

Grand County TRAIL MIX COMMITTEE Meeting
MINUTES

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Grand Center, 182 N. 500 W., Moab, Utah

Attendees: Geoff Freethey, Sandy Freethey, David Olsen, Sharon Hogan, Scott Escott, Richard Coffinberry, Katie Stevens, Zacharia Levine, Tom Dillon, Elaine Gizler, Paul Spencer, Chris Baird, Mimi Trudeau, Brooks Carter, Marc Thomas, Autumn Ela, Kim Schappert, Neal Clark, Bill Topper, 19 people attended.

Call to Order: Chair Sandy Freethey called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM

Approval of minutes from July 14, 2015. *Kim Schappert for Mimi Trudeau*

A motion to approve the minutes from July was made by Tom Dillon and seconded by Brooks Carter. The minutes were approved with the following revision:

Under City/County Updates: remove statement categorizing eBikes as mopeds *with less than 75rpm and no faster than 20 mph* - should just say *mopeds*.

Treasurers report: *Sharon Hogan*

- a. Income update since last report \$ 200.00
- b. Expenditures through 7/31/15: \$25,388.40
- c. Total income in 2015: \$ 34,826.00
- d. General Fund Balance: \$57,190.74

State Park Grant Closing Out Soon: Klondike, Klonzo, Navajo, 7 Up/Area/Horsethief

- Sharon Hogan reported final grant figures – 4 trail systems have been completed (47.9 miles) – all conditions have been met within the time frame. We are now eligible for \$40,000 matching funds from Utah State Parks within the next 30 days. Thanks to all who were involved, including Sharon who worked diligently to keep track of volunteer hours, monies, etc. for the grant!
- Horsethief trail system article (Multiple Choice) highlighted in Terra Incognita blog by Daniel Christianson

County/City updates: *Chris Baird, Zacharia Levine, David Olsen, Sandy Freethey*

- Request from Wellington, New Zealand for trail development information.
- Request from Grand Junction newspaper about Moab trail development.
- BLM Field office is coming to see how Moab builds trails on August 26th. They will view various sites to see how obstacles are overcome. The archaeologist will accompany the group to a trail in the planning stage so they can experience how a trail can be moved as needed. People are welcome to join the tour.
- Sandy introduced and welcomed Elaine Gizler, the new Travel Council Director. Elaine informed us that the Travel Council is looking to put some publicity in Grand Junction papers about the Moab trails.
- **Action Item:** Electric Bikes on paved paths/Pro or Con. (Trail Mix Committee is a non-motorized trails committee). Firm stand has been taken that eBikes do not belong on non-motorized paths, paved or not paved; the

current paths do not accommodate them due to their speed and impact. Most of the interest revolves around the paved path to Rt. 313. It is a BLM right of way and BLM says that the paths/trails are not designated for motorized use including eBikes. Kim suggested that specific paths could be recommended for eBikes. Zacharia suggested that "No eBikes" designations should be added to existing signs to avoid confusion and possible misinterpretation. Park City is currently doing a study on commuter pathways and the use eBikes.

Moab Active Transportation Committee update: *David Olsen*

- Melinda Snow is in charge of Safe Routes for Schools program locally. Ideas are being considered. A red light instead of yellow light system might be used for pedestrian crossing on main street.

Forest Service updates: *Autumn Ela*

- July 18-19th Forest Trail Building work party went well. Another party scheduled for Aug 21-23 at Medicine Lake and Terrace Trails. Come Friday night and camp, then work Saturday. Contact Brian Murdock at bmurdock@fs.fed.us, or Matt Hebbard matt@rimtours.com or Tracy Reed Tracy@chilebikes.com
- Trail maintenance volunteer work party went well!
- October - work scheduled in Mill Creek with Friends of Mill Creek (climbers).
- Complaints about bridge from horseback riders on Burl Friends, Brian Murdock will look into this.
- Many articles this month about Forest Service Trails: Moab Happenings & Explore articles: Brooks Carter on Jimmy Keen Mt. Bike Trail and Marcy Hafner on Mann's Peak hiking trail.
- "Be Bear Aware" when traveling in the Mountains! (Sandy passed around article about Yellowstone and how bikers can ward off bears).
- Autumn was on TV - Bull Canyon area paving, toilet installation and Kiosk that is being built with interpretive information for Dino Prints. No more incidents of vandalism since then.
- Mt. Tuk trail is finished.
- Forest Service is seeking information about mountain goat sightings in order to keep track of them and monitor their interactions with people. It has been observed that the mountain goats dig and therefore disturb the ground where people have peed. It is recommended that hikers relieve themselves on the talus instead.

