February 2021 Membership Meeting

Virtual Meeting – 11 February 2021
Monthly Meeting Agenda – 11 February 2021

• Welcome and Meeting Process
• New Neighbor! Saltzer Health
• Peace Valley Overlook Reserve – Sara Arkle, City of Boise Foothills and Open Space Superintendent
• Parks and Trails – Lots of Stuff!
• Annual Director Election - Results
• Neighborhood Grant Submission Summary

Meeting Attendance: All Directors were present
New Neighbors!

- Welcome to Saltzer Health
  - Stacy Chessmore, RN (Urgent Care Director)

- Post Meeting Notes
  - Stacy and Amy Stahl introduced the new Saltzer Health facility in Barber Station
  - COVID vaccines (Moderna) may be available next week
  - The facility has radiology and laboratory services
Peace Valley Overlook Reserve

Sara Arkle, City of Boise Foothills & Open Space Superintendent
The preservation of Peace Valley Overlook was made possible by the efforts of local community members. Through a collaborative effort, the Peace Valley Overlook and surrounding neighborhoods have been able to keep this area as a wildlife sanctuary for future generations. The Barber Valley Neighborhood Association (BVNA) pursued the purchase of this land purchase. Local individuals and families were able to fund raise three-quarters of the purchase price in just 10 weeks. The creation of this preserve was made possible by BVNA, community members, private land owners, local environmental groups and the City of Boise.

Conservation is an Idaho value

Levy funds in 2001 and 2015 have raised $20 million, which the City of Boise utilizes to protect more thousands of acres of critical wildlife habitat, riparian corridors, rare plants, historic sites and recreational trails. The Peace Valley Overlook Reserve was made possible because of these levy funds.
This is a wildlife corridor

Peace Valley Overlook and the surrounding Boise River Wildlife Management Area provide important connections for wildlife to travel from the higher elevations to the Boise River. These preserved areas of habitat provide a corridor that is safe for wildlife to travel around human development. By preserving this area as an open space, we can help protect these important animal populations.

The Boise Valley has its own unique ecosystem. Natural places like this reserve allow you to step back and observe that system and your own place within it. From where you stand, you can observe how the landscape formed long ago that gives our valley its shape. The plants and animals here depend on each other for their existence and on you to respect their space and allow them to continue to thrive in this valley for generations to come.
The First Peoples

For the Native American tribes that lived in Idaho before the mid-1800s, the Boise Valley, or Peace Valley as it was sometimes called, was a place of gathering for feasting and trade. There were four main tribes that met here, the Shoshoni, the Paiute, and the Bannock Nimipuu (also called Nez Perce). The Boise Valley became an important trading center known as cop-co-pa-cla (much cottonwood meeting place).

In the early 1800s, Lewis and Clark came through Idaho, and with the opening of the Oregon Trail, white settlers began to flood into the Boise Valley. Although it is estimated that this area had been occupied by Native American tribes for 12,000 years, this white encroachment resulted in the Indian Wars of the 1860s and the building of Fort Boise.

In the late 1800s and into the 1900s, the Barber Mill employed a large portion of Boise’s early residents. The lumber mill was large and prosperous, prompting a company town called Barberton to pop up at the base of the foothills. When the mill closed in 1935, the town quickly dissolved.

The Barber Valley eventually turned into a flourishing neighborhood center and the home of the community that bridges downtown Boise and the foothills. The expansive 72-acre Marianne Williams Park and the Harris Ranch master-planned community sit on the former site of the Barber Mill.

From the time when Native Americans first gathered in the valley thousands of years ago this land has been a special place to many who have travelled here. The history of the Barber Valley’s development has its roots in the lumber industry, but those who came to the area for work quickly realized the beauty of the valley and worked to preserve it as Boise developed.
Foothills are entitled for 350 lots

- Harris North = 172 lots
- Harris East = 59 lots proposed

Total foothill development proposed = 231 lots

Development = 66% of entitlement
PVOR Signage

• If you have feedback on the signage or suggestions, please contact BVNA:
  • at our email board@BVNABoise.org
  • Via our website “contact form”: BVNABoise.org
    • http://bvnaboise.org/page8.html#gsc.tab=0
Parks & Trails

Steve Moore, BVNA Vice President
Geologic Perspective from PVOR Pleistocene Boise River Terraces

During the past 2.6 million years (Pleistocene Epoch), the ancestral Boise River progressively downcut into the Snake River Plain to form the Boise Valley. The Tenmile Gravel was the first (oldest) terrace formed by braided streams that deposited sand and gravel eroded from the granitic core of the Idaho mountains. In east Boise, eight river-cut terraces accumulated gravels as the river migrated northward towards the fault-bounded foothills. In some cases, basalt flows buried the terrace gravels. The incision of the river into the valley formed the distinctive benched appearance of the present-day Boise Valley that is visible looking south-southwest from this trail.

