

Grand County Trail Mix Meeting Minutes
Tuesday July 13, 2021
Held via conference call only
APPROVED August 10 2021

Meeting called to order at 11:05 am.

Present: Paul Spencer, Marc Thomas, Jacques Hadler, Kya Marienfeld, Katie Stevens, Steve Schultz, Maddie Logowitz, Laura Harris, Randall Fox, Kirsten Peterson

Absent: Kim Schappert, Justin Ricks, Brett Sutteer, Colin Topper, Tyson Swasey, Cory Schurtleff, Brian Murdock

Guests: none

Approval Of Minutes: Marc moved to approve the minutes as published; Kya seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizens to be Heard: No comments were received.

BLM Report: Katie asked about National Public Lands day is Saturday September 25th, and asked about project suggestions from Maddie and the group. If that date is an issue it could be held a week or two prior.

BLM is working on the archaeological clearance for the reroute of the middle section of Burrito. The EA for redesignation of the paved path has been completed; however, the County still needs clearance from SITLA, the DOE, and NPS until any change comes into effect.

BLM has completed the Canyon Rims motorized travel plan and is now working on the Labyrinth/Gemini Bridges one; Katie noted that they are specifically for motorized travel and do not affect biking / hiking / trail running or any other non-motorized use at all.

The Klondike Campground is under construction and will be ready to open in the fall. The regulation changes will be published in the Federal Register soon. Other areas of dispersed camping within Grand County are being studied for potential future regulation changes.

The BLM will be holding another Customer Service Week August 31 to September 2, with presentations on topics of interest.

Forest Service Report: Brian was absent. Geysler Pass Road, and other roads in the burn area, remain closed. Warner Lake Road has been opened to allow shuttles to access Hazard down. These restrictions will be in effect until further notice.

GCATT Report: Maddie and GCATT have been working on planning and other in-office work during the heat. Informative brochures on the Whole Enchilada are ready and will be distributed to bike shops soon; they include a map of the Raptor Route, which is not on other maps.

A portion of TRT (Transient Room Tax) funds has been set aside for trail sustainability issues and to educate visitors about minimum impact practices; Trail Mix and GCATT need to put forward proposed ideas on how to best use this money.

The Trail Ambassador program will be in operation this fall, primarily on weekends but with flexible hours during the week. Advertising for the paid ambassador program positions will be done in a few weeks. Key areas will be Grandstaff, Mill Creek, and Corona Arch for hiking, and Brands, Navajo Rocks, and Amasa Back for mountain biking.

Laura has been working on recommended routes for popular trail areas; signage with these will be placed at trailheads. Some rearranging and consolidation of existing kiosk signs will be done.

The GCATT crew will be working in the Forest in August.

County Report: Jacques thanked Maddie for her presentation to the Commission about the Trail Ambassador program.

The Commission passed an ordinance at their last meeting that makes it an enforceable offence to aid or encourage illegal trail use; this should help in keeping e-bikes off mountain bike trails where they are prohibited.

City Report: not present

Chair Report: Chair reviewed the rules regarding identifying oneself as a Trail Mix member. All communications with Government, the Press, etc. must state that you are speaking as a private citizen, and not as a Trail Mix member.

Biking Report: not present

Climbing/Canyoneering Report: not present

Equestrian Report: Steve has been out in the Medicine Lake area and has run into issues with some new cattle guards on SITLA property on the west side of the La Sals, in the Canopy Gap and Upper Two Mile areas. These new guards have no safe way for horses to get around them. Steve is working with SITLA to try to address the issue. Katie noted that there are both Sovereign and SITLA parcels in that area, so jurisdiction may be an issue; Steve and Katie will try to figure it out. Clearance for the OST figurines on the bike path is still being worked on by the DOE. Maddie asked if Steve could write up some routes for the Hollywood Westerns kiosk.

Hiking Report: Marc had nothing to report. He will be working on writeups for the Red Onion and Pinto Arch trails for use by discovermoab.com and the BLM.

Trail Running Report: not present

Skiing Report: Nothing to report.

Action Items: none

Discussion Items: There was a brief discussion of potential uses for the TRT funds; it was agreed that Chair will begin an email discussion on the topic. Both Trail Mix and the motorized trails group will be submitting input to the County committee deciding on use of the funds.

Kirsten moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:57 AM. Steve seconded.