

Monthly Meeting
Beaverhead Trails Coalition
Video/phone conference
November 19th, 2020

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

BTC Director present: Celine Beaucamp-Stout; Greta Sanders (Intern)

BTC members and guests present: Larry Skiles, Zach Owen (Beaverhead Watershed Committee), Chris Edington (Trout Unlimited), Micheal Mhoon

Convened at 5:37 pm by Dan D;

1) Approve previous meeting minutes

- October 17th, 2020. Pat moves to approve with correction listed below. Ed seconds. No abstentions, none opposing. **Approved.**
 - America Walk grant: correct amount \$1,500 instead of \$15,000

2) Cornell Park

- Dan D: Deed transferred to BTC about three weeks ago. Dan D sent a copy to FWP Land Conservation Specialist Mimi Wolok – she wanted a title search so Dan D. asked Sara Bennett Welborn for one. The estimated cost for the title will be about \$160. Trout Unlimited might be able to help cover that cost, Dan D offered to donate the rest.
- We are now in a position to lead restoration work with our partners. Zach and volunteers have placed wire fencing around trees for protection against beavers.
- Joyce and Larry put up signs indicating that BTC is now assuming liability for the park. Zach stated intention to meet with FWP – hopes to finalize design and budget. Dan & Zach will arrange meeting w/FWP. Zach also wants to reach to landowners around the park.
- Possible funding sources:
 - Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) – administered by MT State Parks (state and local projects portion of it). Needs a match. (Beaverhead Watershed Committee)
 - There is also a program of appropriations called “Future Fisheries” w/cycle starting 6/1/21. Significant resources available. Need a design in place. (Trout Unlimited)
 - Steele Reese – fall 2021 (BTC)
 - Kiwanis has a foundation that might be able to contribute funds.
- To do list:
 - Contacting owners – Zack Owen
 - Contact Michelle about LWCF – Chris Edington
 - Meet with FWP – Dan D and Zack (1st or 2nd week of December)
- Need to coordinate w/Kiwanis to put up new sign, possibly lights.

3) Treasurer Report

- **Joyce's report for October 2020**

Total bank accounts:	\$ 43,360.85	
Unrestricted:	\$ 28,894.68	(General: \$ 24,832.61 – Speyer Grant writing: \$ 4,062.07)
Restricted:	\$ 14,466.17	
Land:	\$ 612,734	(doesn't include Cornell Park)
Total assets:	\$ 656,095.10	
September Income:	\$ 550	(Membership: \$ 400, donation: \$ 150)
September Expense:	\$ 3,613.60	(Payroll, taxes, supplies, contracted services)
Net income:	\$ -3,063.60	

Mardell Scott finished the 990 tax. Joyce plans to meet w/ Mardel to clarify how to incorporate Cornell Park into accounting scheme.

- **Membership count as per October 17th:**

total membership: 99 total members: 118*

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

4) Grant Updates

Received:

- **Bench Memorial:** Katherine Barnett, daughter of Torborg Haga Hoyland, bench location on Tim's Ridge.
Joyce ordered bracket welding from Bill Macoronal – Mike and Joyce Connors will buy decking material and assemble the bench. Once it's done, we'll organize its installation on the trail. Bench cost around \$350.
Andrea Simonsen wants a bench too

Applied:

- **State Farm 2020:** Ed and Kathleen submitted an application at the end of Oct. They asked for \$8,000 for the Noble Ave construction. We should know by end of first quarter.
- **Clif Bar:** Applied for \$10,000 for Noble Ave. We should know by Feb. 1
- **America Walks Community Grant: Applied** Ed and Kathleen applied for Noble Ave. Worth \$1,500. They will be emailing all applicants directly by December 2020.
- **Town & Country Foods:** They will allow us to have donation boxes at their cash registers during the holidays.

Others:

- **RTP - Stewardship Match Grant Program (MT State Park):** Due Feb 1, Ed started application. For \$22,000 (\$28,000 needed).
- **Union Pacific** - funding cycle begins typically in April-May for application submission, and funding announced by Sept. Apply for Noble for \$5,000

- **United Way:** opens 12/1/20 – app due 1/31/21. Let's ask Kathleen to apply for \$2,000 for Noble.
- **Steele Reese:** opens Dec 1 – for Noble - \$5,000. We need to have letter of intent in by 12/1/20.
- **BCBS:** This one typically opens in early January. We have yet to get it, but I can apply again. BOD's need to discuss and let me know. Cornell for stream bank restoration. Dan D will help.
- **Giving Tuesday:** Let's focus on Noble Avenue this year. Online (Facebook) fundraiser on December 1st. BOD + members go live on FB and do challenges as we reach milestone amounts.

Cornell Park: funding search now for park restoration, stream rehabilitation, landscaping funding. So far I have a short list of grants to apply for, but they do not open until early next year or Spring. This includes AARP, VF Foundation, Quadratic, Rumphius Foundation, and a few others I'm still researching. I will keep looking.

5) High Trails

- **2 work days:**
 - water diversion bars (about 6 volunteers), take note of bikers are going around the water bars.
 - fencing + Put in gate by water-works. Also, in effort to comply w/wildlife friendly fencing, added some PVC to lower wire of fencing. And last of the chicken wire was retrieved. Organized by Joyce, with the help of Youth Challenge and other volunteers.
- **Grazing lease:** Celine is working on new proposal for grazing lease. DD & Dan P will help.
- **Easements:**
 - Monday Nov 23rd – 9:30: Meeting at county regarding overlook trail easement. Print copies of easement, maps, copies of post 9:15am
 - There has been proposal to create a packet for Harold Brown. Joyce will prepare.
- **Pronghorn Pursuit Trail Run 2021:** Set for August 7th

6) Other

Noble Avenue Trail: Ed met with Mark Boka. He is happy about the trail and the plan for .
Other Item not on the agenda

7) Next meeting

Thursday December 17th – 5:30pm – probably videoconference again if COVID-19 cases are still up. Christmas party meeting – wear Christmas Items.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm by Celine.