

Friends of Rathdrum Mountain - Meeting Summary for 02/15/2007

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting of the Friends of Rathdrum Mountain and of the Board of Directors

Attendees:

- Directors: Wes Du Charme, Toby Kaplan, Jim Ochenkoski
- Director absentees: George Holcomb, Carey Kaplan, Deasa Stein, John Sylte
- Others: Pete Stoltz

Agenda:

1. Guest speaker: None

2. Old business:

a. FoRM submitted a letter to the City with two comments on the proposed Parks Plan: A correction to the number of acres that the City owns on the Mountain and a suggestion regarding the Conservation Lands definition; a copy is attached. During the public hearing on 02/13/07, City Council accepted the correction in acreage but did not accept the definition suggestion. Comments from FoRM members were the only testimony heard or submitted at the public hearing. The Parks Plan was approved by City Council.

b. Jim reported that Marty Frantz stated on 02/10/07 that his conservation easement in the Twin Lakes area was accepted but some details were still being worked out. Marty anticipates completion of all actions by the end of the year.

c. Toby provided an update on Noxious Weed activities.

- U of I has not responded to several e-mails regarding their interest in participating in weed monitoring and/or control. Toby will continue to pursue this action.
- A more extensive survey of the City's property on Rathdrum Mountain will be scheduled for June 2007.
- Following the June survey, a weed control plan will be developed and presented to the City.
- Local groups (Boy Scouts, School groups, Sheriff's Work Program) will be solicited to effect weed control measures once a plan is developed.

A partial plan may be developed from existing templates based on the partial survey conducted last year. Toby will pursue this action with Linda Ely, Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control Department.

d. Toby is still checking on the availability of Charles McDevitt from the Idaho Foundation for Parks & Lands to conduct a workshop regarding conservation easements, etc.

e. An exclusive event for FoRM members and supporters is being planned for the Spring. This event will be held on the Mountain, either on the City's property, the IDL/IEP properties, or both. The purpose will be to increase awareness of and interest in conservation efforts. Wes will discuss scheduling and coordination with Brett Boyer.

3. New business:

a. Wes will look into the appropriate designation and/or zoning for the City's property on the Mountain now that it has been labeled "Conservation Land" in the approved Parks Plan.

b. Toby and Jim reported on the Conservation Easements course they and Carey attended in Saint Maries on 02/10/07. The course was sponsored by the Bureau of Forestry Assistance of the Idaho Dept of Lands. FoRM will consider conducting a similar workshop in Rathdrum for local landowners. Jim will discuss further with local landowner Ron Siverson.

c. Jim is pursuing further info from the National Wild Turkey Federation regarding their interest in activities on the Mountain.

d. At the City Council meeting on 02/13/07, Brett Boyer reported that he is still looking into the issues regarding public access to the City's property on the Mountain. He expects to have sufficient information to report to the Council at their meeting in March.

4. Board of Directors:

a. Approval of the meeting summary from 01/18/07 was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

b. Treasurer's report:

Checking Account			
Beginning Balance		\$660.81	
Debits	0		
Credits	\$30.00		<i>donation</i>
Ending Balance		\$690.81	

NICSC 501c3 Account			
Beginning Balance		\$2400.00	
Debits	0		
Credits	\$40.00		<i>donation</i>
Ending Balance		\$2440.00	

Note: An expenditure of \$69.95 for the purchase of a satellite image of Rathdrum Mountain will be recorded in next month's report.

c. A review of our 501c3 application was conducted on 02/11/07. Toby & Carey plan to complete and submit the application by the end of this month.

d. Promotional magnets, stickers, balloons, and other items were discussed. An assessment of cost vs. benefits will continue next month.

e. John submitted a proposal for a tree planting event on the Mountain, an activity that can be promoted with, among other things, a float in the Rathdrum Days parade.

- Wes will explore this tree-planting concept on the City's property with Brett Boyer.
- Toby will talk to Linda Ely about plantings that can be incorporated in a weed control plan.
- Jim will talk to Shelley Tschida about planting on JD Lumber land, and perhaps getting the Scouts involved.
- John will pursue other details of this concept, including costs and logistics.

f. Some Board members may attend the NW Land Trust Conference scheduled to be held in Missoula, MT on May 17-19, 2007.

g. The continued review of Long Term Goals and Action Items was not conducted due to lack of a quorum. This review will continue at the next Board meeting.

h. Jim contacted the National Wild Turkey Federation and is waiting for more info regarding their level of interest in the Rathdrum Mountain area.

i. The recently purchased satellite image of the Mountain has been enlarged and will be mounted and laminated.

j. An annual schedule of FoRM activities along with a table of Directors and Officers has been prepared and will be used for future reference; a copy is attached.

5. Next meetings:

Regular monthly meeting: Thursday, March 15th at 6:30 pm in the Community Center at Golden Spike Estates. Guest Speaker: (PENDING) Linda Ely, Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control Department.

Regular monthly meeting: Thursday, April 19th at 6:30 pm in the Community Center at Golden Spike Estates. Guest Speaker: Shelley Tschida, Quality Services



February 8, 2007

Mr. Lance Bridges, Parks & Recreation Director
City of Rathdrum
8047 W. Main Street
Rathdrum, ID 83858

Dear Lance,

The Friends of Rathdrum Mountain wholeheartedly endorse the City of Rathdrum Parks Plan. We have only two suggestions for improvements to the text:

1. There are four instances (on pages 7, 28, 41, & 70) where reference is made to the City's 576 or 577 acres on the Mountain. The correct number of acres should be 557.
2. The following description is found on page 10 of the Plan:
 - **Conservation Land** = All areas meant to protect and manage environmental or cultural resources. While recreation might be available, it would be limited to the conservation aims of the land.

We have no issues with the first sentence. However, the second sentence could be interpreted to mean that recreation might be allowed only if such recreation produces a conservation result. To clarify this statement and ensure consistency with language found elsewhere in the Plan, the following revision to the second sentence is suggested:

“While recreation might be available, it would be limited to those activities with the least impact on the goals of conservation.”

Thank you for your consideration of these suggestions. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information or assistance.

Jim Ochenkoski
Secretary, Friends of Rathdrum Mountain
687-2113 (home); 683-2321 x3170 (work)

Copies:
Board of Directors, Friends of Rathdrum Mountain
Brett Boyer, City Administrator

Friends of Rathdrum Mountain

ANNUAL SCHEDULE

Jan	
Feb	
Mar	1. Nominate Directors (three year staggered terms per Class A, B, or C) 2. Nominate Officers (one year terms) 3. Renew P.O. Box
Apr	1. FoRM annual meeting 2. Elect new Directors & Officers 3. Renew website 4. Submit annual tax returns (not required for less than \$25K)
May	
Jun	
Jul	Rathdrum Days
Aug	
Sep	Heritage Fall Festival
Oct	Submit annual report to the Idaho Secretary of State
Nov	
Dec	No meeting due to holidays

<i>Directors</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>
Du Charme	A	✓	✗		
Holcomb	B	✓		✗	
Kaplan C	C	✓			✗
Kaplan T	A	✓	✗		
Ochenkoski	B	✓		✗	
Stein	C	✓			✗
Sylte	A	✓	✗		

✓ = elected ✗ = term expires

<i>Officers</i>	<i>Elected 2006</i>
President	Du Charme
Vice Pres.	Kaplan T
Secretary	Ochenkoski
Assist. Sec.	Kaplan C
Treasurer	Sylte
Assist. Treas.	Stein