

Meeting Minutes

Scenic Rock Quarry Road Stakeholder Advisory Group

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Meeting Room 1C, 701 E. Broadway

Members Present: Jan Pritchard, Barbara Hoppe, Julie Youmans, Vicky Riback-Wilson, Betsy Peters, Janet Hammen, Tony Davis, Anthony Stanton

Staff Present: Richard Stone, Public Works; Brenda Broxton, Public Works; Tim Crockett, Crockett Engineering

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.

Report from Crockett Engineering:

The report is a feasibility study of construction of a pedway from the north side of Hinkson Creek bridge to Stag's Way, along Rock Quarry Road, which was presented to the group. A feasibility report looks at general terms such as what can be built and where. A cost estimate (included in the report) for east vs. west side of road pedway location shows a pedway along the east side is very costly in comparison with the west side. An addition to the report will be made to note moving the roadway was not considered. Discussion followed presentation of feasibility study. It was noted the Ridgeline Trail might be considered as a connectivity point for non- motorized pedestrian movements along Rock Quarry Road. Conclusions from the report include 1) generalized cost estimates 2) Easements not considered 3) Easement Descriptions not included*

*Easement descriptions require a boundary survey for every property and describe a permanent easement as well as a temporary construction easement.

4) Condemnation or land acquisition payments are not included.

Anthony reminds the committee that once this report goes to Council the project is on anyone's radar, such as property owners adjacent to Rock Quarry Road.

In summary, a pedestrian trail and preservation of Rock Quarry Road is feasible however it does come at a cost. Further clarification – if it feasible without destroying the character of Rock Quarry Road? Review of the report will show a few areas where some key features such as rock outcroppings or trees will be compromised. The general consensus was that a pedway

contiguous with Rock Quarry Road is not feasible for certain sections reviewed in the study without significant sacrifice to scenic characteristics.

The point was made that other trails in Columbia have cost more money than the estimates presented in the report. The proposed pedway along Rock Quarry Road has a much larger impact for users of the pedway and users of the road for scenic preservation. The proposed pedway is available for all of Columbia.

Question asked if a user's study or survey has been issued on a pedway (Rock Quarry Road)? Anthony suggests the group give the report to Visitor's Bureau and Bike & Ped Commission for their inputs.

Much discussion followed regarding the pedway, location of pedway, and impacts from pedway. Jan Pritchard does not believe a pedway can be built and maintain the integrity of the roadway the way the committee desires to maintain the integrity of the road. In summary, the existing paths near Rock Quarry Road are recreational paths. The original task was to determine how the group can preserve the beauty and natural features and scenic qualities of Rock Quarry Road. The group wanted to share the road with more people as a transportation route as well as a recreational route. Janet makes two points to this discussion, 1) How were the PedNet Trails designated and 2) How do we connect to the trail at the bottom of the bluff in Grindstone Park. Staff response regarding PedNet Trails: The original concept was part of the CATSO plan which called for more robust bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The concept eventually was incorporated into planning documents which allowed for development of the trail system. Anthony suggests the group present a primary project with a couple of alternate projects which may include connecting existing infrastructure (trails). Tony Davis suggests we get solid with City Council and the Commission to provide that the transportation route is secondary to preserving the scenic beauty of Rock Quarry.

Motion raised by Anthony: Contact Crockett Engineering and ask for alternative solution with our transportation objective, using existing infrastructure along the Rock Quarry Road corridor, to connect north and south ends of Rock Quarry Road. ***This motion no longer on the table due to lack of second.***

Anthony will bring two recommendations that could possibly be used to connect existing infrastructure, north to south, keeping in mind a 5% slope.

Betsy Peters brings to the committee the vacancy created when Muriel Stephenson resigned. Scenic Rock Quarry Road Advisory Group does not wish to fill the vacancy.

Motion raised by Anthony: Approve minutes from November 2015 meeting. Motion seconded and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Motion raised by Anthony: Recommend not to fill vacancy on Scenic Rock Quarry Road Advisory Group. Motion seconded and passed by voice vote, unanimously.

Jan will prepare Scenic Rock Quarry Road Report – Version 4, for review at February 10, 2016 meeting.

Final report will need to include visual representation of key features.

Motion raised by Anthony: Move to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Broxton

City of Columbia – Public Works