December 2020 Membership Meeting

Virtual Meeting – 10 December 2020

Barber Pool Conservation Area
Photo Courtesy of Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands
Agenda

• Welcome and Meeting Process
• Harris Ranch Elementary School – Project Update
• Annual Meeting and Election
• Barber Pool Advisory Council - Update
• Transportation – Annual NA submittal to City for prioritization to ACHD
• Parks and Trails – Gateway Reserve
• Development – Town Center planning
• Neighborhood Grant prioritization
Harris Ranch Elementary School

Katie Swain, BVNA Director
Harris Ranch Elementary - Updates

• December 4th charrette included:
  • Design features, build out for @ 450-500 students.
  • Volunteer feedback included discussion of safety, privacy, parent drop off and community usage.

• Both Boise School District and Le Nir waiting on signed MOU

• Next steps:
  • Architects to fine tune designs, work within budget provided
  • Next charrette meeting in early February

• Comments, feedback? Please email Board@bvnaboise.org
Annual Meeting & Election

Gary Veasy, BVNA Secretary
Annual Meeting and Election

Postcards mailed this week to all residents

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS** Five Director seats are up for election. Directors serve a two-year term and invest up to 8-12 hours per month (including monthly meetings) interacting with the various entities that impact the Barber Valley. You can serve in any capacity that interests you (i.e. parks/trails, development, transportation, emergency management, or general support).

If you are interested in serving on the BVNA Board, please email a bio and short paragraph describing your community service interests to: Board@BVPNABois.org by January 6th.

Election voting will be conducted online due to COVID-19 restrictions. Directions will be forthcoming from BVNA by email, social media, and our website.

**MONTLY MEETINGS** Meetings take place the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM (normally in the Mill District clubhouse but now virtual). Meeting schedules and minutes are posted on our website for your information.

**STAY IN TOUCH - BVPNABois.org** Sign up for our mailing list on the Contact Page. We also post on Nextdoor & Facebook @Barber Valley Living

Online ballot developed

**BVNA Board Ballot – 2021-2022 Term**

Given the pandemic meeting restrictions, BVNA’s annual meeting will be conducted virtually on Microsoft Teams, and a digital ballot will be used to elect our directors for the 2021-2022 term.

In accordance with the BVNA Bylaws, the Board is required to conduct a meeting of its membership annually during the month of January for the purpose of electing Board Directors who serve a two-year term. The Board will utilize the procedure below.

- Members Eligible to vote
  Persons of legal age living within the BVNA boundaries are eligible for membership and are eligible to vote, including residents, property owners, business licensees, and representatives of nonprofit organizations located within the Association boundaries. Only 1 ballot per individual is allowed.
Annual Meeting and Election

• Given the pandemic meeting restrictions, BVNA's annual meeting will be conducted virtually on Microsoft Teams, and a digital ballot will be used to elect our directors for the 2021-2022 term.

• Candidate Bios will be made available NLT January 11 - they are due to BVNA NLT January 6

• Five seats are up for re-election and five board members have volunteered to run for another 2-year term

• Voting will be conducted electronically and only one vote per member is allowed

• Voting will open on January 14 and will remain open until midnight January 17

• Steve Moore, BVNA VP, is running the election and will report results to the board who will ratify the results. Once this occurs, BVNA will notify the residents of the results.
Barber Pool Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Rob Stark, BVNA Director
BVNA Representative to BPAC
The Barber Pool Conservation Area is one of the largest natural areas dedicated to wildlife found within an American capital city. It is home to hundreds of species of wildlife and fish, and also one of the few bald eagle nesting sites in the Boise area.

The area in red is privately owned by Idaho's oldest land trust, the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands. We need your help to protect this treasure and keep it wild. Please donate or volunteer at www.idaholands.org.
The Ada County Commissioners passed a resolution this month making the Ada County parcel (green on the previous slide) a Conservation Area consistent with the principles of Idaho Foundation for Parks and Land’s Barber Pool Conservation Area.

- Public access will be allowed but dogs will not be allowed (IFPL request). Will be discouraging public access until a Master Plan is developed so activity can be directed to certain areas.

Everwild Forest School was using Ada County and IFPL land for their “classroom” without permission. Scott Koberg with Ada County Parks devised a demo/pilot for this type of public use at Barber Park and is watching to see if it’s a good fit for the Barber Pool parcel. In the interim, the Everwild activity has ceased.

- If it is a ‘good fit’ then a formal agreement between the county and school will be drafted. There was concern about a for profit educational organization using public land at no cost.
On Thanksgiving morning 3 Barber Valley residents were discovered building a trail from the Greenbelt down to the Ada County property. Needless to say, building your own trail is wrong. Scott Koberg from Ada County Parks met with the individuals last week, gave them a robust lecture, and then supervised as they removed all trail construction. They will be paying to reseed the bare soil at the point of construction.

