

MOSCOW PATHWAYS COMMISSION



Jonathan Gradin
Commission Chair

~Minutes~

David Schott
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<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/454/Moscow-Pathways-Commission>

Tuesday
May 8, 2018

5:00 PM

Mayor's Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

Called to order at 5:03 PM.

PRESENT: Erin Bacon; Becky Chastain; Tanya Denison; Margaret Dibble, Vice Chair;
Jonathan Gradin, Commission Chair; Robert Heckendorn.

ABSENT: Judy Brown, Secretary.

STAFF: Donna Howard, Staff Support; David Schott, Staff Liaison; Brandy Sullivan,
City Council Liaison.

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Heinlein, Parks and Recreation Commission Member.

1. Announcements

Schott reminded the commissioners that the 2018 Commission training is after tonight's meeting, Tuesday, May 8, at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers. This is designed for new members but is a good reminder of how things are done within the City's commissions meetings.

2. Approval of minutes from April 10, 2018 - Gradin

ACTION: Minutes were approved as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION VOTE
MOVER:	Dibble.
SECONDER:	Denison.
AYES:	Bacon, Chastain, Denison, Dibble, Gradin, Heckendorn.
ABSENT:	Brown.

3. Public Comment

Only for items not listed on the agenda, including responses to previous comments/questions from the public. There were none.

4. Report: Pathways Commission Annual Report to City Council – Gradin

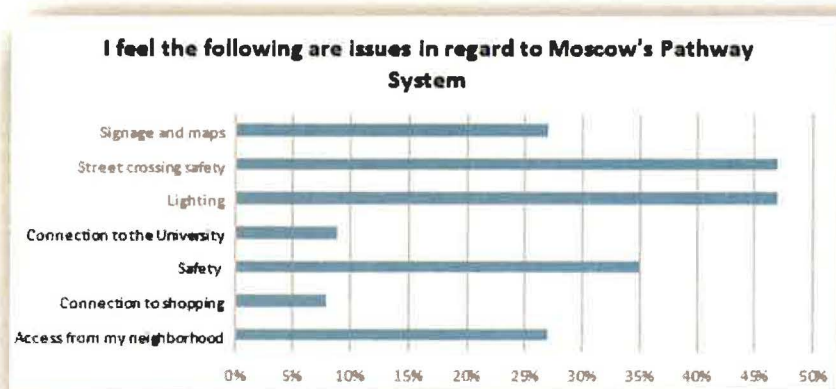
Gradin presented the MPC's annual report to City Council on May 7th. Dibble attended and said Gradin did a fine job; Sullivan said there were appreciative comments from the Councilmembers. Gradin said there were contracts approved for Crea Construction and J-U-B Engineers to work on the Highway 8 underpass at that meeting. He asked Schott when construction was slated to begin; Schott wasn't sure of the exact start date but said it would be summer 2018. Dibble said she saw some construction beginning in the area. Gradin and Sullivan also said City Supervisor Gary Riedner mentioned that the City is looking into a hydrological study for an underpass at Highway 95 and Sweet Ave. Schott added that it may be feasible to construct and could be done as part of the City's

Urban Renewal Agency (URA) expansion or funded with grants. Sullivan then said a recently completed flood plain study updated the flood map and there was a possibility of the costs being split by the City and the University of Idaho (UI). There was then a discussion on the past and future flooding of the creek in that area and what that could mean to an underpass. Denison commented that with the Identity on Main project she was concerned for the safety of people trying to cross the highway, construction workers now and residents later. Gradin then mentioned that, also at that City Council meeting, the sidewalk construction from Blaine to White Ave. was approved with revised and improved intersection designs. Dibble asked when that project is expected to finish but neither Schott nor Sullivan knew the date. Denison asked when the underpass at Styner to Highway 8 was to be completed and if the pathway would be closed during its construction; Schott was unsure. Sullivan said the project is expected to be substantially completed by September 28, 2018 in time for the Latah County Fair. Then there was a discussion about changing the September 11th date of the bike tour to allow visiting this location. Gradin said in light of the sidewalk improvements along White Ave. the group could ride from the Latah County Fairgrounds to Berman Creekside Park via the underpass. Sullivan read from the City Council meeting notes that it might not be available by the 11th. Then there was a discussion on the reopening of the path from Berman Creekside Park to Highway 95. Schott said it is expected to be open again on May 10th but there may be additional closures in the future to accommodate construction. He also said that there are areas of the path that were damaged and will need to be repaired. Denison asked if that meant there are areas that are gravel; Schott did not yet know. Heckendorn asked about how the inspection review process worked for the City. Gradin and Schott said that the City doesn't have enough staff to maintain a full time, on site inspector and that the contractors are required to hire an outside inspector. Schott cited how last year's sewer line installation, completed by J-U-B, had an engineer on site a majority of the time to oversee the project.