BLM info and Trail updates: *Katie Stevens and others*

- **Action Item:** Seeking approval to propose Chisholm Trail extension from Horsethief Camp to Navajo Rocks/Big Lonely Trail (approximately 5.6 miles). The extension will connect to the campground and lead nicely into two trail systems. Also proposing to put in a trailhead off of 313, near the camping ground in anticipation of the parking needs. Kim made a motion, David seconded it, and all approved.
- **Action Item:** Hiking *Marc Thomas*/ Seeking approval to propose the Longbow hiking trail to the BLM. Location - off of Poison Spider 4x4 road without going

on jeep trail – somewhat steep at both ends of the trail. 2.5 mile trip – unless you take the road for part of the trip. Hopefully switchbacks can be put in – it will be a challenging and fun trail. This goes by rock art panels – signage would be needed to either arch (1.2 miles) or dinosaur tracks. Parking lot size may be a problem because the space will be shared by many motorized users and hikers during the busy season. David made a motion and Kim seconded it. All approved.

- Big Burrito Trail Update: Wildlife person is currently doing their review and then it will be put out for public comment. Katie will let us know when the comment period starts and ends.
- “OK Corral Trail” at Moab Brands update: will start construction Thursday. Corral fencing will encircle the trail area. Miles Gurtler will provide the BLM Bobcat and drill the post holes. State Parks is providing a Backhoe and driver to make sure the drainage issue is addressed. The Trail Mix Crew will set the posts and construct the trail. The area should be ready for Sept. use.
- Parking lots and trail heads under review by BLM engineer, Dan Stenta and UDOT; Seven Mile Canyon (equestrian) and Navajo Rocks/Ramblin’ (mt. bike). Still in process.
- Potential New Equestrian Trail Head & Parking: Location being considered is at the end of Road #233, along the road to new location of CFI, off of Hwy 128. Update- still in process. CFI is ok with idea and would like to have a sign on the highway saying Equestrian Trailhead and CFI.
- Open House/info and scoping comments on 16 oil pads will be held Wed. Aug 12, 4-6pm Grand Center. A comment box will be available at the meeting as well as on the BLM website (E-Planning – click on documents to write comments). Note - some of the area trails are right next to the proposed oil pad sites.
- Climbers (Jim Mundell and Maddie) interested in trail work to climbing trailheads. Scott suggested that they pick a site, put a project together and take Scott out to look at it. Scott will pursue this.
- Kane Creek/Jackson Trail bridge ideas: A 110’ span is needed to cross Kane Creek. Kim Schappert sent a picture out of a bridge she saw on private land – a not simple, but not involved bridge. She is trying to get a set of plans.
- Maintenance: A great deal of maintenance has been done lately: Mega Steps, Alaska, Pipe Dream, Upper Bull Run, 7 Up, Dead Man, etc.
- Graffiti in Mill Canyon reported by Sara Melnicoff. Repainting planned in Sept.
- Katie – Reminded the group that Fisher Mesa trail is on the travel map and could be built at any time. People seem to have lost interest in this trail. Kim pointed out that unless people in Castle Valley are interested in it, it probably won’t happen. Katie wants a decision to pursue it or end it and noted that part of the trail is on Forest Service land. She stated that if a trail is proposed, there needs to be a plan to stick around and build it!
- Bill Stevens and Miles reported that the cairns on Stairmaster hiking trail keep getting knocked over. Katie pointed out that it is preferable not to have paint on a hiking trail. Stairmaster is not a private hiking trail it is on public lands. The cairns and rock lining are there to help maintain one trail route, and to protect the land from trail braiding damage.

MMBA update: (Moab Mountain Bike Assoc.) no update-Tracy Reed not present.

Equestrian update: *Richard Coffinberry*

Took a scouting ride in preparation for travelers doing the Old Spanish Valley Trail ride.

Citizens to be heard:

None today.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Trudeau

Trail Mix Secretary

Sandy Freethey

Trail Mix Chair signature: _____