

**TOWN OF DEWEY-HUMBOLDT
OSAT COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2014, 3:00PM**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE DEWEY-HUMBOLDT OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014 AT TOWN HALL AT 2735 S. HIGHWAY 69, DEWEY-HUMBOLDT, ARIZONA. CHAIR SANDRA GOODWIN PRESIDED.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** The meeting was called to order at 3:00PM.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Made.
3. **ROLL CALL:** Executive Members Skip Gladue, Kevin Leonard, Laurence McCormick and Chair Sandra Goodwin were present; Jay Arthur Jones was absent. Chair Goodwin informed the Committee that Jay recently moved and will be submitting his resignation to the Town. Associate Member Carl Marsee was present.

4. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS.

4.1. Playground Equipment Installation schedule for Butte Street Park.

The Committee was informed that the Butte Street Park playground equipment was to be installed in April.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1. Minutes. Minutes from the June 5, 2013 and August 7, 2013 OSAT meetings.

Executive Member Skip Gladue made a motion to approve the minutes from June 5, 2013, seconded by Executive Member Larry McCormick. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Member Skip Gladue made a motion to approve the minutes from August 7, 2013, seconded by Executive Member Larry McCormick. The motion passed unanimously.

6. REGULAR AGENDA – Unfinished Business. Discussion and Possible Action on matters previously presented to the Committee.

6.1. Newtown Trailhead/Prescott National Forest (PNF) Visit Report.

Skip Gladue and Sandra Goodwin reported on the positive feedback they and the Town Manager received from the PNF staff at their meeting on December 17. Present were six PNF staff including the director, Linda Jackson. Their support seemed to be partially based on the low cost of developing the trailhead due to the flat terrain and the town's willingness to support the project by completing the Newtown Avenue road to make it safe and rock-free. Their support was more obvious when they heard that this entrance into PNF from Dewey–Humboldt was the only entrance known to the committee.

PNF director Linda Jackson, who was vocally supportive, announced that she will be on assignment in the White Mountains for the next six months but that the staff would continue to pursue the options.

7. REGULAR AGENDA – New Business - Discussion and Possible Action on matters not previously presented to the Committee.

7.1. Review of OSAT Master Plan.

The OSAT plan, its recommendations, and its importance to the committee's direction was discussed and committee members were urged to read the plan which is now online. Copies presently held by previous committee members should be collected for current members.

7.2. Trails and Trailhead Options within Dewey-Humboldt and future direction for OSAT on these trails. Discussion and possible action.

Chair Goodwin and Executive Member Gladue volunteered to explore trails leading off the Cathy Hubbard Trailhead at the end of Iron King Road. They will report back at the next meeting.

7.3. Prescott Dells Ranch Road entering PNF Trail. Discussion and possible action.

Goodwin and Gladue volunteered to explore a trail at the end of Prescott Dells Ranch Road to determine if it is viable, accessible and who the land belongs to – PNF? BLM? Or State Trust. They are to report back at the next meeting.

A letter from former councilman, David Nystrom, a Prescott Dells Ranch Road property owner, voicing opposition to using Prescott Dells Ranch Road as a means of getting to the trail entrance was read into the record (attached). Chair Goodwin stated that the road was not a private road but rather it had been verified in the OSAT master plan (Page 36) as being on a public access easement. Also, mentioned was that it was another Prescott Dells Ranch Road resident that encouraged and assisted with the planned ride.

7.4. Newtown Trailhead 2014-2015 budget request to Council timeline. Discussion and possible action.

Chair Goodwin mentioned that she is watching the budget development time line to assure that OSAT has funds to pursue the trail work they are doing. The Town Manager assured Goodwin that she would be advised of what to do when.

7.5. Schedule to complete Newtown Avenue to allow rock-free access to PNF Trailhead.

Goodwin stated that The Town Manager had assured her that the refinement of Newtown Avenue would be considered in the budget preparations.

7.6. Review of Chapter 4 of the OSAT Master Plan “How We Get There” (pages 47-58) and discussion of the implementation planned, particularly the shoulder work.

Committee members were urged to review the implementation timing, etc. covered in pages 47-58 of the OSAT Master Plan. She addressed the progress of the current weed abatement schedule that was a priority of the Master Plan and noted the visible improvement it made and how walkers could get off the roadway in many areas.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC. None.

9. ADJOURN. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50PM.

Sandra Goodwin, Chair

ATTEST:

Mandi Garfield, Administrative Assistant

Judy Morgan

From: David Nystrom <thedesertrat@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 1:40 PM
To: Judy Morgan
Subject: Comment on OSAT Committee Agenda Item 7.3

To: Judy Morgan, Town Clerk

If you could please forward or provide each member of the Dewey-Humboldt OSAT Committee a copy of this e-mail for the meeting this Wednesday, 8th January I'd appreciate it.

Comment on OSAT Agenda Item 7.3 Prescott Dells Ranch Road Entering PNF Trail

I understand from the agenda item, the OSAT Committee may be considering promoting a trail head to the PNF via Prescott Dells Ranch Road access. I only have the agenda item to work from, as there was no additional information in the packet. If this is the intent I'd request the committee consider the following perspective early on in your decision making process.

I personally support access to trails (and other Town supported recreational activities) via access from Town roads, those roads which the Town maintains and takes liability responsibility for. The Newtown Road trailhead access is a good example of this and I fully support that endeavor. However, private roads (such as Prescott Dells Ranch Rd) do not have this same status. Those living along private roads must privately pay for all maintenance and have liability responsibility for those roads. Due to restrictions in the Arizona Gift Clause, the Town takes no action for improvement or even maintaining the road surface in the current condition. The Town does not even provide basic street signs or traffic warning signs such as stop signs, speed limit, etc. Those of us on private roads are left to fend for ourselves, despite contributions to the tax base through State Income Tax Shared Revenue and HURF.

For those of us living on private dirt roads any increase in road travel deteriorates the road surface. In addition, maintenance after winter storms or summer monsoon rains becomes more difficult and time consuming with additional traffic. Although these roads are indeed open to public access, there is no public support to keep them open and safe for travel. **I would ask the committee to consider not placing an additional burden on property owners along private roads, by promoting increased public traffic on these roads in order to access trail heads, parks or other recreational activities.** In all fairness, without public support for these private roads, property owners along these roads should not have to bare the addition costs and liability of increased traffic to benefit the Town.

Thank-you for considering my perspective on this topic.

Respectfully Submitted,

David D Nystrom

07 January 2014
Dewey-Humboldt, AZ