

Monthly Meeting  
Beaverhead Trails Coalition  
Phone / Video conference  
March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

BOD members present: Dan D., Craig, Joyce, Pat, Ed, Pam

BTC Director present: Celine Beaucamp-Stout

BTC members and guests present: The meeting was a phone conference due to COVID-19 confinement and limited to board members.

Convened at 5:43 pm by Dan D;

**1) Approve previous meeting minutes**

- January 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Motion to approve: Ed, Pam seconds, All favor
- February 20<sup>th</sup>  
Motion to approve: Ed, Craig seconds, All favor

Correction: Cornell park "outhouse",  
Precisions requested: high trails: 109 cows (precision on source: Larry Skiles), DNRC to construct the Cliff trail base and NW passage

**2) Treasurer report**

• **Joyce's report for February 2020**

Total bank accounts: \$58,378.22

Unrestricted: \$16,876.03 (General: \$11,683.41\* - Kendeda: \$5,192.62)

Restricted: \$41,502

Land: \$612,734.25

Total assets: \$ 671,112.47

February Income: \$8,603.03 (Grazing lease, Tim's contribution)

February Expense: \$828.88 (Ad for bid process for Noble, Payroll, taxes, travel & meetings)

Net income: \$7,774.15

\*Motion by Pat to put the grazing fees in unrestricted, Craig seconds

• **Membership count as per March 26th:**

total membership:	89	total members:	118*
Patrons:	34		
Businesses:	3		
Family:	29		
Single:	23		

*\*Note: a family membership counts for 2 members*

### 3) Grant Updates

**Steele Reese Foundation:** applied for another \$15,000 to put towards the HT project. Was sadly denied.

**State Farm:** National and local funding directed towards Safety... auto and roadway safety. This one was submitted late October, and we asked for \$25,000. Noble Av middle and south section. Waiting to hear back. Will hear by the end of March. I checked on this one to see if any delays, and their website still says *they will communicate decisions by end of first quarter*.

**United Way:** asked for funds for WSB and Pigtail Trail maintenance

WSB: \$330/year for three years. It would be used for the lunch meeting in the Fall, ending meeting in the Spring, printing expenses, and prizes for the kids.

Pigtail: \$1030 for bridge paint and signs sealer.

*Received \$1,000 - Proposal to allocate \$800 for Pigtail and \$200 for WSB (2 years) – No objections.*

**BCBS:** \$10,000 for general expenses. Denied. Same response as years past.

**Cinnabar:** Applied for Cinnabar. Asked for \$3,000 for wildlife fencing in the HT. Funding decisions will be announced by July 1.

**AARP Liveable Communities Grant** - we will apply for this one again for Noble Ave. \$40,785 (\$20,000 for fence, \$5,785 for 280 feet of middle section, and \$ for culvert)

With showing the progress that was made this summer, it increases the likelihood of funding, being close to the end. The only hitch is the project would have to be done by Nov. of 2020. Due date May 15th. Ed and Kathleen partner on this one. Subject to funds received from State Farm. Ed sent out our options on the direction to take, and needs to be approved by BOD before moving further on application.

⇒ Motion by Joyce, Pat seconds. All in favor.

**Cornell Park:** funding search on hold until more details for the area are finalized.

**Festival of Trees:** Possibility for Noble if more funds are needed for the middle section.

**Patagonia:** Retail Grant: projects that take place within the communities of the Patagonia retail stores. Proposal will be reviewed by the employees of the retail store.

BTC would be their “Montana group” for the Patagonia Action Work Program. They do not fund trail creation, maintenance or restoration, but they fund “innovative work that addresses the root causes of the environmental crisis and seeks to protect both the environment and affected communities. We focus on places where we’ve built connections through outdoor recreation and through our network of retail stores, nationally and internationally.”

⇒ Fence work for wildlife at the High Trails

April 30 deadline: All applications submitted in April will receive a response by the end of August.  
August 31 deadline: All applications submitted in August will receive a response by the end of January. One proposal per group per our fiscal year (May 1–April 30). Typically, between \$8,000 and \$12,000.

