Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition

February 15th, 2018

Present: Pamela Laursen, Bill Laursen, Pat Carrick, Patrick Thomas (USFS), Shelley and baby Liam Thomas, Dan Downey, Betty Mooney, Michael E. Mhoon, Pete Wakeman, Ed Mooney, Celine Beaucamp-Stout, Sue Hansen, Dan Pence, Ben Moore, Dylan Zitzer, Jamie Flynn

1. **Previous months minutes**

Motion by Ed Mooney to approve, seconded by Bill Laursen, all in favor.

1. **Walking School Bus**

Jamie Flynn presented briefly the program and its challenges. There is a need of more volunteers and participating children.

The program has a Facebook page and flyers are distributed in the schools before the start.

Celine will send an email to the members, send a text to the press, share a publication on Facebook groups. Jamie will contact the radio and distribute flyers.

Volunteers can contact Jamie at her work number: (406) 683-3780

1. **Climb The M Fund Run**

The fund run will be held on April 21st. 15k race will start at 9am, 5k race will start at 10am. The trails will be almost the same as last year, the 15k being the 5k loop three times.

Dylan Zitzer presented the poster for the fund run (similar to last year’s). Posters are ¢50 each to print. He will distribute to strategic locations outside of town and we will place some around Dillon. The goal is to have around 50 participants.

We will ask Joyce and Mike Connors if they want to make the awards again. Maybe we can add some “I did it” award for the participants of 65+?

Dylan will order the same tee shirts as last year. He will provide a tent, some tables and water jugs. Celine can provide a table and some water jugs as well.

Celine will send a Land Use Agreement form to Dylan and will ask Kathleen about results from the feedback survey she sent last year.

1. **Grant Update**

* *Wells Fargo Grant*: $20,000 for land acquisition. Application was submitted on Dec 7th but had to resubmit for this year.  waiting to hear back
* *Clif Bar*: Sent Early November for high trails. They notified in late December that we did not get it because of not enough funding. They have three cycles in 2018 due Feb. 1, June 1 and Oct 1 We did not apply for the Feb 1st deadline. It was decided to wait and see how much funds are raised at Bake Day and then decide it worth applying for to finish up Bike Racks project.
* *Blue Cross Blue Shield*: Organizational support. Kathleen and Joyce. Submitted. Waiting to hear back.
* *United Way*: Sent in January. Pat Carrick\* and Dan Downey will present in March (March 7th?).  \*Bill Laursen can replace Pat Carrick if she is unavailable.
* *Union Pacific Foundation*: Eligibility survey in April-May, and if we are accepted, we will do an application, which will be due June 1.  This grant will be for either Noble avenue or the Selway public park.
* *RTP*: Sent in January. 15 applications were received by the state, 8 will be selected to present in Helena. 4 will be chosen.
* *MFWCT*: Land acquisition. Due in April. Future West to help with the grant writing (Dennis Glick). We will need support letters.
* *Kendeda*: Joyce is working on the report.
* *Cinnabar*: $15,000. We will apply for land acquisition for the High Trails (grant w/ strong conservation focus). Due March 31. The members of the high trails committee would like to be involved in the application writing.

1. **Great Harvest Bake days**

Review of guidelines sent by Great Harvest:

* March 21-23 from 7am to 2pm
* Great Harvest will take care of advertising in the Dillon Tribune, Dillonite Daily and setting up radio ads (Joann at KDBM will contact BTC about someone coming in and recording those). Dan Pence and Ed Mooney would like to participate to the radio interview if there is one.
* BTC can do additional advertising in press and distribute flyers. Great Harvest will produce and print posters about 1 week prior to the event. BTC is responsible to distribute them. Celine contacted them to set up a Facebook event now – it is done and anybody can share it and/or invite people. Celine posted it on 4 facebook groups of Dillon community. She will repeat early March and again the week of the event. Kathleen posted the event on BTC’s website.
* We need volunteers from BTC’s group in the lobby to help carry out bags and thank the customers everyday from 10am to 2pm at least (peak time). No more than 2 volunteers at a time. We need to prepare brochures/small display about BTC and the project (Bike racks). A virtual calendar will be set up to organize the volunteers.
* Note that GH does not facilitate pre-orders but encourage call-in orders the day of the event. The number at the bakery is 683.1690

1. **Bike Racks**

Plan is to install 1 corral and 1 cluster this year for people to try and continue with more installation next year (2 years program). Timing of event may look like this:

* February-March 2018: Select locations, talk to businesses affected and choose sources (vendors) for material
* March 21-23, 2018: Bake days
* April 1-15, 2018: Receive funds,
* April 15-30 2018: Place order
* May 2018: Receive material and prepare/pour+paint sites
* June 2018: Install racks

1. **Cost Share Agreement with The Forest Service (Dillon Ranger District, B-D National Forest, Region 1)**

Pat Thomas (recreation specialist for the Dillon district of the FS) presented the draft of the renewable 5 year agreement for BTC members to review. The agreement is a non funded challenge cost share agreement to document the cooperation between BTC and FS in promoting Outdoor Education, special events, trail work (incl. equipment use) and public involvement throughout Beaverhead County. Beside from documenting the work both parties participate in, the Forest Service will benefit by involving the community in the responsibilities of public lands (management, development and stewardship). BTC will benefit from the agreement by having a valued partner.

1. **New business**

* Snowshoeing day at Elkhorn: The Forest Service will organize a snowshoeing day at the Forest Service cabin by the Elkhorn Hot Spring on Friday February 23rd, starting at 10am with snow coring activities and snowshoe hike for all ages.
* The new Rotary president would like to meet with BTC to discuss future involvement and support. He is invited to participate in the April Monthly Meeting (April 19th). Letter from Michael Mhoon distributed to request the meeting.
* The ordering of the tee-shirts have been very difficult (order placed early December and still not received). It is considered to change supplier.
* Joe Brandon need an inventory made on the bike with description of the wheel size. He recommends keeping the bikes together because of the limited space (compared to dismantling them and keeping the parts). Bill and Pam Laursen volunteered to do the inventory. They also offered to keep the bikes that are ready to go at their house (in a secured place) to free up space in the storage unit. A Facebook account and a gmail address will be set up (by Pam Laursen) to make communication and distribution easier.

1. **Next meeting Thursday March 15th – 5:30pm – Sherriff’s annex conference room. Adjourn**