Beaverhead Trails Coalition

Regular Monthly Meeting

August 13, 2015

Those Present: Ed Mooney, Joyce Connors, Pete Wakeman, Craig Simonsen, Dan Pence

**Old Business**

Previous Minutes: Motion to adopt the minutes of the last meeting was approved.

Land Purchase: Discussion took place regarding the Phase I land purchase and what needs to be in order for the purchase to happen. Max Hansen OK’d the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation regarding our ownership of the land on a temporary basis. Once the insurance is in place, it will only take a week for the realtor to get things set up. We need to set a closing date and need to have a management plan in place for the F&W Conservation Trust Grant funds to be transferred. They will be transferred directly to the closing agent.

Dan and Pete met previously on the management plan and future trailheads and Pete wrote up a starting management plan. Pete also met with Ben Pauly regarding the lease he has for cattle grazing. We need to meet again soon to finalize the insurance and closing date, so it was decided to meet at the Brewery on Tuesday, Sept 1st at 5:30.

Member/Donor Database: Craig reported on the progress of the database. The basic data is in, with lots of holes that need to be cleaned up. Using the list for some event will auto polish it up.

Member Picnic: We talked about having a member picnic or something to celebrate the purchase of the land. Originally, we had talked about doing something in late August, but decided to aim for late September, sometime near the signing date. We hope to add to and use the new database to organize some sort of invitations. We would like to invite the people who came to Pint Night and those who sent in comments supporting the project. We’ll try to get a list from Deb Lane of those who sent in comments.

Kendeda Fund: Dan D. and Jim have been working on the Kendeda Fund Grant application, which is due on Saturday. (Note: Since this meeting, the grant proposal was sent in and we received word that we had been awarded $25,000, with $20,000 being for organizational needs and $5,000 for trail work.)

Walking School Bus: Joyce met with Cheyenne Sparks and has also been in contact with Jamie Flynn in regard to the Walking School Bus. Jamie and Shannon Williams will take over running the program this year. We closed the separate bank account and will now run things through the main BTC bank account, with Joyce reimbursing Jamie and Shannon for any expenses. They had an organizational meeting recently and said that things were looking good and they might have enough volunteers to do the program 5 days a week.

Pigtail Tail Work: Joyce contacted Nathan regarding where we are at in using the funds we have available for the Pigtail Connector Trail. Nathan thought we had $5,000 or so remaining. Dan is working on a sign that will have the names of the contributors.

**New Business**

Treasurer’s Report: Joyce gave the treasurers report for July. We currently have $17,256.98 in the main Stockman Bank Account, $2,046.11 of which is Walking School Bus funds. We also have $243,415.08 in the Stockman Asset Management Account available for the land purchase. With the $100,000 from the F&W Conservation Trust coming at the time of signing, we have enough for the purchase of Phase I, with approximately $80,000 left specifically toward the Phase II land purchase. July’s main expenses were the purchases of the register box ($502.75) and the Donor Perfect software ($645). Deposits consisted of the 2nd quarter of the United Way grant, $400 from the Brewery for Pint Night, and the second Pigtail reimbursement of $10,492.68. We are working on the 990 tax form and it will be sent in on Friday.

Signing in at the Trailhead: It was brought up that many people are not signing in at the trailhead, so we talked about some sort of sign noting the importance of signing in so we have a record of the number of people using the trails, for future grant applications.

Other trails and easements: We plan to talk to the country about an easement for a trail coming across the old dump site at some point for people who are coming from further back in the hills to the parking lot. Pete has a idea of where we could put a trail without being in conflict with the shooting range.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be the one mentioned previously that is planned for Sept 1st at the Brewery at 5:30. This is an extra meeting to take care of the details for the land purchase. The next regular meeting will be on September 10th at 5:30, the place to be determined.