ACTION: No action, discussion item.

5. Discussion: 2017 Commission Survey – Report of Results – Schott

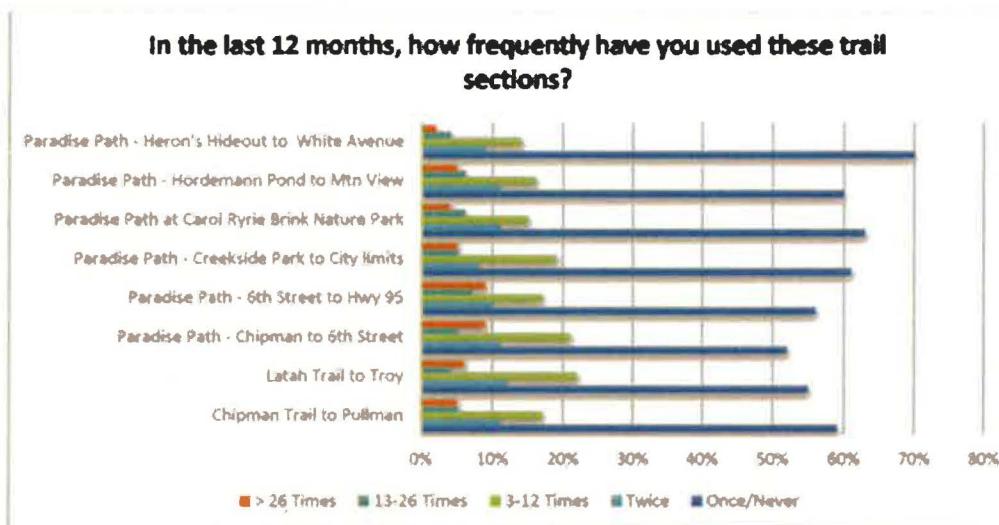
The first comprehensive Commission Survey was conducted in 2017 to assist planning, evaluate the quality of services and gauge the community's perception of the City's performance. Schott opened the survey report on the room's computer screen, from the City's website location: <http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/DocumentCenter/View/8833/2017-Commission-Survey-Report>. Schott said he would email the PDF to the Commissioners tomorrow. Questions number 13 and 14 were submitted by the Pathways Commission and the responses listed below were discussed as follows:



The higher ratings for street crossing safety, lighting and safety were discussed. For the first question, Schott thought the score would have been higher for the pathways' connections to the University and shopping. But access from citizen's neighborhood received a higher response.

Trail sections... (Q14)

Residents were asked how often they used Moscow's trails, including both by bike and by foot. Responses included Chipman Trail which leads to Pullman, Latah Trail which leads to Troy, and the various trails of Paradise Path around the City. Respondents were asked about their use of these trails over the course of the last 12 months. A range of possible responses were given, spanning from "once/never" to "more than 26 times." The most walked trails are the Paradise Path section from the Chipman Trail to 6th Street as well as from 6th Street to Hwy 95. Eighteen percent of respondents said they walked one of these two trails more than 26 times in the last year.



The second question asked respondents how often they used the trails and Schott felt the bar graphs were consistent across the system, nothing really stood out among the different sections of pathway. Dibble remarked how people either used all of the trails or none. Denison asked how many respondents there were; Sullivan looked in the report and said 1,200 surveys were mailed, the response rate was 27%, so approximately 400 responses. Sullivan also noted that 24% of the respondents were 65 or older, while 45% were 55 to 64. Heckendorn asked about the distribution to survey recipients and how they compared to the City's demographics; Sullivan didn't know how the randomization was determined. Schott suggested asking Community Development and Gradin suggested looking at the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

ACTION: No action, discussion item.

