

Monthly Meeting
Beaverhead Trails Coalition
Video/phone conference
October 15th, 2020

BOD members present: Dan Downey, President; Craig Simonsen, VP; Joyce Connors, Treasurer; Pat Carrick, Secretary; Ed Mooney; Dan Pence

BTC Director present: Celine Beaucamp-Stout; Greta Sanders (Intern)

BTC members and guests present: Alan Weltzien, Zach Owen (Beaverhead Watershed Committee)

Convened at 5:37 pm by Celine;

1) Approve previous meeting minutes

September 17th, 2020

Pat moved to approve. Dan P seconded. No opposition or abstentions. **Approved.**

2) Treasurer Report

• **Joyce's report for September 2020**

Total bank accounts: \$46,414

Unrestricted: \$ 29,439 (General: \$25,200 - Kendeda: \$0 – Speyer: \$4,200)

Restricted: \$ 16,975

Land: \$612,734

Total assets: \$659,148

September Income: \$300 (Membership: \$300)

September Expense: \$2,678.11 (Payroll, Liability, volunteer accident, signs)

Net income: \$ -2,378.11

- Pat requested that financial statements be shared w/BOD at least 3-4 days to 1 week before regular meetings in order to enable responsible review.

• **Membership count as per September 17th:**

total membership: 95 total members: 114*

Patrons: 58

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

Businesses: 5

Family: 19

Single: 13

3) Grant Updates

Received:

- **Forward Montana Foundation:** received a \$250 gift card for participating in the census awareness effort. I selected 3D to be the gift card store, we will order our T-shirts from them, and potentially stickers.
- **Bench Memorial:** Katherine Barnett, daughter of Torborg Haga Hoyland, who passed in 2016, donated \$1,000 during the summer toward a bench at the High Trails. Ms. Barnett likes the proposed location (on Tim's Ridge).
The last benches material/work came from: Decking from Max Hansen – welding from Bill Macoronal – put together by Mike Connors, cemented by volunteers. Dan D will ask Max, Joyce will call Bill.

Denied:

- **State Farm 2019:** Denied. Kathleen received news on Oct 12 saying they sent an email to us on January 29, 2020. I checked again, we never received it. Submitted late October for \$25,000. Noble Av middle and south section.

Applied:

- **Clif Bar:** Applied. Deadline was Oct 1. for Noble. \$10,000. We should know by Feb. 1
- **Town & Country Foods:** Celine sent a “round up your bill” proposal to the local Town & Country Foods store. They have never done it and were interested to hear more about it. Presented to have it toward Noble Av.

Others:

- **America Walks Community Grant:** Due Nov. 9th. This fits for Noble Ave. Kathleen and Ed are working on it. \$1,500
- **State Farm:** Giving it another try for Noble – Due at the end of the month? Will ask for less money. Between \$5,000 and \$10,000 (BOD present approved this range for the application.) Ed and Kathleen are working on it.
- **RTP:** We are considering applying for next cycle for Noble Ave. Ed will look into the process and the timeline. Application open Nov 2, due Jan 1. (Ed hopes to meet w/Mark Boka to discuss Noble Ave project. Dan Downey would like to be present too.)
- **Union Pacific** - 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. Apply again for Noble?
- **Giving Tuesday:** Let's focus on Noble Avenue this year. Online (Facebook) fundraiser on December 1st. BOD + members go live on FB and do challenges as we reach milestone amounts. Celine hopes to be at Noble Ave and has in mind a number of fun activities (challenges) to be accomplished by BOD members to celebrate \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500, \$2,000.

4) High Trails

- **NW Passage Trail:** Ed, Joyce, Mike Connors improved the trail across the “Big Valley”. Raked the trail too. T-Posts across the valley.
⇒ Article on our website, social media, Dillonite, Tribune, Montana Standard!
- **Fence Project:** Along the 10-mile road, work on tightening up the fence with Steve Primm. Joyce will talk w/Beth Sullivan to see if there are any possible Patagonia volunteers. Joyce has also tried to connect w/Greater Yellowstone Coalition for fencing \$\$\$, but has not been able to connect so far.
- **Grazing lease:**
Draft started by Celine and Dan D. Will use template from USFS and BLM, as well as our previous lease, and range specialists’ recommendations. There are also some templates online that may be helpful. Current recommendation by our consultants is to suspend grazing for 5 years in order to rehabilitate the land. Alan suggests consulting again with Wendy Ridenour who has significant expertise. Dan Pence volunteers to contribute his years of expertise as well. The intention is to design a draft lease w/our desired constraints. However, there is no legal obligation by the leasee to observe any new requirements within the period of his current lease that expires in 10/2023. Craig notes that the current lease implies an option for the leasee to unilaterally continue the lease at that time. The likelihood is that, at the expiration of the current lease, we will rest the land for at least 5 years and maybe longer.
- **Painting of the M:** Tomorrow at 1pm. BTC members are welcome. 4-Wheelers and pick-up truck will drive to the M before 1pm to bring the paint. Celine sent a text to Ben Pauley. Joyce and Mike will pick up the chicken wire bail left at the fence while they are there.
- Dan Pence notes a few places on Pete’s Gully, Quick Gulch and Grand Canyon trails need some diversions for possible run-off (if we ever get any precipitation).
Workday planned for 10/21 @ 15:30 to make these improvements.
- Dan Downey has not yet been able to get together w/Harold Brown regarding access. Joyce has an idea to put together some materials for Harold that would

5) Cornell Park Update

- Deed was taken to the court house last week but the recording clerk would not accept it without the deed for the other part. Attorney, Andy Suenram, hoped to finalize additional paperwork w/Erb’s today.
- Meeting w/FWP land agent, supervisor for fishing access sites, seemed very positive. FWP would accept the land, has to proceed through numerous processes in order to do so. Hopes to be ready to receive land by summer, 2021 – After researching mineral rights, ...

- 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. Pat asked that we track expenses r/t Cornell Park transparently in our system of financial reports. Joyce will explore accounting methodology options to do so.

6) Other

- **Pigtail Trail:** No news from Todd about the parking space. Needs a work evening this fall (mostly for weeds and adding some gravel).
- Greta is working on social media presence and also on design of a sticker that could be applied to water bottles, laptops, etc.
- **Noble:** Ed wants to meet with Mark Boka to discuss putting the trail on the ditch. Dan Downey would like to join.
- Celine feels there have been benefits from the class she has been taking re: NGO mgmt. She is working on improvements to the reminders and receipts for memberships.

7) Next meeting

Thursday November 19th – 5:30pm – probably videoconference again if COVID-19 cases are still up.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm by Celine.