- IFPL has been installing “No Trespassing Wildlife Preserve” signs along the border between County and IFPL land.

- Greenbelt signage showing areas that are off limits will be installed within a week (first slide is the signage that will be installed).
BARBER POOL

• IFPL has begun cleanup on the former Gregersen property. Last week two forts that had been built with deadwood near the river were dismantled. Clean up of junk metal has begun. Will be a lengthy process with volunteer opportunities in the future. If you would like to be contacted when the opportunities arise please give BVNA your contact information at board@bvnabois.org
Transportation

Rob Stark, BVNA Director
Summary of multiple neighbor requests

• Privada: speed limit reduction on WSA (to 30mph, currently 35mph)
• Privada: sidewalks on WSA
  • Barber Hill Vistas will install sidewalks on WSA resulting in continuous sidewalk from the 3-way stop intersection to Antelope Springs
  • The Privada side of the street will be delayed: the City recently requested ACHD include a detached sidewalk at this location
• “Your Speed Is” signage: best to submit as a NIP grant according to the City
• Eckert to Hwy21 Traffic Calming
  • The recommendation is to avoid specifying a solution but request that ACHD conduct a study and suggest changes to reduce bicycle, pedestrian, and wildlife conflicts with high-speed traffic (45mph).
    • Identify that development is effectively complete in this area and the roadway was designed as a high-speed State Highway and is now a minor residential arterial with extensive residential congestion. This necessitates passive design changes to reduce traffic speed.
Transportation – Wildlife Underpass

• Underpass: expensive and requires at least 15’ passage beneath the road (see Hwy21 below)
• IDFG Position on technology solutions to Wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVC):
  • “Many researchers, DOTs and wildlife agencies find that most systems have a high rate of false positive detections ....there really isn’t a system that folks can agree on to use across the board that will not have issues or are worth the money.”
  • “In our data for Warms Springs Avenue roadkill, **IDFG has actually seen a decrease in the number of reported/collected big game killed in the area compared to 10 years ago** (75 in 2010 and 19 in 2012) and (1 to 8 from 2012 to now) .... there has definitely been a decline in wildlife-vehicle collisions.”
Parks and Trails

Steve Moore, BVNA VP
Emerging Issue: Gateway Reserve – Access to Barber Dam

Neighbor concerns in Mill District along E. Sawmill Way:

- Weedy appearance of fenceline on the edge of Gateway Reserve
- Overall status of Gateway Reserve
- Access to Barber Dam problems occurring in the summer (neighborhood parking, trash, etc.)
Parks & Trails

GATEWAY RESERVE

Idaho Shakespeare Festival
Parks & Trails

- Gateway Reserve is owned by Idaho Shakespeare Festival
- Purchased for open-space, habitat enhancement and wetlands on approximately 3 acres at 5237 E Sawmill Way
- Regrading and hydroseeding completed in 2018-2019
- Will need patience to continue improving the habitat and appearance
- Conversion from old sewage ponds: revegetation will be a relatively long process
- Purchase of this land avoided residential development next to ISF and was the result of a substantial community fundraising effort.
Parks & Trails

Weedy fenceline

Fescue grasses
Ideas/Solutions:

- Update on progress of Gateway Reserve reclamation
- Clean up of weeds on fence line (soon)
- Connect with new Dam owners on access issues
- Coordinate with various landowners and Stake Holders: Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Harris Ranch, and Central Rivers Power, ID Foundation for Parks and Lands, Barber Pool Reserve, and Boise River Enhancement Network
- Generate neighborhood volunteer power to make this a community project

- Please contact Steve Moore, star_garnet@msn.com for interest in participating
Using trails when they are muddy is the leading cause of trail damage on the Ridge to Rivers system.

Here are the top 5 reasons that you should not use muddy trails:

- When trails are muddy, users invariably travel along the adjacent vegetation to avoid the mud. This tramples and kills trailside vegetation and widens our trails - and thus we lose the single track character of our trail system.
- As trails widen, erosion increases and the trails become increasingly difficult to maintain sustainability. Trail crews cannot adequately repair this type of damage in the Foothills.
- Drainage structures put in by trail crews to divert water and curtail erosion are trampled and flattened - making them ineffective and again increasing erosion along our trail system. No one likes to travel along deeply eroded trails - so they travel to the side and create additional, parallel routes. This again leads to loss of vegetation and eventual increased erosion.
- Those deep footprints, hoof prints, tire tracks and yes - even paw prints invariably freeze and become ankle twisting, teeth chattering experiences for those trail users trying to do the right thing - travel on trails when they are frozen (or dry).
- We are trying to maintain and manage the Ridge to Rivers trail system not only for ours, but for future generations. Continued irresponsible use of our trails will ensure one thing - that our children will not be able to enjoy the experiences that we currently have.

