Beaverhead Trails Coalition

Regular Monthly Meeting

December 20, 2016

Present: Ed Mooney, Dan Downey, Eric Wendland, Jeff Wagner, Kathleen Wagner, Ben Moore, Joyce Connors, Mike Connors, Ken Gil, Rob and Sandra Micken,

1) Previous minutes approved.

2) ***Strategic Plan update***: Public Input meeting – had a successful meeting, 36 total attended. Dillon Tribune did a wonderful front page article on Bike Recycling. Ted Lange will incorporate public comments into chapter form. We will have one last final plan draft. Ted will meet with strategic community partners to add into plan. Suggestions on key community partners: UMW; City of Dillon, Beaverhead County. Superintendent, Sue Hansen. Barrett Hospital, Chamber of Commerce, Patagonia, Great Harvest (Bonnie Harry).

3) Need ***all focus groups*** to prioritize their goals, spread out over 5-year time goal so we can prioritize grants.

2). ***Winter Trails Activities*** ***Day***– Saturday, January 7th. BTC voted in Nov. to help USFS. We will be using our snowshoes (purchased with grant) at Elkhorn Cabin. The event is 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. USFS will have staff as needed. They need volunteers to help with avalanche beacon search, and help in the cabin in pelts/animal station, as well as general help. Will have a winter ecology, avalanche pit, snow science. Come early around 10:30. If can help, contact Ben Moore so he has a list and can coordinate/plan accordingly.

3). ***Property Signs -*** Larry Skiles finished signs for private property lines on high trails. Mike Connors will drill holes, and Joyce/Mike will put up on boundaries. Signs will mainly go on east and north.

4) ***Grants update*** –Dan D contacted Dennis Glick, will be the lead for writing MFWCT for land acquisition for Phase III. He sent contract, we will sign and send back so he can begin work. Need to decide on amount to request. Great Harvest Bake Day –we submitted application and will know in January if we receive a bake day. We requested bake day funds for operational expenses. United Way – due end of January; we will apply for funds for bike recycling: $3000. Bike Recycling and Fundraising will team up to write grant and present to board. Possible suggestion locks, helmets, stickers/stamps. Donna Lawson will work on BCBS Grant for operational expenses but we need a health focus for the grant. Donna also suggested applying for another grant for land acquisition, Joyce will have Donna talk with Larry regarding RTP grantsIn Town Trails group will work on finding out grants for in – town.

5) ***TPL*** – for any project we choose, we will need to partner with Beaverhead Watershed Committee, as project needs to include water. Eric Wendland's group (Dillon Development Group) to improve waterway of Blacktail Creek along Swenson Way. Ideas also are Laknar to Safe Routes, and Clark's Lookout. Ben Moore, Kathleen Wagner, Joyce Connors, Eric Wendland will team up to work on TPL application, due January 20.

6) ***Porta-potty at Dillon Town Overlook Trailhead*** - discussion tabled until more at meeting

7) ***Trails workday February 4th***, Saturday. Work with Bill Kohler and a crew to improve trail on county land and add a gate. Dan D will coordinate with football players and Bill. Joyce said we have Kendeda funds for trails improvement, will use to purchase gate and markers. Advertise on website and FB/Instagram.

8) ***Transition Focus Groups*** –Continue focus groups as committees. Motioned and approved. Committees will need to meet in-between monthly meetings.

9) ***Google Groups*** – will use for mission statement. Kathleen will send to Board instructions and get conversation going.

10) ***Elections in January*** Board position opening

11) **Next meeting Thursday, January 12th, 5:30 pm. Sheriff's Annex**