

**Draft**  
**ZOOM MEETING**

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**October 20, 2022**

**Present:** Ned Michie, Hosea Mitchell, Jennifer Slack, Jeffrey Fracher, Shawn Strubbe and Anne Hemenway

**Absent:** Jennifer McKeever

**Staff:** Dana Kasler, Riaan Anthony, Chris Gensic

**Public Matters**

No public matters

**Adoption of Minutes**

- October 2022 Minutes approved

**Administrative items:**

- N/A

**Action Items:**

- N/A

**Information Items:**

**Heyward Community Forest Trails Expansion and Adjustments - presentation**

- Heyward forest is the new 150 acre property adjacent to Ragged Mtn
- Uses are recreation (trails) and education
- David Stackhouse with CAMBC (Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club) made presentation – copies with maps included with minutes.
- Proposal is to create typical shared use natural surface trails on north side of Reservoir road along easier grade by building switchbacks up to Roundtop and Little Roundtop and one up to the dam from the lower parking lot.

- South of Reservoir Road, in the southeast corner of the property that is closest to the Interstate and harder to get to, proposal is for one way, more technical trails built primarily for mountain biking.
- Mtn biking is a fast growing activity with many local schools supporting teams. People of all ages are seeking places to practice and grow and learn, and if they are not created purposely, often are being built unofficially and in ways that are not safe or sustainable.
- CAMBC proposal is for 3 downhill runs sited, graded, built, and signed to ensure environmental sustainability (drainage to avoid erosion) as well as user safety and enjoyment.

## QUESTIONS FROM BOARD

Jeff – concerned about shared and multi-use and conflict between hikers and bikers. A discussion about current situation where there is little to no conflict and proposed additions which would create spaces for more technical riding which would probably further reduce chances for conflict. Some discussion also about the City/County Ragged Mtn. debate and legal issues related to biking and how ragged has the only hike only trails in the City system (all other trails are mixed/shared use) and the cyclists feel this is somewhat unfair and are proposing this to balance things out some

Ned – would straight downhill trails create erosion problems? These would have some limited sections with more direct downhill, but there are techniques to ensure they do not create erosion problems (rolling dips, grade reversals, etc)

Hosea – when did we buy the land? (2019) What is the County role? (they were aware of the purchase proposal and participated in the original planning meetings after acquisition) Why did we buy it? (opportunity, grant funding made it essentially free, adjacency to Ragged and City) What is CAMBC? (Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club)

Sean – Proximity of Heyward and Ragged Mtn to City is great

In his experience, bikes always pass slowly and politely

Has been informally surveying users while at parks and people seem happy to share

Dog walkers at Foxhaven always want more trails and less steep trail to roundtop

Black trail to Little roundtop has a different soil type/rocky , less prone to erosion

As father of kids who mountain bike, new riders need spaces like this

Ned – question about contour trail and UVA Foundation land (CAMBC answer, no it's a different trail and they may not ever even build that particular trail but want to show it for discussion just in case)

**Directors Matters**

- N/A

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

- Ned Michie dismissed the meeting @ 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Gensic

Temporary Secretary to the Advisory Board

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