Please help up preserve the integrity of our trail system by doing the following:

- Stay off of muddy trails. Pay attention - if you are leaving tracks, turn back.
- In winter, ride or hike early in the morning when trails are frozen hard.
- Check daily trail conditions on our website or on Facebook to know whether you should be on the trails during winter months.
- If you encounter short stretches of mud, ride or walk through them. Don’t leave the trail as this kills trailside vegetation and leads to trail widening.
Development Activity

John Mooney, BVNA President
Town Center & Village Green under contract

- SW12/13: Haystack Condos - coming spring 2021 (254 units)
- TC4-9: same developer
- TC 6,7,8,9: Phase 1 (south of Parkcenter)
- Initial design concepts include removal of crossing streets to provide continuity for a Village Center with surrounding street parking
- BVNA seeking community ideas for this large development
- We will pass those neighborhood ‘concepts’ to the developer - who is listening!

BVNA was invited to an introductory meeting with the developer (High Rhodes Investment Group) facilitated by LeNir. Our role is to seek community feedback to forward to the development design team. Please let us know what you think about this upcoming project: board@bvnaboise.org
HARRIS RANCH TOWN CENTER
PLANNING KICK-OFF

CREATING A LIVING LEGACY
FOR THE COMMUNITY

AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY
A GRAND RESPONSIBILITY
Is it clear to everyone...

What is a Town Center?

What is a “Place” ??

What ARE we trying to create???

• Should we have a Vision Statement?

• Should we have a Mission Statement?
What Is a Town Center?

A town center is an enduring, walkable, and integrated open-air, multiuse development that is organized around a clearly identifiable and energized public realm where citizens can gather and strengthen their community bonds. It is anchored by retail, dining, and leisure uses, as well as by vertical or horizontal residential uses. At least one other type of development is included in a town center, such as office, hospitality, civic, and cultural uses. Over time, a town center should evolve into the densest, most compact, and most diverse part of a community, with strong connections to its surroundings.

Urban design is coordinated so that the public realm emerges as each phase is built. For example, both sides of a street should be developed at the same time when possible, and signature public spaces should be surrounded by buildings as soon as possible. Public spaces without surrounding buildings and uses often look like vacant lots.
Ten Principles for Developing Successful Town Centers

1. Create an Enduring and Memorable Public Realm
2. Respect Market Realities
3. Share the Risk, Share the Reward
4. Plan for Development and Financial Complexity
5. Integrate Multiple Uses
6. Balance Flexibility with a Long-Term Vision
7. Capture the Benefits That Density Offers
8. Connect to the Community
9. Invest for Sustainability
10. Commit to Intensive On-Site Management and Programming

Ten Principles for Rebuilding Neighborhood Retail

1. Great Streets Need Great Champions
2. It Takes a Vision
3. Think Residential
4. Honor the Pedestrian
5. Parking Is Power
6. Merchandise and Lease Proactively
7. Make It Happen
8. Be Clean, Safe, and Friendly
9. Extend Day into Night
10. Manage for Change
A Few Development Principles for the TC

We are (You are) doing this FOR the Community
• True Success..... It becomes EVERYONE’S
• Critical for Shared responsibility to keep it alive (ongoing operations)

Density is Key
• Mix of uses
• Critical Mass
• Funding for ongoing operations
• CID increment driver

Our Market is Unique — but Small & Constrained
• 50% is Open Space
• Saturation of “Typical Retail” Uses
• The Retail Business is going through a Convulsion
• And about this Covid thing...

Parking is Critical
• and EXPENSIVE! (structures = ”building land” @ $100/SF)
• MUST be convenient

After Its Built - It Must Be Actively Managed
• SMALL amount of Commercial use/space won’t drive it
• Continuous Activities & Programming required
BIG PLANNING IDEAS

1. “DEDICATE THE R.O.W.” TO THE COMMUNITY
   • Exclusively for Pedestrians
   • For Events
   • For the VIEW and CONNECTION
   • For Their Involvement

2. PROVIDE ADDITIONAL GREAT PARKING
   • Cost Effective Increase of 80 - 100 spaces
   • Angled Street Parking - THE most desired
   • Best location for shoppers & visitors
   • Helps to Define THE TOWN CENTER
   • Provides needed spaces for Village Green & School

3. EXTEND & CONNECT THE PLAZAS
   • Town Center to the Village Green
   • Southern to Northern Town Center
   • Enhance the Roadway on Park Center

4. Signature / Iconic Architecture on Park Center
   • Establishes THE Town Center
   • Establishes THE Theme & Tone

5. Respectful / Welcoming Edge on Side Streets
   • Respect adjacent residential uses
   • Additional Pedestrian access points (?)

