

Grand County Trail Mix Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
APPROVED December 10 2019

Present: Paul Spencer, Aaron Lindberg, Sharon Hogan, Marc Thomas, Justin Ricks, Denise Ricks, Keri Frandsen, Kya Marienfeld, Maddie Logowitz, Mila Dunbar-Irwin, Scott Escott

Absent: Rani Derasary, Brett Sutteer, Zacharia Levine, Kirsten Peterson, Kim Schappert, Evan Clapper, Stephen Schultz

Guests: Zane Taylor, Rita Rumrill

Minutes: Aaron motioned to approve the minutes. Sharon seconded. Approved unanimously.

Trail Mix Business: Chair presented the joint County/Trail Mix letter to the BLM regarding e-bike policy for ratification. Marc asked about how this would affect the paved pathways of Moab; Chair replied that there was complicated ownership and exemptions from suggested policy could be discussed, but would need multiple agencies to all agree. Kya noted that for the BLM to allow ebikes on non-motorized trails would need reviews of resource management plans. Scott also mentioned that this issue could divide non-motorized users, but we needed to be united. Sharon then motioned to approve letter. Scott seconded and was approved unanimously.

Paul was planning to attend the Moab City council meeting that night to ask the City not to change their ebike regulations until BLM has a clear stated policy.

Kya asked if the People For Bikes ebike brochure was still going to be printed and released from Trail Mix. Discussion ensued and consensus reached that a getting something in the hands of local bike shops and tour companies that would direct the public to use ebikes in currently legal motorized places, and this be done before the spring tourist season. Paul thanked Kya for her input on the ebike issue. Aaron chimed in saying that we should encourage use of ebikes for overall lowering of carbon emissions for transportation, and that we need to think about long range plans of active transportation throughout the valley.

County Update: Mila said that the active transportation budget was approved by county.

City Update: absent

BLM: absent

Forest Service: absent

Trail Report: Maddie hosted two volunteer groups totalling over 700 hours of work on the Big Burrito. Maddie reports that only a few technical parts remain for the current phase of construction. Maddie hosted a Leave No Trace workshop with the climber community and guides.

Paul brought up a letter from a citizen complaining about the level of maintenance on trails, saying that Trail Mix was focused more on building and not maintaining. Paul requested a report on hours spent on maintenance from Maddie. Maddie noted that Burrito was taking time now because of the extremely limited time window when work was allowed, and that primary maintenance was done in spring. Scott responded saying that there was need to organize volunteers for maintenance in future, and that the criticism was a bit extreme.

Hiking: Marc asked if Jackson trail was open, to which she responded yes but there was awkward part while hiking.

Trail Running: Justin said that half marathon and Dead horse run had over 3000 combined participants. They also moved the half marathon route to finish at Lions Park, which greatly reduced impact on traffic and the local community.

Climbing: Brett was absent but Maddie said the Craggin' Classic had volunteers help build a trail at the Abraxas wall to help eliminate trail braiding and damage.

Citizens to Be Heard: Scott and Sharon announced that they would be stepping down after December.

Scott motioned to adjourn. Sharon Seconded. All approved.