; a Master Plan of how it should be used; and a management plan of how it is to be managed in perpetuity. The City is concerned that the cart is before the horse in designing the Trail before the Master Plan is even done. The message is that we better be very careful in coordinating that. Brent Beardall from Salt Lake County Flood Control is still designing the detention basin, Val Pope is in charge of that for the City, and Dell has advised him to slow that down. Dell is

finalizing the stakeholders list, in anticipation of a kick off meeting in September. Then they can meet with PRATT, Lochner, and the people doing the detention basin. Helen applauded the intent to create a Master Plan for the Nature Park.

Brian said they intend to grade the Trail around the aqueduct area so people can still access areas they are used to visiting. Dell is concerned that the Trail, which is located between the existing park road and the aqueduct, will block off visual access because of its elevated height. He said the Trail needs to be down at grade. Rick asked if we could keep the vertical alignment as close to the ground as possible. Lochner will work to modify the vertical curves to get the trail closer to the existing grade. Brian also said there won't be fences along the Trail, so physical access to the aqueduct will not be a problem.

Milton asked about the purpose for these cuts and fill. Brian said it was driven by the need to design to AASHTOE standards for accessible grades. Walt asked how steep the path would be by the aqueduct if we were to get the Trail closer to the existing grade. Bryan said the slope is at 5% now, and it could go to 7%.

Lochner will be preparing the Plans, Specifications & Cost Estimates for the project by end of September 2008 and will submit documents to UDOT for a review by mid-October 2008. The schedule is to have all bid documents ready by the end of December 2008. Rick asked when they would flag the trail alignment. Brian said the stakes are in now.

Phase IVb, Segment through Sugarhouse Park:

This phase is slowly progressing. The right-of-way plans went through the Transportation Committee last Thursday with no negative response, so we assume the Committee approved the transfer of properties that will allow the trail to proceed. Walt said he still hoped to advertise the segment at the same time as the Draw.

Phase IVa, The Draw at Sugar House:

Walt said the Plan in Hand submittal for the Draw had been received from ArcSitio. Steve Gilbert said that Pat Johanson had been in town for a week to prepare the submittal. He presented two new models for parts of the Draw. One was for the lily bulb, which he described as a gateway to the project. It is a replication of the canyons of the Wasatch. The concept was inspired by pioneer journals, which describe the difficulty of travelling through the canyons into the Great Salt Lake valley. The sculptures will also provide a place from which to look at the sleigh-riding hill and the mountains, and will double as a play ground. At this point, the trail is 12' wide; the canyon formations are 12-15' wide and 6.5' tall. They follow the change in elevation down into the Park. The pathway forms the Segó lily stem. At the plaza, each petal of the lily is different, representing images and experiences from Utah's pioneer history.

As reported last month, meetings to finalize the easement agreement with Woodbury Corporation were cancelled. This is a serious concern for all partners.

Phase V, Highland to the Jordan River:

Our consultant is waiting for the cities and UTA to put together an investment study group. Walt reported that UTA is talking with South Salt Lake to buy Workman Park. And property to the south. They are interested in using the space for engine maintenance and storage. Their plans would require an adjustment to the alignment for Parley's Trail, but it should still land in the County park on the WVC side of the River.

The Board is still seeking funds to complete our portion of the touchdown on the east side of the Roper Yard.

4. Monthly Updates:

Governmental Relations: Helen asked about sending letters to political candidates regarding their interest and commitment to trails, and Parley's Trail in particular.

Outreach and Public Relations: There was an article about Parley's Trail in the Sugar House Journal. Lynne asked for recent photos of trail activities to use in a new handout for the annual appeal letter. Brian Bonell has delivered an updated map of the trail through Parley's Park, which will be featured on the PRATT website. Lynne asked for a paragraph that describes the current status of Phase III.

Fundraising: Our fundraising goals keep going up with the increased cost of materials. PRATT has submitted applications for assistance from the National Park Service RTCA Program, the Union Pacific Foundation, and the 2008-09 Board Fellows Program. Lynne distributed CD's with information about past fundraising efforts.

Volunteer Coordination: Steve Lester said he had collected \$85 in donations on the Fourth of July. He led a discussion about the PRATT talking points that he prepared for volunteers to use when they work at a special event. The group offered suggestions for "word-smithing" the document.

Treasurer's Report: Helen reported the ending balance for PRATT's bank accounts. At the end of July, the checking balance was \$5,954.57 and the balance in savings was \$27,976.43. The only expenditure in August was a reimbursement of Patricia Johanson's travel expenses.

5. Board members discussed PRATT's Goals for 08-09:

Helen noted that all the goals identified during the Board retreat can be organized under four categories: Board Development; Fundraising; Volunteer Management and Community Outreach; and Trail Construction. The majority of members felt our goal for '08-'09 should be to put a fundraising strategy in place. Robin asked Walt to rank our projects according to which is coming up first, and tell us if there is a need for additional funding for that part of the project.

George said that this process is essentially the creation of a work program, and recommended that we brainstorm strategies for reaching our goal for each segment. Doing this will give focus to volunteer efforts and outreach. The next Executive Committee meeting will focus on a fundraising strategy. Robin will facilitate this discussion at the next Executive Committee meeting.

6. Other Business:

Rita said we have received our charitable solicitation permit. She also mentioned that the Canyon Rim Community Council has a proposal for using a plot of land where the I-80 off ramp ends on 23rd S and Heritage Way. It is UDOT property, but the Community Council has \$1 /yr lease and uses the space for a welcome sign. They want to put in a park & ride lot for the Trail, however the UDOT lease does not allow for public access. The contact is Amy McConkie at CRCA.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 24th, 11:30 a.m. at the County Govt Center, Room S1002 in the northwest corner of the ground floor of the South Building.