Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition
July 18, 2017

Present: Kathleen Wagner, Dan Downey, Ed Mooney, Craig Simonsen, Joyce Connors, Michael Mhoon, Betty Mooney, Pete Wakeman, Pat Carrick, Maggie

1. **Previous minutes approved**
2. **LOR Grant update**: Dan Downey discussed the project to build a public park at Laknar Lane and Selway Drive, get a safe crossing over Highway 41 at Laknar Lane, and put in a connecting trail on Noble St from Laknar Lane to Skihi St. Dan D contacted Montana Department of Transportation, as they own the land and would need to work on safe crossing. Currently the proposal and architect plan is in Helena with Right of Way department waiting to be studied and approved. MDT Regional Supervisor Lee Alt and MDT Commissioner David Schulz support the project. MDT has said they will do a study and put in a cross walk over Highway 41. MDT did not want us to spend grant money on the crossing. This will potentially free money to be used on the public park and Noble St trail. Ed Mooney discussed Joyce, Dan D, Kathleen and Ed met with Jeremy Fadness with WWCC Engineering to do a preliminary engineering study on the Noble St project. He will do a meeting August 10th with stakeholders (city, county and golf course management) and then will do a follow up public meeting on August 23 to get their input. When this is completed we will have several alternatives including a document that we can use as a RTP grant proposal. (Recreational Trails Program with MFWP).
3. **MFWCT Grant** – waiting to hear back from the Trust Manager for the $50,000 grant request for the land acquisition. We owe $172,000 and have 2 years to raise.
4. **Kendeda** Update – we need to write and send an update in August
5. **High Trails Consult Plan** – BOD’s met and voted to hire a contractor to assess and perform repairs on portion of Grand Canyon at the dry waterfall, and at the steep part of Tim’s Ridge Trail, so we can open that up and add to map. Meeting identified Park Scott, Matt Walter, Bill Kolar and ask Ted Lange for recommendations. Dan D mentioned Don Kopple might know of someone. BTC has approximately $4000 set aside from Kendeda funding. Dan D will go to Wildflower Trail and will talk to Matt Walter and Bill Kolar. Ed will try to get ahold of Don. Kathleen will ask Ted Lange for suggestions**.** Betty will ask Todd Orr in Bozeman regarding trail work suggestions.
6. **Strategic Plan** – In-town (Ed will finalize summary), Governance, and Walking School Bus done, High Trails and Bike Recycling now working on it. Communications is next chapter, and then fundraising.
7. **Weed Pull update**: 6 BTC showed up to pull and spray. County provided 8 packs of spray to use. Spray along Grand Canyon and M trail done. There is still a lot of Toad Flax up there, and needs to be pulled up. Jack Eddy with county weed department and Mike Mooney suggested taking off-road vehicles and spraying weeds without driving off the double track. Policy is not to have any vehicles if ground wet. If they want to spray beyond the double track they can walk and use the long hose. There was a motion to let the BLM spray as long as stay on two track when dry, and notify with updates so we can notify Ben Pauly and Otto Miller. Seconded and approved. Kat to send email to Mike and Jack Eddy stating approval and rules to follow. jeddie@beaverheadcounty.org.
8. **Maps:** Ed would like to get maps updated. We need to get rest of junctions done, and then add to map, reprint and update website, brochure and TH sign. High Trail Committee members will take over. Pete and Betty will figure out the rest of the junctions, and then update Ed who will update the map.

1. **Financial Report:** Joyce gave financial report. Purchased more t-shirts, renewed Quick Books license. We have about $1,800 sitting in account for land acquisition, $8,000 in earnest money.
2. **1% for the Planet:** The group reached out to invite BTC to join as a recipient of the grant. Joyce Connors spoke with Patagonia Dillon regarding the invite to join. They get 1% of businesses to give 1% of their sales to them, then they filter to the non-profits. For example, Patagonia would take 1% of their sales, and disburse to their list of grantees in your area. There are no guarantees of donation, but it would not cost us anything. Joyce made a motion for BTC to be listed as a recipient. Michael Mhoon seconded it. Motion approved. Kathleen will follow link and finish process.
3. **High Trails work -** Joyce suggested a list of things that High Trails needs to get done. Includes signage of east and west side. “Please stay on Trail” needs re painted or replaced, etc.; suggested a “Phase III land, do not trespass, but donate to get more. Need to put up a fire hazard. Joyce will make and put one up for fire hazard. Joyce will send Kathleen a digital copy. Pat suggested adding to strategic plan for high trails.
4. **Beaverhead Watershed Celebration** – requested BTC to have a booth. BTC did not have enough volunteers available, so Kathleen will reply back that we are unable this year, but hope to next year.
5. **Announcement:** Kathleen announced eventual resignation due to moving out of state. She will keep work up as best as can from CO, and help with transition and training of new ED. In future will help with smaller grant writing.
6. **New position: Assistant to the Treasurer:** Dan D announced Betty Mooney volunteering to be assistant to the secretary/treasurer. The BOD’s met last week, discussed position, description, and approved.
7. **Next meeting August 17th, Sheriffs Annex**