

Grand County Trail Mix Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 14, 2021
Held via conference call only
PRELIMINARY

Meeting called to order at 11:06 AM.

Present: Paul Spencer, Jacques Hadler, Kya Marienfeld, Katie Stevens, Steve Schultz, Randall Fox, Brian Murdock, Laura Harris, Maddie Logowitz, Cory Schurtleff

Absent: Kim Schappert, Colin Topper, Marc Thomas, Brett Sutteer, Justin Ricks, Kirsten Peterson, Tyson Swasey

Guests: John Guenther, David Foster, Brent Crowther, Reid Bakken

Guest Presentation: John Guenther (Grand County Planning and Zoning Director), David Foster (Alta Planning) and Brent Crowther (Kimley-Horn) presented information on the Grand County/Moab Unified Transportation Master Plan (UTMP). The plan will cover the Moab Valley from the San Juan County line, north up to the Airport. This is of special interest to Trail Mix, as it will set goals for the future of transportation - including walking and biking - within the area. After the presentation volunteers to attend a meeting and provide feedback to the planners; Paul Spencer, Randall Fox, Maddie Logowitz, Steven Schultz, and Kya Marienfeld volunteered. The meeting will be held the week of September 20th.

Approval Of Minutes: Jacques moved to approve the minutes as published; Steve Schultz seconded. Motion passes 8-0 with one abstention.

Citizens to be Heard: No comments were received.

BLM Report: Katie reported on the second set of Old Spanish Trail figures that have been donated by the Utah State BLM (separate from the set to be erected along the bike path across from UMTRA). Steve Schultz and the Back Country Horsemen have recommended a site near the Courthouse Rock campground; it was agreed that was a good location, both in terms of accessibility and in historical accuracy. The State BLM office will also be providing an interpretive sign.

The Green River Gap trail (equestrian) has been marked with carsonite by the State BLM office. They will be installing trail head signs at either end of the 10 mile long trail in the future. Paul will work to get the trail on the trailforks.com web site.

Trail Mix and GCATT will be having a National Public Lands Day volunteer trail day on Saturday the 18th, to rebuild the Amasa Back connector trail.

Forest Service Report: Brian gave an update on road closures within the forest: Geyser Pass Road is still closed from Gold Basin to the top of Geyser Pass. The lower section from the Loop Road up is open, but undergoing major work, and so is strongly recommended to avoid. The Whole Enchilada is still accessible, but only by going up the back way through La Sal. The Lasal Pass Road and Brumley Road are closed as well, due to severe flooding damage. Moonlight trail is open but is undergoing maintenance and restoration due to fire damage.

The month of August was spent in collaboration with GCATT restoring and rebuilding Burro Pass trail, which was very successful. The collaboration will hopefully be renewed.

Official scoping for the new Forest Plan opened on August 25th. Public meetings will be held on September 21st and 22nd and the Forest Service welcomes public comments.

Steve mentioned an increase in conflicts between hunters/campers and cows at Medicine Lake.

GCATT Report: Maddie also noted the excellent results of the work on Burro Pass and other trails in the forest, and the overall success of the agreement with the Forest Service. Public trail work events are scheduled for this Saturday (National Public Lands Day) and Sunday (in conjunction with Canyonlands Field Institute) and are being promoted on social media. The Trail Ambassador program is starting up; three people have been hired and training is in progress. The Craggin' Classic is October 31; a trail work project is being looked for.

County Report: Jacques reported on progress on the e-bike rule changes for the bike path north of town. The DOE portion and the NPS portion are still not approved, and so e-bikes remain prohibited on the pathway. The Grand County Lands bill is in progress and will go to public comments soon.

City Report: Cory had no updates.

Chair Report: Paul reported that the Brand trails were in good shape except for the OK Corral; Maddie was already aware, and work is scheduled to be done.

Biking Report: Colin was not present, but Chair noted that Colin had visited two shops in town (one new and one under new ownership) to introduce himself and to provide information on local rules and regulations.

Climbing/Canyoneering Report: Brett was not present, but sent an email saying he was working with the BLM on some issues.

Equestrian Report: Steve mentioned the possibility of a public work day to erect the new OST figures, in mid-to-late October, as well as a possible future visit from BLM State officials. More signing and work on the Bijou trail will be a winter project for the BCH.

Hiking Report: not present

Trail Running Report: not present

Skiing Report: not present

Action Items: none

Discussion Items: Randall asked whether people had feedback on the IMBA Trails Are Common Ground program, but nobody had received any information on it. Randall will check with IMBA.

Jacques Hadler moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 PM. Cory seconded.