

Monthly Meeting  
Beaverhead Trails Coalition  
Sheriff's annex conference room  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

BOD members present: Dan Downey, President; Pat Carrick, Secretary; Joyce Connors, Treasurer; Pam Laursen; Ed Mooney; Dan Pence

BTC Director present: Celine Beaucamp-Stout

BTC members and guests present: Larry Skiles

Convened at 5:32 pm by Joyce;

**1) Approve previous meeting minutes**

- July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - Pat moves to approve. Larry seconds. No abstentions or opposition. **Approved.**
- August 20, 2020
  - Pat moves to approve. Larry seconds. No abstentions or opposition. **Approved.**

**2) Treasurer Report**

• **Joyce's report for August 2020**

Total bank accounts: \$48,777.56  
Unrestricted: \$30,617.75 (General: \$25,649.86 - Kendeda: \$505.24 – Speyer: \$4,462.65)  
Restricted: \$18,159.81  
Land: \$612,734.25  
Total assets: \$661,511.81  
  
August Income: \$8,329.55 (Membership: \$360, donation: \$7,969.55)  
August Expense: \$1112.22 (Insurance, payroll, supplies)  
Net income: \$7,217.33

Details on yearly Insurance costs: \$754 (Director)  
\$520 (general liability)  
\$226 (volunteer ins)  
\$300 (worker's comp)  
\$1,800

• **Membership count as per September 17th:**

total membership:	99	total members:	124*
Patrons:	53	<i>*Note: a family membership counts for 2 members</i>	
Businesses:	6		
Family:	25		
Single:	15		

### 3) Grant Updates

**State Farm:** Still waiting to hear back. Submitted late October for \$25,000. Noble Av - middle and south sections. We were supposed to hear by the end of March.

**Clif Bar:** Next cycle is due Oct 1. Application is exactly like years past. Applying for Noble Ave. - \$10,000. They announce each cycle's winners before the next cycle begins, so fast turn-around.

**RTP:** considering applying for next cycle for Noble Ave. Ed will look into the process and the timeline.

**Union Pacific** - Ed finished the report from previous funding (and installed their logo on the fence with Larry). Their funding cycle begins typically in April-May for application submission, with funding announced by Sept. Currently they do not have any announcements regarding their 2021 cycle. Once open, we will apply for Noble Ave.

**Giving Tuesday:** Let's focus on Noble Avenue this year. Online (Facebook) fundraiser on December 1<sup>st</sup>. BOD + members go live on FB and do challenges as we reach milestone amounts, such as . . . PLUS we could do something at Noble Av. trail during the day (pick up garbage, clean up weeds, selfies with a Board Member, membership/donation drive, hot beverages, lunch?..)

**Town & Country Foods:** Celine sent a "round up your bill" proposal to the local Town & Country Foods store. They have never done it and were interested to hear more about it. We would propose to apply it toward Noble Av project.

Currently searching for Noble Ave and Operations/Org. expenses, as well as Cornell Park. This is a slow time of year for grants, but some should be posted soon. Many funders are on hold due to Covid, waiting to see if they will receive more funds to distribute. Some appear to be on hold from spring cycles and have not announced winners yet.

Cornell Park: We can start looking for grants for Stream bank restoration, landscaping, solar-powered lights for the parking lot, removal/replacement of the leaking vault toilet, etc.

### 4) High Trails

- **NW Passage Trail:** Kyle Rawson, Engine Boss, DNRC Dillon unit notified us on 8/27/2020 that they finished the trail, including a few water bars. It has been getting a lot of foot traffic as well as mountain bikes, and people seem to be enjoying it.
  - Celine is working on a news release recognizing DNRC. Will contact Dillon Tribune & Montana Standard.
  - DNRC logo has been added to website acknowledging them as sponsors.

We will need a work day to improve the trail across the "Big Valley", but neither Joyce nor Ed can do it at the moment, so maybe in September?

- **Wildlife-friendly fence project:** we will need another day with the cadets to finish retrieving the chicken wire removed from the east side fence. It's too hot right now and the cadets are new. No other volunteers are allowed while the cadets are there, so Joyce has been working on it on her own.
- **Weeds:** If it rains, we can pull more toadflax by Pete's Gully and Grand Canyon. We will need to stay on top of the weeds early next year to keep it down (despite all the efforts provided this year!) Weeds to be removed in priority are:
  - Dalmatian Toadflax
  - Henbane
  - Houndstongue
  - Mullein (listed as noxious in our County)
- **Grazing lease:**
  - fences were fixed at the worst places.
  - we have a lease template that we would like to institute to replace current lease. Plan now is to discontinue lease arrangement when it expires/comes up for renewal in 2023.
  - gravel pit - Ben is within lease and State requirements.

#### 5) Cornell Park Update

- Appraisal received. Deed not transferred as of 9/17/20. Deed transfer fee (modest) is the only anticipated expense. John Erb has to sign a document to finalize. We expect to receive a deed.
- MOU signed by all parties
- FWP activities:
  - There are a few new trees down at the park. The beavers are on a rampage, and the wind has also recently blown down a couple. As Chris pointed out, we want to make sure we leave some branches for the beaver, to keep them busy and away from standing trees. Fencing to protect trees against beaver damage has now been put in place by Zack Owen (Beaverhead Watershed Committee).
  - "FWP received commission endorsement to proceed with the acquisition of Cornell Park into the FAS system. Some of the next steps will be to get a lands agent assigned, start the EA process, and settle on one of the preliminary designs that were produced. "This will be a really nice project and hopefully an easy addition into the system. Thanks for all of the hard work from all of you up to this point. Let's keep it moving and get this project over the finish line." Dustin Ramoie, Fishing Access Site (FAS) Coordinator.
  - Bardel Mangum scheduled the survey truck and equipment for Thursday, October 8, for a topographic survey.
  - Mimi Wolok, Land Conservation Specialist, will be the Lands Agent on this project.
  - **Meeting @ the park w/ Mimi, Jay Pape, and other FWP on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am** to discuss FWP acquisition of land for purpose of establishing fishing access site. All BOD members invited to attend.

#### 6) Other

- **Intern:** Dan Pence, Dan D & Celine interviewed Greta Sanders 9/16/20. She had a great cover letter & interview. All her references highly recommended her.

- Joyce moved to approve hiring her for 8 wk w/potential for renewal. Pam seconded. No opposition or abstentions. **Approved.**
- **Selway Park:** Doing well, Joyce planted some milkweed (3 survived). Some posts keep being knock down, we might want to push them back a little to give vehicles more room to turn. Little bit of garbage.
- **Pigtail Trail:** Needs a work evening this fall (mostly for weeds and adding some gravel). Joyce asked Tod Hazelbakker about delimitating a parking space by the sign (on city property). He said he would check the cadastral to see how much space we have. No news since so Joyce will contact him again.
- **Nelson Street Connector Trail update:** City is still debating about abandoning the property.
- **Economic Story of Trails and Conserved Lands, Heart of the Rockies Initiative Training Cohort.** \$325. Five Training Sessions, 12-1p every Tuesday, September 22nd-October 20, 2020. Celine would be interested and believes it would be useful for her role. Will be remote.  
Dan D moves to authorize Celine to attend. Dan P seconds. No abstentions or opposition. **Approved.**

## 7) Next meeting

*Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm at Sheriff's annex.*

Ed moves to adjourn – Joyce seconds. 6:47pm