Notes: This Interpretation by S.W. Moore is after: Othberg and Stanford (1992) and Othberg (1994). Numbers indicate the terrace level above the present Boise River floodplain. Some of the terraces are not visible from this point (3-Sunrise Terrace, 7-Amity). Numbers in parentheses (#) indicate the approximate age of basalt flows indicated in years.
Barber Park Update
Master Park Site Plan (MSP) Modification & Application

Description: An administrative modification to an approved master site plan at Barber Park to replace degraded hardscape materials with new pathways meeting ADA accessibility standards to increase safety and pedestrian circulation. The modification will also provide pathway linkages between the event center, parking area, river launch, Boise River Greenbelt, forest loop, and fishing pier. In addition, it will replace the fishing pier that was removed due to flood damage in 2017 and the existing forest loop pathway surface along with two (2) pedestrian bridges.

• BVNA provided some comments to Ada County on their park plans in January. Mostly concerned with whether the plan would actually add to parking capacity that might help the summer floater parking issue.
• More info on plan: https://gis.adacounty.id.gov/apps/application_tracker and search by file number. Hover over the pushpin that appears on the map with your mouse and select “Additional Info” from the pop-up box. You will then be able to review individual documents, drawings and other information detailing the request.
• Video from Ada County Meeting of Jan-14-2021: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vcvWBD-nkHY
MSP Modification and Application Has Been Submitted for 6 “Plan Areas”

- Notice has been sent to:
  - Neighbors within 300’
  - Agencies
  - Others on distribution list
- 15 days to provide comments (1/29)
Barber Park Meeting Notes

Presenter: Scott Koberg, Director of Ada Co. Parks & Waterways

- Parks & Waterways Headquarters
- Barber Park (Flagship Park of agency) needs updating and improvements
- Unique Park: usual functions for walking, picnics; also summer floating take-off point
- Education & Event Center: Hosts lots of community and private events
- Examples of Proposed Improvements:
  - Replace old cracked asphalt paths and roads w/ concrete;
  - Add new concrete paths and connections
  - ADA Access improvements
  - Improve green spaces and add berms
  - Improve pathways (old asphalt roadways) with Stay-Lock surface
  - Replace 2 bridges and fishing pier
Previous Barber Park

MSP Modification and Application

Including 7 “Plan Areas” with a
proposed 101 stall year-round
parking facility has been withdrawn
- Remove all asphalt “pathways”
- Modify existing “pathway” alignments
- Install ADA compliant concrete pathways
- Install new turfgrass landscaping and irrigation
- Install stormwater swale in “mud bag”
- Create flood mitigation berm and shaping
- Install stone seat wall, resting benches
Busy Trails in Boise’s Foothills
Setting the Stage for Changing with the Times

• 19 January Ridge to Rivers Virtual Meeting
  • Trail use changes (e.g., one-way travel, bikes only, hikers only, scheduling, etc.
  • Winter damage to trails
  • Access to meeting
    • Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWY6r_N_WgU&feature=youtu.be
    • PDF of Slides: https://www.ridgetorivers.org/media/2293/virtual-presentation.pdf
Ridge to Rivers (R2R) Trail System

- Multiple ownership: Boise, Ada Co., BLM, USFS, ID Fish & Game, and private landowners

- New trails: Required not to significantly impact other resource values (wildlife, sensitive plants, scenic, and cultural)
Many users and challenges

**Current Situation**

- 90% of our trail system is non-motorized shared use
- Since March 2020, use has doubled or tripled in many locations on our trail system (COMPASS)

**Non-Cyclists Have Safety Concerns on Heavily Traveled Trails Shared with Cyclists**

**Cyclists Would Like To See Some Single Use Trail Opportunities**

**Heavy Off-leash Dog Use Has Led to Vegetation Loss, Trail Braiding and Proliferation of Dog Waste**
Problems:

Trail Quality is Deteriorating Under the Pressure

Especially During Winter Months

Kestrel Trail
1/19/2021

Possible Solutions: New trails +

New Strategies on Existing Trails

- **Directional Trails**
- **Separation of Use**
  - Different Days For Different User Groups
  - Monthly or Seasonal Restrictions
- **Pilot Period**
  - April – November 2021

Possible Trails for New Management Strategies

- Lower Hulls Gulch
- Around the Mountain
- Polecat Loop
- Bucktail Trail
R2R Follow up – What can YOU do?

