

Grand Lake Municipal Lands Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – 4/6/21

Introduction/Update – The April 2021 meeting was held virtually via Zoom and the topic of discussion was trail connectivity. With a slim attendance it was determined this will also be the topic at the next meeting to ensure a full range of feedback from the group. Documents were provided with the agenda with background information about past and current plans for trails, including an interactive (GIS) map and trails plan document (PDF) created by Headwaters Trails Alliance (HTA) as well as the Town of Grand Lake Parks, Open Space & Trails (POST) plan from 2009.

Minutes - The minutes from the meeting on 3/2/21 were reviewed and approved, with a few changes including additional comments that were sent in via e-mail by absent committee members.

Discussion Items:

After reviewing the documents provided with the agenda and discussing past and current trail projects, it was determined that there are two opportunities for improving trail connectivity throughout the Town of Grand Lake: by improving the trails we currently have, and by creating new trails using Town right-of-way spaces.

Existing trails were determined to include the Continental Divide Trail, a town walking tour (ie: Grand Lake Historical Society walking tour, Rotary Club walking map) and the Town-improved trail located along Cairns Avenue (also a part of the CDT). Existing roadways are OK to use as trails (ie: Center Drive) but would require shoulder improvements such better surface material and/or the addition of fencing/railings (it was noted that trail surfaces don't have to be fancy, but they do have to be safe, and many grants will require handicap accessible paths.)

The best opportunities for new trails were identified as follows:

- Post Office to Lake Avenue to sledding hill to Daven Haven to Point Park to East Shore
- “Saratoga Trail” from Thomasson Park to GL Lodge
- Patterson Hill to GL Lodge
- Town owned right of ways
- “Theme” walking tours – Tree walk, family walk, GL Lodge Trail, Point Park nature walk, history walking tour, etc.
- CDTC day hikes/connectors
- Sunnyside Cottages to East Inlet
- “West Side Properties” trails – GLC, Winters, Point Park loop

The biggest concern was the cost and manpower needed for trail building and maintenance. It was agreed that the Town would need to find partners/connections for support (ie: grants).