Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition

October 18th, 2018

Present: Dan Downey, Pete Wakeman, Joyce Connors, Ed Mooney, Sara Bennett, Betty Mooney, Pat Carrick, Bill Laursen, Pam Laursen, Craig Simonsen, Curt Lemhouse, Celine Beaucamp-Stout.

1. **Previous months minutes**

Motion to approve September 20th meeting’s minutes after corrections by Pat Carrick, seconded by Joyce Connors. All in favor.

\*Corrections:

“8) Other business

* + - * + Trail building and economic development conference in Boulder CO hosted by Headwaters Economics and LOR foundation. Attended by Dan Downey, Ed Mooney and Kathleen Wagner. October 24-26, 2018.”

1. **High trails Phase 3**

Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust transferred the $100,000 grants ($50,000 in 2017 and $50,000 in 2018).

The sell is signed and officially closed but the deed has not been recorded yet with the County Recorder Office yet. The remaining of phase 3 being less than 160 acres, it has to be surveyed before the deed can be recorded. The survey fees will be spilt between the seller and the buyer.

Easement access to BLM land is 1/3 mile north of the newly acquired land. Motion has been made to start seeking an easement through the 1/3 mile of private land to install a trail by Joyce Connors, seconded by Ed Mooney. All in favor.

1. **Selway Park**

The project is close to completion. We still need to install a permanent sign (the temporary sign can be installed behind the permanent sign for a better esthetic), a bike rack an additional picnic table and an additional bench.

The bushes planted earlier this fall be be watered until the end of next week. Then we will proceed to final seeding before the snow sets and return the watering material to Pivot Plus.

1. **Treasurer report**

$100 was transferred in the High Trails Phase 3 bank account to keep it open without a zero balance.

The LOR grant has a balance of $16,500 for Noble Avenue Project and $5,260 for Selway Park.

1. **Grant updates**

**Clif Bar**- asked $9,900 for sponsoring of 18 acres. Denied because of too many applications for their funding. We were told to try again. We could reapply in the Feb. 1 cycle, for High Trails or Noble Avenue with general operation expenses. They want grants that help environment, increase outdoor activity opportunity, build stronger communities. Both projects could fit this. Just need the approval.

**Union Pacific –**Received for $5,000 towards the Noble Avenue Connector Trail.

**Lawrence Foundation –**Working on finishing touches. Asking $10,000 per year for the next two years operational funding. Average grant amount given is $5,000. Application is due Nov. 1.

**Cornell Douglas Foundation**- Will finish formal letter of inquiry once Lawrence Foundation is done, since it has a deadline, and this one does not. Also asking $10,000 for operational expense through High Trails project. They fund conservation and sustainability projects.

**America Walks Grant:** Working on finishing touches for this one, due October 31. Mini grants for $1500 for projects that improve walkability in communities. Applying with Noble Ave. project.

***Looking ahead:***

**BCBS:**Last year we were told our application was solid but they are limited in funds, with most going to Prickly Pear (located where they are) and Montana Conservation Corps (do work statewide). The application will not change much, so should be easy to do updates and try again. it's for operational expenses, and more of a first come first serve, so in January... need to start prepping in Dec.

**Cinnabar:**This will be due between Jan and March 31, typically. We have been told many times to apply for this one. One funding priority they have is private land conservation, and can get general operation expenses for such projects.

1. **Noble Avenue**

Ed Mooney is working on getting quotes from multiple companies in town so that work can start in spring.

1. **Other business**
   * + - * BTC will have a stand at the Keltz Arena on October 31 for the Chamber Of Commerce Halloween Party. Joyce and Celine will participate.
         * Trails Forum next Monday through Wednesday.
         * Fundraising dinner this winter/spring in the UMW Lewis and Clark Room? We can start asking for sponsors and auction items.
2. **Next meeting Thursday November 15th – 5:30pm – Sherriff’s annex conference room (reserved). Adjourn.**