



Trails & Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes -DRAFT

November 6, 2024 @ 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Northwoods Clubhouse Mezzanine Room & Zoom

Committee Members

Karen Aaron VJ Bonnard Richard Bothwell	David Cahill Gayle Dana Carol Lindsay	Kevin O'Neil Livia Quan Ellen Raynor	Graham Reid Peter Sawyer Julie Thornton
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Staff, Staff Leads, & Liaisons

Denise Gauney (Board) John Groom (Staff)	Laura Lindgren (Liaison)	Leslie Loveland (Staff)
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Subcommittee Members & Guests

Terry Chang Jennifer Gomez	Merle Fajans	Eric Lawrence
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I Opening Business (3:05 pm)

- **Call to order/Quorum Call**

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Peter Sawyer (as Chair of the Trails and Open Space Committee - TOS Chair) relinquished the chair to Gayle Dana (as Chair of the Meeting -Meeting Chair)

October 2, 2024 TOS meeting minutes approved by consensus.

- **Member comments not on the agenda**

A committee member commented that there is a general lack of understanding by Trails and Open Space committee members as to our role and that we need to clarify our role to the membership.

Staff responded that they think that the committee should represent the membership.

The TOS Chair responded that this will be addressed in the upcoming Revised Charter

A committee member noted that there have been homeowner concerns about the plan for burning the burn piles in the Common Areas.



Staff responded that the burning of the piles can begin any time after November 1, that there is enough staff and resources to burn them safely, and that burning dates and places will be published on the Tahoe Donner Website

- **Comments by the TOS Chair**

The Chair commented on the Wildland Conservancy's Core Belief of open access and the fact that Tahoe Donner rests on unseeded Washoe tribal lands.

- **Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) Report**

The liaison to the LRPC reported that Director of Capital Projects noted the completion of the Glacier Way Parking Lot at their last meeting.

- **Board Liaison Report**

The Board Liaison reported that the Truckee Fire Department presented the Community Wildfire Protection Plan to the board and recognized John Groom for his work with the Fire Department in obtaining grant funding for fire prevention. She also stated that staff working on the amenity access implementation plan, capital funding policies, and the Tahoe Donner Association Strategic Objectives for 2025.

- **Approval of the October 2 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were approved by consensus.



II. Trail and Open Space Work Update/Euer Valley Projects (3:15 pm)

Staff reported that 30-40 dead trees were removed from the driving range and forestry work was completed on the High Noon Cross County Loop and the Washoe Washout area of Eurer Valley.

The Trails manager reported that she has switched to “winter mode,” trail counters have been removed and the kiosks have been changed from summer to winter. She also reported Tahoe Donner’s Truckee River Day activity was successful with 71 volunteers.

III. Year End Activities (3:30pm)

The TOS Chair summarized the year-end activities that the committee needs to focus on including writing the 2025 Task List and revising the Trails and Open Space Charter to better reflect the purpose and workings of the committee. Among the items that need to be addressed are defining the role of the committee more specifically, defining the focus of our meetings better, and exploring the use of subcommittees and working groups, rather than the entire committee to complete some tasks.

The TOS Chair made a motion that he be allowed to create working groups to complete specific tasks related to Trails and Open Space documents. His motion passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed the 2024 Task list with the goal of determining what was completed in 2024 and what needs to be done in 2025. The chair stated that he would create a Working Group to prepare the 2025 task list and that he would bring that list back to the committee at our December meeting.

The TOS Chair relayed to the committee that there are now Tahoe Donner approved templates for task lists, meeting minutes, and agendas.

The make-up of the committee and how succession of committee members takes place was discussed. The TOS Chair reminded the committee that the committee makes recommendations to the board and they approve the committee roster. We should concentrate on members whose expertise and background are beneficial to the committee. The committee discussed the fact that the present demographic make-up of the present committee is important in evaluating who should be on or recruited to be a member of the committee.



The TOS Chair stated that the committee should start looking for a new Chair, as, if approved by the board, this will be his last three-year term on the committee and he would like there to be a smooth transition.

IV. Discussion of the Land Management and Trails Master Plans

The Director of Land Management stated that he is in the process of bringing in a land management consultant. The Trails Implementation Plan will fall under the Land Management Plan.

V. Update on the Role of the Equestrian Center and Consultant

The Director of Land Management stated that he would like to hire an equestrian consultant soon. The board liaison recommended that a Town Hall meeting of Tahoe Donner members take place to discuss the equestrian center and equestrian and trail use issues.

VI. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 pm. The next TOS committee meeting will take place on December 4, 2024 at 3 pm.