Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition

September 21, 2017

Present: Ed Mooney, Alan Weltzien, Celine Beaucamp-Stout, Joyce Connors, Betty Mooney, Matt Walter (recreation-FS), Patrick Thomas (recreation-FS), Dan Pence, Dan Downey, Pat Carrick, Bill Laursen, Pamela Laursen.

1. **Previous months minutes –** approved
2. **Introduction of new Executive Director Celine Beaucamp-Stout**
3. **LOR Grant Update -** 
   1. *Public park* – Dan D is in communication with DOT. County Attorney Jed Fitch said he would help with the permit but BTC has to apply for it. The permit request was sent to the environmental department and the district office in Butte. The area already sees a lot of use but should be easy to maintain with the current plan of gravel pathways and native vegetation.
   2. *Highway 41 crossing* – Will not start until Noble Trail’s completion.
   3. *Noble Trail* – The public meeting on September 13th had 15 visitors + 4 hosts = 19 people. A lot of positive comments were received, with a lot of pressure/interests for the highway 41 crossing to be completed. A city councilman and a city planning board member attended, as well as the director of the county public health. The city is on board but doesn’t have funds to commit to it.

Right now we have to wait for the feasibility study then apply for the RTP grant (volunteers to help write the grant: Matt Walter, Pamela Laursen, Dan Downey, Ed Mooney, Celine Beaucamp-Stout for support as the ED. Note: Nathan Wilson and Kendra Bull wrote the previous RTP grant)

1. **Grant Updates**
   1. *Kendeda* – Joyce reports that application isn’t due until January (10 months past date)
   2. *People for Bikes* – The grant submitted failed. The writing done for the grant can be re-used for another. Kathleen sent an inquiry to SRAM as they have a grant funding program. Pat, Ed and Dan D to be updated on this inquiry. The downtown businesses are interested to have parking spaces to install bike racks.

The bike recycling program is on hold for the moment due to lack of space to repair the bikes. Since we advertise that we are receiving bike donations (brochure, website…), it implies that we have an active program. The bike rack is a great interim activity but we need to revive the program altogether. Action plan is to edit the bike recycling part of the strategic plan (put on agenda for next monthly meeting), and to reach Joe Brandon to ask him for an update on repair activity and place. Also, we need to check the bikes that are currently in storage (about 40 – mostly children sizes) to see if we have the room to get the ones the city has (about 30) before winter (city is storing them outside).

We could request a Great Harvest sale to finance the bike racks. Joyce will talk to Janet.

United Way gave us a $1,000 grant for bikes that we have to use so that we can re-apply.

Also other grant possibilities may come from NRCS / RAC committee (Update: Forest Service RAC is not operating due to lack of funding).

* 1. *MFWCT -* $50,000 granted for the High Trails. We want to re-apply with them. The deadline is March.

1. **Weed Pull Day Report**

The weed pull day on August 26th was very successful - About 30-35 Youth Challenge participants helped pulling about 2 truck loads of weed. County and BLM will do some spraying soon, including on our land.

1. **High Trails Update**
   1. *Consulting and trails work with Forest Service recreation specialists Matt Walter and Patrick Thomas* – 2 trails need repair: the dryfall of the Grand Canyon and Tim’s Ridge. The Forest Service is interested into contributing to the community. It is agreed to meet at the trail head on Saturday 23rd – 10am to look at the trails. A committee meeting date will be discussed then.
   2. *Peterson’s property* – Jesse and Jenny Peterson want to sell part of their property to BTC. They haven’t ruled out donating part of it. Dan D. will meet with Jesse to look at it.
2. **Strategic Plan update**

All parts are mostly done.

* 1. *Governance* - Pat is working on it. A committee meeting is set to happen on Tuesday September 26th – 5:30pm
  2. *Bikes* – Kathleen is working on editing it with Pat
  3. *In Town Trails* – The editing is done, Ed is working on his part
  4. *Walk to School Bus* - Done
  5. *High Trails* – Almost done. Alan edited. Dan Pence wants us to change where we said something about the BLM "owning" land. His point is that the BLM doesn't technically own land. He will pass those changes along to Alan so Alan can finalize things.
  6. *Fundraising* – Joyce edited. Kathleen will go over and remove some of the excess language, as in some other chapters, and will pass it along to Craig.
  7. *Communication* – Pam and Craig need to finalize.

1. **Bench Update**

Bill Mancoronal from General Welding and Repair will have frames for two benches made by October 12, one they will donate and one as a memorial to Bob and Chris McNeil (Pat McNeil will pay - should be maybe $150 max). One bench will be installed at the Jackrabbit junction and the other one will be at the Red Tail Hawk junction (top of grand canyon trail). We will need to coordinate with BLM for the installation. Dan Pence will send an update.

1. **New Business**

*Secretary Of State meeting* – September 27th, 12-1pm at Great Harvest. Ed got BTC invite and will scan it and send it by email. The meeting is to support businesses. It is an opportunity for partners. Recreation trails bring business and outdoor opportunities. Joyce will see for reservations and call the secretary of state office. Celine, Dan D and Joyce will attend.

1. **Next meeting Tuesday October 17th – 5:30pm - Pioneer Mountains medical building conference room**