Regular Monthly Meeting

Beaverhead Trails Coalition

November 15th, 2018

Present: Alan Weltzien, Pete Wakeman, Betty Mooney, Michael Mhoon, Dan Downey, Celine Beaucamp-Stout, Bill Laursen, Pam Laursen, Ed Mooney, Dan Pence, John Warren, Craig Simonsen, Joyce Connors, Pat Carrick

1. **Previous months minutes**

Motion to approve October 18th meeting’s minutes by Michael Mhoon, seconded by Bill Laursen. All in favor.

1. **Treasurer Report**

BTC now owns 987 acres for a value of about $540,000.

The fee for the survey of the remaining parcel to be bought will be covered by our land acquisition grant.

1. **High Trails**

Phase 3 land acquisition is not recorded yet. The survey report is not finalized. Should be within the next 2 weeks.

Celine, Dan and Pete W. will work on the questions from Casey Elliot, reporter for the Tribune.

Celine will ask Badger Pass Sceptic to haul the portable toilet away for the winter.

Bill Laursen is working on a sign board for the trailhead.

1. **Grant Update**

**Union Pacific:**grant received. $5,000 towards the Noble Ave project

**Clif Bar:**BOD approved reapplying. due February 1. They are looking to fund projects that increase outdoor activity, so High Trails and Noble Ave both fit with this

**Lawrence Foundation:**Submitted application. Requested $10,000 per year for two years or operational expenses. We will hear back by December 1.

**Steele Reese:**We applied for this one last year, and was denied. However, we were given a note that said to contact and have a phone call before submitting again. I have a phone meeting with the foundation on Thursday, and will update. If we are invited to apply, it will be due

Asking for $50,000 for the High Trails - land and operational support. They fund rural communities with rural conservation and preservation, so only that project fits. This year they are limiting applications of 150, so need the approval first. They will accept the applications between Dec 3 and January 9. It might be a first come first serve, so IF we are invited to apply, I will prep in November so it's ready to go Dec. 3rd. It is the same as last year, so just some updates and edits are needed.

**Cornell Douglas Foundation:**I will finish formal letter of inquiry and send off this month. They do not have a deadline. Also asking $10,000 for operational expense through High Trails project. They fund conservation and sustainability projects.

**America Walks Grant:**Submitted application late October. Requested $1500 for Noble Ave project.  Will be notified in December.

***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). I do not think the application will 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 3. 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. **Selway Park**

The park needs a final interpretive sign, another bench and another picnic table.

Final grass seeding was done in fall before the watering material was returned to Pivot Plus.

1. **Noble Avenue**

A committee has been formed to work on the grant. The proposal id due at the end of January 2019.

Letters of support need to be gathered. Website needs to be updated with a separate page from the connectivity page.

1. **Other business**
   * + - * LOR conference in Colorado: report by Craig Simonsen

Dan Downey, Craig Simonsen and Kathleen Wagner attended the trails symposium in Denver, CO. It was organized by Headwaters economics and financed by the LOR foundation. About 40 people attended, from a variety of sources (city councils, county commissioners, trail groups…).

BTC received good feedback on strategy such as establishing a vision and goals, knowing who is our audience, select 3 short time goals, how to bring the community in…

* + - * + Giving Tuesday is coming up and Celine is starting to organize a mini fundraiser. The goal is not so much to raise a lot of money this year but to start getting used to having it every year. See website page <https://www.beaverheadtrails.org/givingtuesday/>
        + Celine will sit with Stockman bank regarding the organization of a fundraising dinner for 2019
        + BTC will have a Holiday Gathering in December.

1. **Next meeting Thursday December 13th – 5:30pm – Sherriff’s annex conference room (reserved). Adjourn.**