

Grand County Trail Mix Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
PRELIMINARY

Present: Paul Spencer, Aaron Lindberg, Sharon Hogan, Madeline (Maddie) Logowitz, Tyson Swasey, Brian Murdock, Anna Sprout, Scott Escott, Jennifer Jones, Sheri Griffith

Absent: Marc Thomas, Justin Ricks, Rani Derasary, Zacharia Levine, Kirsten Peterson, Brett Sutteer, Katie Stevens, Kim Schappert

Guests: Kevin Stowe, Keri Frandsen (Travel Council)

Minutes: Sharon moved to approve May minutes, Maddie seconded, passed unanimously.

Trail Mix Business: Paul and Scott had a meeting with various motorized vehicle groups in the county. Though a diverse group, the meeting revealed that they wanted same thing: less environmental damage, and better educated users. Scott and Paul suggested that they form a county group similar to Trail Mix. Scott furthered by saying he would go to meetings as an observer and answer questions. Both Brian and Jennifer added in saying that the BLM was in support of this. This new group would also represent e-bikes, which Tyson could possibly be a representative for. Paul and Scott were looking for a letter of support from Trail Mix; to which, Maddie made a motion for letter, Tyson seconded, passed unanimously.

Discussion then pivoted to ebike signage at Klondike. Paul and Tyson both reported that additional signage was needed. Paul has been in contact with various online mapping websites and has made corrections and edits in regards to ebikes on trails.

City Update: Rani was absent, but Paul reported that the Emma Lane connector vote was postponed until an evening vote on June 11th.

BLM: Jennifer reported that many campgrounds on the river are closed due to flooding. She continued on BLM topics starting with saying that the Bijoux trail was approved; North Klondike camping changes were pending; many leash law violations and complaints were filed with the BLM office; Sand Flats C and D campgrounds have been expanded; the Slickrock 50th anniversary film was being shot; and that the Big Burrito is cleared to begin construction on September 1st. She then reported that the new Corona Arch toilets have already been pumped three times and puzzled as to where things went before. She presented the interesting fact that the BLM expenditure for toilet paper is about \$19,000 annually.

Paul asked questions on hand cycle permittees and waivers for electric assisted hand cycles for the disabled. The BLM declined this request as did the Forest Service; however, one permittee was cleared to manually ride (no electric assist) their electric hand cycles on specific BLM trails. She continued saying that three handicapped individuals had contacted the Department of the Interior, and gone through the approval process to obtain private permits to ride e-bikes on specific trails. She suggested that we may want to build good relations with handicapped riding groups and perhaps propose work for a hand cycle trail.

Jennifer then discussed with the group a possible redesign for trails at the Horsethief campground.

Forest Service: Brian announced that the Warner Lake road would be opened next Tuesday. He reported that the hard winter caused rock slide on Oowah Lake road and on various spots on the Trans La Sal Trail. He says there is an incredible three feet of snow still on Geyser Pass Road. The Forest Service Trail Crews are working on all of this damage. He finished by saying Jimmy Keen Trail

sustained damage and that shuttle companies shared some responsibility by dropping people off in muddy conditions.

Trail Report: Maddie said that the Amasa back connector trail was completed with 543 volunteer hours logged. She continued by saying that Fred Wilkinson has been successful on their pilot project on trail outreach. TRT money is currently funding project until 2020 and that Maddie suggests that Trail Mix may want to do this permanently. She says that she and Tyson are going to be phasing to more administration duties as temperatures climb. She and Tyson also were a part of the Slickrock 50th video.

Scott chimed in saying that the old Green Dot Trail needed to be heavily barricaded and has seen signs of recent use. He continued saying that Bar M needed some post and cables to deter motorized traffic. He and Sharon also met with our Representative John Curtis and were a part of a round table discussion on various active transportation issues. He concluded by saying that three more miles of trails were approved at Dead Horse Point State Park and that the Escalante State park finished a really nice non-motorized trail there as well.

Maddie continued with saying that the Spanish Valley Drive project was having a site visit with landowners with right of way issues, but that project was proceeding.

Biking Report: Aaron reported that the Shuman's Trail was open and cleared. He also reported that there were some map issues at the Dead Horse State Park trails.

Climbing: Brett was absent but Maddie said that a trail off of the Amasa back connector could be site of a service project for the Craggin Classic. This trail would service the Abraxas wall and would reduce trail braiding.

Equestrian: Steven Schultz was absent, but Sheri spoke on behalf of the Backcountry Horsemen. She said that they were working on Onion Creek corrals. The Backcountry Horsemen also have been seeing increased usage and interest in local riding trails, to which they have been giving GPS coordinates. Even though horses are allowed anywhere on BLM land, these GPS routes will reduce impact. She also expressed concern about the increase of OHVs has impacted traditional horse trails and camping. The loudness scares the animals and suggested working on several more camping with corral areas that are located away from motorized users.

Citizens to be heard: Keri Frandsen shared the Travel Council's "Do It like A Local" campaign. They hope this will reduce impact by visitors to area.

Aaron motioned to adjourn meeting. Sharon seconded and all approved.