**LOR:** just asked for a report. Forward to board.

**Kendeda:** report due in May

#### **4) Noble avenue**

- Pre-construction cleaning day on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mark Boka (Golf course) has issues with the trail: fence will not be long enough. He wants a phone conference with BTC to talk about it. The golf course wants the fence to go all the way to the corner to keep people out.  
Teleconference Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm (Dan D., Ed, Mark Boka)
- Fence is going up Monday
- Potential plan to convert the ditch into a culvert with the trail on it – that way it would be separated from the road.
- Highway department said they would look into the crossing across the highway

***Amendment from April 2020 meeting:***

***Decision to use the excess money (LOR) to fund the middle section (to be built separately from the road).***

#### **5) High Trails**

- Received the grazing lease (\$3,500)
- Poop and Pete's gully clean-up on March 25<sup>th</sup> went well. Celine dropped off trash bags and a garbage can at 8 am to allow people to clean-up all day (social distancing in space and time), and it was full by 5pm.
- Volunteer hours recording from the website – only 2 people did yesterday – it might take a lot of reminders for people to do it (Board members can record all their time spent working for BTC, even for admin, meetings, ... Mention the reason in the Location field)
- B middle trail new name: Monument Trail? Suggestion from Larry Skyles.  
Move to approve the Monument Trail name contingent to approval by committee, seconded by Joyce. All in favor.
- Dan D talk Aly Christians (NRCS range specialist) – meet at 1pm on April 15<sup>th</sup> to sample the grass and help us revise the grazing lease (pro bono)
- Harold Brown: met in December. Favorable about the easement (1/4 to 1/2 mile), not decided on where to put it. Wanted to meet again in March to explore, delay due to pandemic. Call him again in 3 weeks.
- Weeding should be done in May, once we get weed spray from county – the event would have to be supervised

#### **6) Cornell Park**

- Conservation District (Jessica March, secretary) pledge \$1,000 for Cornell; Watershed Committee might match it => it will be applied to appraisal fees
- Appraiser from Virginia City (Scott Peterson) can't do the appraisal – appraiser in Helena (Matt Joki) can do it mid-may. \$3-4,000 total, Dan D paid \$1,500 of it (retainer fee).
- Ray Gross did survey, it was mailed to Jon Erb to be signed and get notarized.
- FWP is interested in having a role in the park.
- Waiting for the deed to transfer mid-May, then ask FWP for help with a design.
- Kiwanis want to lead

- Outhouse is locked, will be torn out
- Ed talked to the tree board about evaluating the trees. Need to get it done while the trees are dormant.

### **7) Other Business**

- Vote on Non-discrimination policy

*“Beaverhead Trails Coalition does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national or tribal origin (ethnicity or ancestry), disability, marital or pregnancy status, sexual orientation, sexual identity or military status, in any of its activities or operations.”*

Motion to approve by Craig, Joyce seconds. All in favor

- Pioneer Trail Club: vote on BTC adopting the club as a program?

Not at this time. We need more info to decide, such as insurance, liability... Board is not opposed but decided to investigate further.

- Next Wednesday: Selway clean-up (same concept as this week: leave garbage can in the morning, promote distancing in space and time). Canceled.
- Earth Day – April 25<sup>th</sup> : No festival but encourage people to clean up their side of town – dumpster and trash bags will be available
- June 14<sup>th</sup> – 9am: Wildflowers walk with Catherine Cain
- Walking Schoolbus update – schools are closed – Postponed until further notice
- Box clean-up going on. Please review and upload important documents you might have to the appropriate folders.
- Celine will be working on finalizing 2019 Annual Report, update the brochure, and send a Spring 2020 Newsletter after she’s done organizing Box. The website also needs a little bit of cleaning.

### **8) Next meeting**

*Tentatively Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm at Sheriff’s annex.*

⇒ *Postponed to April 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Adjourned at 7:00 by Dan Downey