Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition

May 17th, 2018

Present: Dan Downey, Betty Mooney, Joyce Connors, Ed Mooney, Patrick Thomas (USFS).

1. **Previous months minutes**

Tabled.

1. **USFS – Patrick Thomas**

USFS will have a National Trails Day at the Bender Center Loop (Aspen Picnic Area trail corridor) - Birch Creek, Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the environment education trail.

They’ll need 2 or 3 volunteers – Volunteers should bring glasses, water, tools.

BTC will post the event on the website and Facebook page.

Cost Share Agreement with Forest Service will be reviewed at the next board meeting next Wednesday, May 23rd.

1. **Climb The M Fund Run – Post Mortem**

The event had 25 runners + a couple walking.

Expenses were $475 ($375 for T-Shirts)

So 300 a piece

Lessons learned: Mid to end of April is a nice time of the year.

* For next year, we need more meetings and marketing (areas target).
* No need to keep it tied to a college weekend event because it doesn’t seem to help with the participation.
* We need to set up a relay run, at the same price as 3x5k
* We need a few more volunteers, although BTC had a lot of volunteers staged at each intersections.
* We need to try to not be the same day as Earth Day
1. **Grants update**
* *Wells Fargo Grant:* $20,000 for land acquisition. We are still waiting to hear back.
* *Clif Bar:* Asking for High Trails, for $9900 for them to sponsor 18 acres. Finishing and working on it now, due June 1
* *Blue Cross Blue Shield:* Discussed reason for denial again. Was told limited budget, couldn't fund this year. Can try again next year
* *United Way:* Approved $1000 for Selway (not to be used for trash collection) – Nothing for bike recycling

Celine talked to Pioneer Federal Saving and Loans to sponsor part of the Bike Recycling project. They agreed to donate $400 to buy parts.

* *Union Pacific Foundation:*Kathleen filled out the survey and qualified to apply for grant. She is currently working on it, it is due June 1. Ed and Kathleen are working on finishing it up, due end of May ($25,000)
* *RTP:* $45,000 grant for Noble Av. Connector Trail was denied. There were a lot of applicants.
* *MFWCT:* We received the CAB's recommendation letter for the funding of the Dillon High Trails Project. It's now going into the 30 day public comment period.
* *Cinnabar:*will apply for land acquisition for the High Trails (grant w/ strong conservation focus). Due March 31. Application has been sent in, along with maps at their request. We will hear back around July 1. still waiting
* *Conservation alliance:*Joyce and Kathleen worked on a letter for Patagonia to be our sponsor. They will need to send a list to the trust to recommend us on May 1st. Ask Joyce for update on this
* *AARP:* Could apply for grant for signs and landscaping for Selway Park (between $2k and $10k). Sent in application on Monday. Asked for $7200 for signage, vehicle counter, picnic benches and bike racks.
1. **Selway Park**

Under construction. Topsoil is placed, foot bridge is installed, so are picnic tables and benches.

Native grass prairie seeds were ordered from Circles S, Three Forks.

Pivot Plus provided a 2” gas pump, twice 100 ft of hose and a watering bird to water the re-vegetation areas for riparian habitat. Watering will have to happen for a couple of weeks with a rotation of volunteers.

Might need to spray weeds twice before seeding using a backpack weed killer.

Betty will talk to Mike Mooney to spray weeds.

FWP will put up a temporary sign: “Selway Park”.

We need a concrete pad for ADA at entrance – concrete pad, wheelchair.

1. **Noble Av. Connector Trail**

Still waiting on RTP

Ed Mooney is working with Kathleen Wagner on the Union Pacific grant ($25,000).

We could probably do North sections with Union Pacific and LOR.

Engineering plan: Dan talked to Jeremy Fadness.

1. **New business**
* High Trails: Discussion about what section to buy.
* Work Day on Tim’s Ridge Trail (High Trails) June 9th.

Patrick cannot make it but Matt possibly will. Bill Kolar will come.

The plan is to do 2 gates and work on trail.

Contact Celine or Kathleen to coordinate.

Joyce contacted Montana Youth Challenge, they can come, asked for 12 cadets, same ones (need to send in form).

Joyce contacted Patrick, Matt, Bill Kolar, Montana Youth Challenge.

DNRC that day?

1. **Next meeting Thursday June 21st – 5:30pm – Sherriff’s annex conference room (reserved). Adjourn.**