Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition

July 19th, 2018

Present: Dan Downey, Ed Mooney, Joyce Connors, Pat Carrick, Larry Volkening, Brent Kirkpatrick, Celine Beaucamp-Stout

1. **Previous months minutes**

Motion to approve June 21st meeting’s minutes by Ed Mooney, seconded by Dan Downey

1. **Treasurer report**
* The organization has 50 paid up members. Celine has been sending emails to members with expired membership to encourage them to renew.
* Selway still has funds in the bank.
1. **Fundraising**

The fundraising dinner will not happen this year. Subject tabled until September to organize it in 2019.

1. **MOU with Bike Walk Southwest Montana**

Pat Carrick will print to bring to Dan Downey and Larry Volkening for signature.

BTC has storage paid until the end of September and can hold on to the bikes until then while BWSWMT’s shop is being built in Chris Kraft Park.

Larry Volkening would like the bikes transferred by labor day because of volunteers availability.

1. **Grants update**
* *Wells Fargo Grant: Denied -* $20,000 for land acquisition. They are focusing their efforts on education and community development.
* *Clif Bar:* Asking for High Trails, for $9900 for them to sponsor 18 acres. Applied in May, we should hear beck in a few months.
* *Union Pacific Foundation:* $25,000 – application was submitted on May 1st, we should hear back by September.
* *MFWCT:* We received the CAB's recommendation letter for the funding of the Dillon High Trails Project. BTC received about 25-30 letter of supports from the community. The application is with the trust manager for final approval.
* *Cinnabar:*Denied. 116 grant applications submitted, unable to fund all requests―and unable to fully fund many of those that were approved.
* *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. Joyce did not hear back from Patagonia.
* *AARP:* Denied. Selway Park. Asked for $7200 for signage, vehicle counter, picnic benches and bike racks.
1. **Selway Park**
* Park weeding and seeding is completed. Watering is going well. The schedule is filled until the first week of August.
* The concrete posts laid on the ground to protect the re-vegetation will be replaced by 6”x6” green-treated wood posts sticking out 1 foot out of the ground and set about 4 feet apart. It will be about 45 posts. Dan will contact R.E. Miller or Standard Lumber to buy them. I will cost about $1000. The posts will be installed by R.E. Miller.
* Stakeholder party on August 1st at 2pm. We will have food (burger – Dan Downey will take care of the groceries) and music (Celine is investigating multiple opportunities). Members should bring folding chairs. We are expecting about 30 people.
1. **High Trails Phase III**

We have not heard back about buying parcels this fall.

We could close in September for parcels G, H and I. That would give us more chances to obtain funds to buy the remaining of the parcels in 2019.

We need more people to Sponsor an Acre to buy the remaining of Phase III.

1. **Other business**
* Bike Racks

Nothing new about installing the remaining 2 locations this summer.

* UMW Opening Week – Walk to the M on August 25th at 10:45

Celine will ask them to fill in a land use agreement.

* Labor Day: Sunday Fun Day + Parade + Fair table – BTC participation

We do not have enough volunteers available for any Labor Day Weekend event.

* Pigtail connector trail maintenance

We could bring bags of gravel to cover the areas where the liner is visible and starts to be damaged.

The trail also need weed spray. Include in the August 4th schedule (see Weed spray at the high trails point below)

* 2019 Range Days – access to the High Trails for plants identification (June)

Celine will send them a land use agreement for them to fill and ask them if BTC members participate?

* Weed spray at the high trails

Augut 4th – 8am to noon – We will need 8 to 10 people to spray spotted knapweed, toadflax, houndstongue at the high trails and at the Pigtail Trail Connector. Dan Downey will ask the county for some weed spray.

* Noble Avenue

No update from the city about starting construction on the North end. We could have a work day with volunteers and start the trail on the south end.

* Blacktail Creek Trail

Eric Wedlund has been trying to acquire the property on Blacktail creek (between the YMCA and Montana Street). The goal is to clean up the junk yard (will be done by Dept. of Environment Quality) and build a trail along the creek.

The question was can BTC take the land with the help of Ray Ann Sutton, who has a grant opportunity and get the project going? The subject will be discussed at the next meeting. Celine or Dan will invite Ray Ann Sutton to come discuss it with us.

* The city is planning to hire a grant writer to apply for a grant from Transportation Alternative to build the walk and bike road-side lane from Jefferson St. to Park St. They would like BTC to write a support letter for the grant application. Celine will attend the Street and Alley Committee meeting on August 6th to get more details.
1. **Next meeting Thursday August 23rd – 5:30pm – Sherriff’s annex conference room (reserved). Adjourn.**