6. Consideration of Annual Bike Tour Venue – Gradin

The MPC will hold their Annual Bike tour in lieu of the September 11th commission meeting. In 2016 the group rode Paradise Path and in 2017 they went from the HIRC to Kiwanis Park and Hordemann Pond via the pathways through Moscow Middle School. Routes considered for the 2018 tour included revisiting Blackbird Station; riding from Mountain View Park to Berman Creekside Park and the Highway 8 underpass location; or Heron's hideout to Alturas or Berman via White Ave. Gradin said

that this will remain an agenda item for coming meetings with a decision to be made no later than August to allow promotion time for the event.

ACTION: No action, discussion item.

7. Discussion: Bike to Work Day – Dibble

National Bike Month is May with Moscow's Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 11th. Dibble asked if Schott could post the Bike for Life poster promoting their event in the City's bulletin board in Friendship Square. He said he would make it happen and the City will issue a press release. Denison asked her to share the PDF so she could help advertise; Dibble said she would. Dibble said the event will begin at 6:30 AM outside of Maialina restaurant, Todd Unger from Gritman Hospital's food services will provide snacks and One World Café will provide coffee. KLEW TV asked to interview Schott this week about the event and he invited them to come to the Sixth and Main intersection on Friday to photograph the event. Dibble will bring her grandchildren; Denison and Sullivan plan to participate.

ACTION: No action, discussion item.

Open Discussion – All

Chastain mentioned there were some large bumps and Denison said there were also gaps on the path by Mountain View Park and Good Samaritan Village. Gradin asked Schott who maintains that section of path; Schott replied that the City takes care of snow removal but will look into any agreement between the City and Good Sam. Schott also said that Good Sam must have trimmed vegetation on the path since his crew didn't do it. Denison asked if the entire pathway is owned by Good Sam; Schott replied no, it becomes City Property at F Street. Bacon suggested striping to improve safety in the area. Gradin would like to see the section paved connecting F Street east to the path, as now there's only a dirt connection.

Dibble said Bill Parks wants to put exercise stations along the path; Schott talked to him today about this and will make it a future agenda item.

Bacon would like to see the City install bike repair stations along the Pathways. Dibble said there was one on the Latah Trail around the six mile marker. Gradin thought the design of Blackbird Station included one. Sullivan asked about the need to raise funds for Blackbird Station's improvements and how that will happen. Dibble remarked that after City Councilmember John Dickinson died, the City received donations but that some of them had been returned at the donor's request since nothing was being done at the site. Schott said that the City would still accept donations, they could advertise and promote that, but that he had requested \$28,200 in the FY 18 Parks Proposed Budget to complete the project and would let the MPC know if it was approved. Gradin suggested asking for donations at the Farmers Market, volunteered to design a flyer for that purpose and asked Schott to send him the pertinent information. Dibble suggested erecting an information sign at the site. Gradin wondered if the City's new bill pay function on the website could accept donations; Schott didn't know. Sullivan thought it would be a good idea to include in the flyer information about how much was needed to complete the project. Schott said that the previous fundraising efforts were for specific items such as benches or bricks; the project especially needs, for example, funding to get the water lines out to that location before a drinking fountain could be installed. Gradin asked Schott for a breakdown of how much was needed for infrastructure, water, landscaping, etc. to include in the flyer. Chastain asked Schott if the Berman Creekside party could be used as a fundraising event for Blackbird Crossing; he said he would find out and get back to her on that.

Dibble asked about the possibility of a memorial dedicated to the late Linda Pall along Paradise Path since Pall was a strong supporter of the project. Schott said there are eighteen scarlet oak trees planted along the pathway to commemorate her years on the City Council and he is working on installing a decorative rock inscribed with a dedication to her.

Bacon shared her interactions with Matt Pollard who is a teacher at the alternative high school. Pollard has been taking his Paradise Creek Regional High School (PCRHS) students on bicycle field trips, relying heavily on the pathway system to safely move the students around town. Aside from the educational purpose this is helping them learn how to navigate the pathways and develop independence. Bacon then said if anyone had a bike or bike parts they no longer needed please consider donating them to PCRHS. Pollard refurbishes donated bikes and the students use them to travel to work and school. She then reminded everyone that tomorrow, May 9th is Fill the Racks Day for Moscow School District students.

Adjourned at 5:58 PM.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Minutes Approved On


Clerk/Deputy Signature