

Monthly Meeting
 Beaverhead Trails Coalition
 Sheriff's annex conference room
 August 20th, 2020

BOD members present: Dan Downey, Dan Pence

BTC Director present:

BTC members and guests present:

Convened at 5:30pm by Dan Downey;

1) Approve previous meeting minutes

- July 16th, 2020

2) Treasurer Report

• **Joyce's report for July 2020**

Total bank accounts: \$41,556.23

Unrestricted: \$ 23,396 (General: \$ 18,285.16 - Kendeda: \$505.24 – Speyer: \$4,606.02)

Restricted: \$ 18,160

Land: \$ 612,734.25

Total assets: \$ 654,290.48

July Income: \$ 2,015.00 (Membership: \$720, direct public support: \$1,295)

July Expense: \$ 1,352.11 (supplies: \$128, payroll: \$1,224)

Net income: \$ 662.89

• **Membership count as per July 16th:**

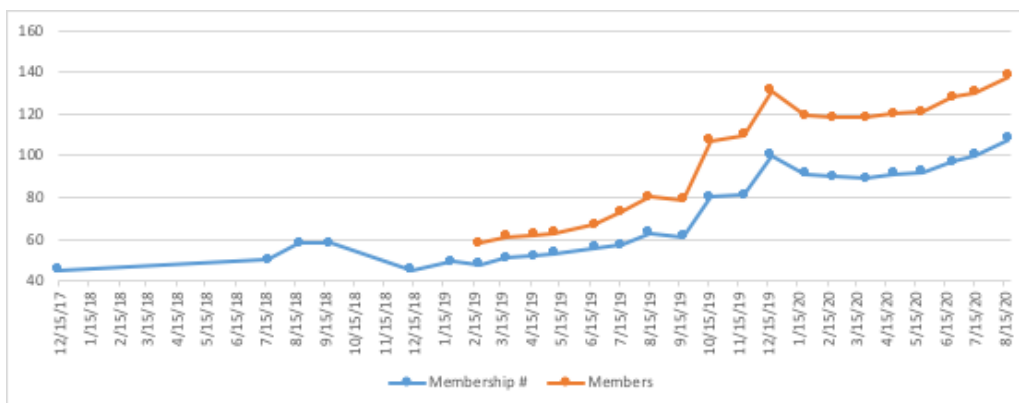
total membership: 108 total members: 138*

Patrons: 50 **Note: a family membership counts for 2 members*

Businesses: 6

Family: 30

Single: 22



3) Grant Updates

State Farm: Still waiting to hear back.

National and local funding directed towards auto and roadway safety. Submitted late October for \$25,000. Noble Av middle and south section. Was supposed to hear by the end of March. Their website still says *“they will communicate decisions by end of first quarter”*. Ed contacted but did not receive a reply back. I've dug around the site looking for contact information or a number and have not found anything. It does not announce any winners yet either, so perhaps it's all on hold?

BCBS Healthy Kids - Denied. Not enough funding

Steele Reese - Joyce and I finished the SR Foundation Report and turned in.

Union Pacific - Ed finished the report from previous funding (and installed their logo on the fence). Their funding cycle begins typically in April-May for application submission, and funding announced by Sept. Currently they do not have any announcements regarding their 2021 cycle.

Currently searching for wildlife friendly fence funding, Noble Ave and Operations/Org. expenses. This is a slow time of year for grants, but some should be posted soon. Many funders are on hold due to Covid and/or the election, waiting to see if their end will receive more funding or not that they can provide, or they are on hold from spring cycles and have not announced winners yet.

Cornell Park: We can start looking for grants, including for Stream bank restoration, Landscaping, Solar powered lights for the parking lot, Removal/replacement of the leaking vault toilet.

4) High Trails

- **NW Passage Trail:** built all the way around the hill and starting down to low saddle on the East side. Looks great! Doubt they'll be back this year with all the fires but the rest doesn't really need much. It's all flagged and usage will imprint it better. Trail can be seen from a lot of vantage points.

We will need a work day to improve the trail across the “Big Valley”, but neither Joyce nor Ed can do it at the moment, so maybe in September?

- **Wildlife-friendly fence project:** we will need another day with the cadets to finish retrieving the chicken wire removed from the East side fence. It's too hot right now and the cadets are new. No other volunteers are allowed while the cadets are there so Joyce is working on it on her own.
- **Weeds:** If it rains, we can pull more toadflax by Pete's Gully and Grand Canyon. We will need to stay on top of the weeds early next year to keep it down (after all the efforts provided this year!). Weeds to be removed in priority are:
 - Dalmatian Toadflax
 - Henbane
 - Houndstongue
 - Mullein (listed as noxious in our County)

Preferably BEFORE Labor Day.

- **Grazing lease:**

- Ben Pauley fixed the worst of his fences by Pete's Gully. Haven't had time to check other places
- Did we receive the new grazing lease draft? Note: the new grazing lease should include a comment to represent the case below:
- Question raised in last meeting: It appears that a "gravel pit" appeared up the road from the corrals. I have not had the time to check it but according to Montana DEQ Opencut Mining Permit regulations, it probably doesn't require a permit (< than 10,000 cubic yards (aka a volume represented by a 400 ft long * 400 ft wide * 20 ft deep). The current grazing lease allows "excavation for and building corrals, road improvements including culverts to accommodate Pauleys use of said property", so this is authorized if the material is used to support the ranching activity.

5) Cornell Park Update

- Appraisal received, a copy was sent to Matt Jaeger, FWP. Mimi Wolok, Land Conservation Specialist and Lands Agent on this project, called Dan D.
- Now that we agreed on the MOU, Celine is passing it along to all the parties for signature.

6) Other

- **Intern:** Celine sent the intern recruitment ad we agreed upon on Monday to Debbie Huber from UMW's Business Department (5-10 hr/wk, starting at \$12/hr). Debbie said it would be a great opportunity for a business student and will pass the info to other professors and to the students. It is asked to send a resume incl. at least 2 references and a cover letter to BTC's email address before September 15th.
- **Selway Park:** Doing well, Joyce planted some milkweed (3 survived). Some posts keep being knock down, we might want to push them back a little to give vehicles more room to turn. Little bit of garbage.
- **Pigtail Trail:** Needs a work evening this fall (mostly for weeds and adding some gravel). Joyce asked Tod Hazelbakker about delimitating a parking space by the sign (on city property). He said he would check the cadastral to see how much space we have. No news since so Joyce will contact him again.
- **Nelson Street Connector Trail update:** City is still debating about abandoning the property.
- **Noble Avenue Update:** As mentioned above, Ed and Larry installed the donors logos on the fence

7) Next meeting

Thursday September 17th – 5:30pm at Sheriff's annex.

Adjourn at 6:00 by Dan D.