

Grand County Trail Mix
Tuesday January 14, 2020
Grand Center, 182 N 500 W, Moab, Utah

Present: Paul Spencer, Aaron Lindberg, Sharon Hogan, Tyson Swasey, Felecia Amundsen, Cory Shurtleff, Keri Frandsen, Kya Marienfeld, Kevin Stowe, Brett Sutteer, Marc Thomas, Katie Stevens, Denise Ricks, Justin Ricks, Mila Dunbar-Irwin

Absent: Kirsten Peterson, Scott Escott, Stephen Schultz, Brian Murdock, Zacharia Levine, Evan Clapper

Guests: Jen Williams, Melissa Stocks, John Fogg, Britta Kingsley

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

Trail Mix Business: Nominations for all positions were called for; Chair and all representative positions were willing to continue. No other nominations were received. Voting was unanimous for the presented slate of: Paul Spencer as Chair, Aaron Lindberg as Mountain biking representative, Marc Thomas as Hiking representative, Stephen Schultz as Equestrian representative, Justin Ricks as Trail Running representative, Kirstin Peterson as Skiing Representative, and Brett Sutteer as Climbing/Canyoneering representative. No nominations were received for vice chair and that position remains open.

Sharon motioned, and Marc seconded the appointment of Aaron Lindberg as Secretary and Jen Williams as Treasurer. Executive committee unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes: Paul suggested several typo edits for the December minutes. Marc motioned to approve edited minutes, Tyson seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

County Update: Mila reports that funding for the County's Joint Transportation Plan will involve the department of Active Transportation. The county is also updating the General Plan and is looking to expand parks and open Spaces. Paul requested to the county not to change ebike rules until the BLM has finalized their plans on ebike usage.

City Update: Cory, who is now the going to be the city liaison to Trail Mix, reports that UDOT's widening of 191 N will extended the nonmotorized path south toward the church junction. He continued saying that the issue of ebikes on city nonmotorized paths will be discussed by council after budget is finalized.

BLM Update: Katie passed around map of the BLM's plan for new trail for ebikes at the Monitor and Merrimack area. The new trails will be on former roads that were closed to motorized use. There will be signage posted to remind users that bicycles will be expected to yield to horses.

Katie continued her report saying that the Pinto Arch hiking trail has been surveyed and will be signed and marked. She noted that the Green River Gap trail has been proposed by the state BLM office and will be hiking and equestrian only. Katie then requested that the Backcountry horsemen set date for a Bijoux trail workday so that the BLM can supply an employee to help with posting signage.

Katie then asked if Trail Mix is doing a RTP grant so that they can coordinate plans with Trail Mix in writing proposals. BLM will supply a yearly events schedule by next meeting.

Marc then asked about the proposed oil and gas leases for sale at the Sand Flats recreation area. Katie responded by saying there is no surface occupancy with no exceptions in area. The inclusion of the two parcels in the upcoming sale was requested anonymously; there is no way to know who expressed interest in them. Marc asked Trail Mix to investigate.

Forest Service: absent

Trail Report: Tyson expressed his loneliness in the absence of Maddie and being chained to a office chair during the cold wet weather. His report started with his plans with the Forest Service for summer maintenance. He continued saying that the Big Burrito's complicated rock work was completed before the snowfall, and that portion of the trail should be completed this winter. The Arth's Corner and Little Canyon extension is about seventy five percent complete and is awaiting signage. The design of the skill park on the Mill Creek parkway is almost finalized; this will be installed by an outside vendor, so Trail Mix's work will be minimal. Tyson reports that there was a general sign order placed and will be ready for spring work. Tyson presented his final draft of the ebike brochure; it was pointed out that human waste cannot be disposed of in desert anymore by decree of Grand County Council. Tyson responded by saying he will revise this final copy. He concluded that that the Motorized Trails committee is now an official Grand County committee and he will try to attend their meetings. That group is still in search of an e-bike representative.

Mountain Bike Report: Aaron reported that he hiked the Big Burrito and like what he saw.

Climbing Report: Brett has heard positive feedback from climbers about the Abraxas Wall trail; if more work is needed, he can organize volunteers. Brett then did a show and tell with a bolt removal tool and is working on removing bolts in the WSA of the Rill Creek area.

Equestrian Report: Kevin reports that while Stephen is gone, he will be contact point for the equestrian users. He noted that the Backcountry Horsemen have been securing funding for Old Spanish Trail silhouettes and discussing where to place them.

Hiking Report: Marc asked if Green River Gap was hikeable and would like to preview any proposed trail.

Trail Running Report: Justin reported that the Arches Ultra would be starting in two weekends and plans to have 700 runners. He has a mud route ready if needed.

Skiing Report: Kirsten was absent. Brett however said that consistent grooming was being done with only one machine.

Citizens to be Heard: Britta and John presented the work that the Rotary club has been doing for the Mill Creek Parkway. They would like to expand the size of Rotary Park and continue the non-motorized path to Slickrock. They have secured easements on a few parcels of land and have been meeting with the City.

Keri, from Travel Council said that they would like to hear any sustainability tips.

Tyson then motioned for meeting to be adjourned, Marc seconded and all approved.