Check Trail Conditions on R2R website before heading out

Provide input via R2R questionnaire:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RidgetoRivers
Open through Feb-17-2021

https://www.ridgetorivers.org/etiquette/happy-trails-pledge/
The Happy Trails Pledge
Gateway Reserve: Idaho Shakespeare Festival Wildlife Reserve/Buffer

~ March 2021: Reseeding of recently graded area
Volunteers? Contact BVNA
-Email: Board@BVNABoise.org
-Or via website: bvnaboise.org
Request by Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands

Project Goal: $25,000

If you wish to Donate, visit the IFPL Website:
https://idaholands.org/tiredoftires/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Tired+of+Tires
Bowler Park – Surprise Valley

• Closest to Barber Valley dog park!
• Construction began in January
• 24.62 aces in Southeast Boise in Surprise Valley
  • Includes 1.25 acre fenced dog park with two shade shelters and a dog water fountain
  • Also skateboard/scooter plaza, outdoor fitness equipment, bocce ball court, playground, mister poles, one large shelter, one small shade shelter and restroom.
• Three acres of turf will be also installed along with the parking lot, entrance drive and sidewalk from Surprise Way.
• Construction completion summer 2021
• Link to the Bowler Park
Annual Election Summary

John Mooney, BVNA Director
Annual Election – 14 January 2021

- Conducted online via Google Forms
  - Thanks to BVNA Secretary Gary Veasy!
- 101 total voters
- 5 vacancies with 7 candidates
  - 5 incumbents and 2 new candidates
- Incumbents all re-elected to new two-year terms (in order of vote total)
  - John Mooney, Jr
  - Rob Stark
  - Gary Veasy
  - Larry Crowley
  - Hank Vincent
  - Eric Dickelman
  - Nathan Hallam
- Most ‘engaged’ HOAs:
  - Harris North (34)
  - River Heights (19)
  - Dallas Harris Estates (12)
  - Mill District (7)
  - Barber Junction, East Valley, Spring Creek (6)
Neighborhood Investment Program

Hank Vincent, BVNA Treasurer
Barber Valley Bus Stop Accessibility Upgrade Project

• Submitted 30 January to the City for funding in FY2022
• Many thanks to Idaho Access Project (Jeremy Maxand) for his work compiling this NA grant request
• Thanks to Hank Vincent, BVNA Treasurer, who submitted the application on behalf of BVNA
• Description
  • This project involves ADA upgrades to five existing bus stops in Barber Valley. The upgrades involve installing a best-in-class bus stop and installing four ADA complaint concrete landing pads with benches. The upgrades in this proposal are focused on bus stops that are permanent, and no upgrades are planned for stops that are anticipated to be eliminated with stop consolidations and future route changes.
  • Future coordination with High Rhodes regarding a ‘best in class’ bus stop at the proposed Village Center
BVNA Bus Stop Accessibility Upgrade Request

Existing bus stop locations shown in Red. Potential relocation/consolidation of stops shown in blue.
Miscellaneous Topics
Announcements

• Community Needs Survey – NLT 21 February
  • The City of Boise received funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to fund community development and affordable housing. Help us identify the greatest areas of need in our community by taking this survey before Feb. 21, available in English (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T3GP7KP) and in Spanish https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LVL5L2Q)

• Ada County Highway District Budget Workshop – 18 February, 5:30pm
  • BVNA submitted a request to the City for a “traffic study” of Warm Springs Avenue – it may (or may not) be included in the City’s request to ACHD for inclusion in the next ACHD budget
    • Meeting link: https://zoom.us/j/95552811541
    • Meeting ID - 955 5281 1541
    • Call-in - 888-475-4499 | 877-853-5257 (Toll-free numbers)
  • Separately, BVNA will submit an updated request for a comprehensive review of the Warm Springs Avenue corridor with a Phase 1 priority of installing the enhanced pedestrian crossings at Maynard Ave (River Heights), Skybar St (East Valley), and Arrow Junction (Mill District)
Harris East Traffic Concerns

- 3 Neighbors spoke out regarding concerns about the development of Harris East: Ben Hox – William Sargent – Teresa Ensign

- Primary Issues: (1) trailhead parking, (2) intersection safety at WSA and Council Springs, and (3) construction traffic

- ACHD TellUs (Online Contact Form)
  - Please consider using this link to express your concerns regarding the Harris East traffic issues: [https://www.achdidaho.org/AboutACHD/contactUs.aspx](https://www.achdidaho.org/AboutACHD/contactUs.aspx)
  - ACHD TellUs (link above) is an outstanding means to notify the ACHD Staff and Commission of community concerns.
    - The staff must respond to your inputs in a timely fashion – usually within 2-3 business days.
    - Your comments attract both staff and Commission attention and a coordinated ‘flood’ of commentary is especially effective in getting a resolution to the identified issue.
• Watch the 28 January presentation on the side-channel project at this link: https://boisestate.zoom.us/rec/play/JrvLQr1JQ86v7gJw69w8HCVe-zAemr1Sl4rZL2BwKmh5flCQa8y8E4E0R01xhTMSi6p17HDYnhR4PdG4.JmZKhA6PTff9yqIL?continueMode=true&_x_zm_rtaid=tVwlyH_RQDavJJB67k9muQ.1613168072972.d678d3ceb79b04dc74600dd380e834ff&_x_zm_rhtaid=839