6. Connect & Expand TC & VG Commercial Uses
   • Increase Density
   • Reduce Risk of VG Commercial
Town Center – Village Green Planning Goals

**Goals**

- Create a destination and community asset consistent with the Harris Family legacy
- Maximize the number of people and properties which can directly use/benefit
- Facilitate Connections (pedestrian, bike, automobile)
- Flexible: allow functional modification
- Efficient/Effective design to maximize the impact (value) of the $$ contribution
- A place people will love to use and fight not to lose (it becomes *is theirs*)
Upper/North Section
Inspirational Ideas
Lower/South Section Inspirational Ideas
Neighborhood Investment Program

Hank Vincent, BVNA Treasurer
Two Grant Opportunities - NIP

1. Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP)
   - The NIP is a partnership between the City of Boise and City registered neighborhood associations.
   - The program funds comprehensive neighborhood plans and capital construction projects to help enrich the lives of our citizens, enhance the identity and quality of life in our neighborhoods and encourage a strong sense of community.
   - Funded projects will provide a public benefit to all members of the community. The city’s registered Neighborhood Associations are eligible to apply for project funding.
   - Individuals and community groups must work with their neighborhood association to apply.
   - All projects must be located on public property.
   - Applications for FY22 projects will be accepted from Nov. 1, 2020 to Jan. 31, 2021 via ZoomGrants.
Two Grant Opportunities - ACT

1. Activate. Connect. Transform (ACT) Grants:
   - Only Neighborhood Associations are eligible to apply for these funds.
   - A maximum of $2,500 may be awarded to an association each fiscal year.
   - Any improvements/ events/resources funded through this program must be located on public property and free and accessible to all residents.
   - This program is competitive; applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with evaluations and funding determinations made three times each year.
   - Neighborhood Associations may apply for projects that fit within any of the funding categories below. There is no maximum or minimum number of applications a neighborhood association may submit within any grant cycle, or for the fiscal year, but the maximum amount of funding any neighborhood association can receive within a fiscal year is $2,500.
     - 1. Planning: These efforts will help provide strategic direction and guidance for implementation of future neighborhood projects, placemaking activities, events, and other initiatives. Maximum funding award: $1,000
     - 2. Implementation: These projects will address a community need, making visible neighborhood-level change. Maximum funding award: $2,000
     - 3. Capacity Building: These activities will support neighborhood residents by providing educational/skill-building opportunities and/or improved access to resources. Maximum funding award: $250
     - 4. Celebration: These projects will support vibrant neighborhoods by engaging residents through events and placemaking activities. Maximum funding award: $1,000
     - 5. Administration & Support: These efforts will support the daily operations for associations, including communications and annual meetings. Maximum funding award: $1,000
BV Resident Ideas

- Mill District Request (Adrian Rita)
  - There are a total of 6 lamp posts on S Mill Site Lane and the neighborhood would like to add double electrical outlets to the 6 poles so that we may add some decorative seasonal lighting.

- Greenbelt signage for biking routes (Lisa Hecht)
  - Identify and sign “bike train routes” or preferred safe cycling routes to schools
  - Provide (a) safe cycling class(es) for both children and adults, taught by League of American Bicyclists (LAB) instructors.

- Crosswalks
- Bus stops
- Bike Repair Station
- New trail construction or trail repair
- Art projects (e.g. public art in traffic roundabouts)
- History of neighborhood featured in storymap or digital trail (leveraging previous 2016 NIP grant for Barber Valley history)
- Walking/bike tour including historical landmarks
- Beautification project for streetscapes or other areas
- Tunnel under warm springs for wildlife—or technology solutions for wildlife passage
- Tunnel under warm springs from Greenbelt to Village Green/School
- Tunnel under Eckert connection Alta Harris to Greenbelt
- Picnic Shelter along Greenbelt
- Greenbelt pedestrian lighting
- “Your Speed Is” digital signage
NIP – Transit Stop (VRT Route 1)

• Building out the transit stop at the Coffee Mill.
  • Add amenities to the existing pad and basic shelter. The Idaho Access Project (Jeremy Maxand) would assist in the grant submittal.
Work Session
New Business

• Transportation Priorities to City NLT 16 December
  • The BVNA Board voted to submit the transportation projects to the City in the following priority:
    1. Traffic study on Warm Springs Avenue between ISF and Hwy 21.
    2. Crosswalk on Harris Ranch Road from E. Timbersaw Drive (Spring Creek) across to the path bisecting the Idaho Power Corridor.
    3. Sidewalk on Warm Springs Avenue between the new Finis Terra/Brian subdivision and Highland Valley Road (east side of Warm Springs)

• Board resignation
  • Dave Reinhart will not be able to complete his term, which extends to the January 2022 election. The Board voted to address this vacancy after a new board is selected in January - decision delayed until February 2021.
BVNA Board Attendance – December 2020

• Present: Everyone!
• Absent: Reinhart (resignation effective 10 December 2020)