• Review the IBO website: https://www.boisestate.edu/ibo/river/
  • Sign up for their newsletter to keep abreast of their ongoing development ‘under the bridge’ at the south end of our neighborhood
Treasure Valley Pollinator Project

- The Ada Soil & Water Conservation District is a governmental subdivision of the State of Idaho, charged with promoting natural resource conservation in our region. We have recently launched the Treasure Valley Pollinator Project to expand habitat and provide pollinator education and resources to homeowners.

- Join the Treasure Valley Pollinator Project to expand your garden, learn how to provide the best pollinator habitat, and participate in a community-wide citizen science effort! Learn more about the project and purchase your flowers from the Ada Soil & Water Conservation District here: [https://adaswcd.org](https://adaswcd.org)

- About the project:
  - Pollinator flower starts are available to purchase through the Ada SWCD. There are four flower mixes available, all chosen to provide a continual source of pollen from spring to fall with a variety of flowers to attract a variety of pollinators. They are all drought-tolerant, easy to grow species. Orders for flowers can be placed now through April. Flowers will be ready to pick up and plant in April.
  - Purchase of the flowers also includes an educational zine, access to all the classes and workshops offered, and participation in the community-wide citizen science effort to monitor pollinators in your own backyard.
  - Workshops and educational resources offered will teach how to care for your new plants, create a beneficial habitat, how to identify insects, and complete pollinator counts. (Course dates are TBD for late spring and summer, and will be held virtually or socially-distanced, depending on the current state of COVID)
    - Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/AdaSoilWater](https://www.facebook.com/AdaSoilWater)
    - Instagram: @adaswcd
    - Websites: [https://adaswcd.square.site/](https://adaswcd.square.site/) & [http://adaswcd.org/pollinator-project](http://adaswcd.org/pollinator-project)
That’s All Folks!
Work Session
New Business

• 2021 BVNA Board Officers
  • Need to vote on new officers IAW bylaws
  • Board voted to retain the current officers: President (Mooney), Vice (Moore), Secretary (Veasy), Treasurer (Vincent)

• Vacant seat
  • Board voted in December to delay discussion until the new board was selected
    • Dave’s vacancy is a “Class II position” (ends in even years): in this case January 2022
    • Board voted to ask if the two new board candidates (Dickelman and Hallam) would be interested in serving the remainder of the term. If both were interested, an interview would be conducted with both and a selection made.

• Canals Connect Communities Coalition
  • BVNA supported the City’s Urban Pathway Master Plan which was approved in October with a $100K budget. The organizing coalition asked if they could use the BVNA logo and our support statement on their website.
    • Board voted to approve the request with the caveat that we supported the Master Plan and study but were not supportive of a specific proposal at this point – awaiting the results of the Master Plan and recommended future actions
Old Business

- Upcoming Grant Cycle (January 2021) – Hank **CLOSED**
- “Business Associate” program? – Hank **OPEN**
  - Two recent examples of business outreach to BVNA for a role as ‘business associates’ of BVNA: The STIL (8 Dec 2020) and Saltzer Health (2 Feb 2021)
  - Board Director Larry Crowley volunteered to develop a position paper for future board consideration – benchmarking other business associate programs within other NAs
- Internal Project: SP-02 review to determine if we should request an amendment? Anyone? **OPEN**
- Switchback – off-season plans **OPEN**
  - LeNir may coordinate for electrical connections to assist with the neighbor complaints regarding generator noise
  - Board was updated on updated neighbor concerns regarding noise at the Switchback location. Board voted to continue to provide informational updates awaiting notice from the City on the proposed temporary use permit for the upcoming food truck season
- HR Elementary and Town Center Coordination with High Rhodes **OPEN**
Board Action Items

• Board Vacancy - email and coordination from John to Eric and Nathan
  • Courtney Santillan will compile interview questions for our proposed interview(s) with Eric and Nathan. Directors will forward specific questions to Courtney

• Warm Springs Corridor Letter – John Mooney and Rob Stark to talk with the Commissioner again and get some intel and then re-draft the letter for board review

• Harris East – Board will wait to hear in writing from the Triplett HOA (Ben Hox & William Sargent). Board will then consider another written outreach to Boise Hunter Homes (with copies to Barber Valley Development Company, ACHD Commissioner Hansen, and City and ACHD planning staff).

• Larry Crowley - will develop a position paper outlining a business associate program for BVNA using templates from other sources (e.g., Downtown NA).