

# Sisters Trails Alliance Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 12, 2012

**NEXT MONTHLY MEETING:** 8:00 a.m. Jan. 12th at SPRD

**SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING:** 8:00 a.m. Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> at SPRD

**PRESENT:** Chuck Humphreys, John Rahm, Ann Marland, Michele Sims, Ken Serkownek, Lisa Nicol, Gary Guttormsen, Kirk Flannigan, Greg Wheeler, Phyllis Lewis, Kim McCarrel, Tracy Stout, Bruce Simon, Maret Pajutee, Mike Riehle, Donna Timmerman

Meeting called to order by Chuck Humphreys at 8:03 a.m.

### Meeting Minutes

Ken submitted changes to the Treasurer's Report in the meeting minutes for November 10, 2011. The minutes were approved with these changes and will be updated on the Web site.

### Treasurer's Report

Ken distributed:

1. STA Income & Expenses for December, 2011 showing:

Total Income	\$2,678.00
Total Expenses	511.15
Overall Total	\$2,166.85
2. Net Worth – As of 12/7/2011 showing:

Total Assets	\$29,804.50
Total Liabilities	0.00
Overall Total	\$29,804.50

Ken suggested we post a list of major contributors at the Peterson Ridge Trail Head kiosk. Due to time constraints, this topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

### Membership/Calendar/Election

Donna reported we now have a total of 70 members.

Updates to the calendar:

Trail Clean Up (sofas, refrigerator, chairs, etc. on trails) on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>. Meet 10:00 a.m. at Forest Service building.

Advisory Committee meeting on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. at SPRD

Trails Subcommittee meeting on Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. at Ray's front conference room

Ballot count from the Advisory Committee Member election:

Jeff Simms	34
Clyde Dildine	23
Ann Marland	23
Ken Serkownek	22

Jim Nicol                    20  
Bruce Simon                11

## **BPAC**

Chuck reported BPAC has added our proposed routes as additional options that the Planning Commission could recommend. The Planning Commission meets tonight and Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>. Chuck will send out a draft letter in support of our routes.

Michelle reported that the Tri-County Summit Meeting (Deschutes, Jefferson, and Crook) will be in mid June, possibly at Black Butte Ranch. This will be an opportunity for cyclists from the 3 counties to meet and coordinate efforts.

## **Election of Officers**

Following a discussion of each position, Gary moved to elect Chuck as Chairperson, Gary as Vice Chairperson, and Ken as Treasurer. John seconded, and the motion passed. Congratulations to our new officers! Nobody accepted the position of Secretary as it now stands so we will address this requirement at a special Advisory Committee meeting next week.

## **Environmental Assessment (EA)**

Kirk reviewed our approval of \$12,700 to the Forest Service (FS) for the EA of the non-paved trails and for the scoping of the paved and non-paved trails. The estimate for the entire package, which would add the paved trail from Sisters to Black Butte to those already approved, is \$24,788.

Chuck reported that in meeting with ALTA we learned that ALTA subcontracts out the EAs. We prefer to have the Forest Service do the EA and especially the scoping. The FS is ready to start work this week. They are targeting July 1 as the approval date for the Peterson Ridge Trail system extension and the Crossroads trails, October 1 for the Sisters to Black Butte paved trail. Gary moved we approve the additional \$12,088 for the FS to do the EA on the paved trail from Sisters to Black Butte. Ken seconded, and the motion passed.

## **Whychus Portal Project**

Maret presented her report on this project which has been approved. Please see the attached report for details. Highlights are:

1. A new 2.8 mile hiking trail from below the Wild and Scenic River corridor at Rd 370/gauging station area to Rd 900.
2. An improved user-created 1.1 mile loop trail on top of the canyon to a viewpoint on the overlook, all ADA compliant.
3. A 2.9 mile bike trail connecting PRT trails to the Metolius/Windigo would be maintained on open, closed or decommissioned roads.
4. Equestrian trails within the project area would be maintained.
5. 1 mile of trail construction on the river trail is complete.
6. Road decommissioning and closures and restoration of user trails has been funded.

As part of the 2009 RAC grant, STA committed to \$3000 of volunteer time on this project. STA will primarily coordinate with the FS and The National Forest Foundation to coordinate volunteers for work days (such as Friends of the Forest Day).

There is a possibility that funding from the Deschutes Forest Fund (contributions from local recreation businesses) and the National Forest Foundation could be obtained for the Whychus Portal Project. The decision will likely be made in late January/February. That funding needs to go towards Whychus Portal and pass through a non-profit. If the funding is obtained, STA agreed (by vote) to apply for the funding through a National Forest Foundation Strategic Grant and in partnership with the Forest Service use it to hire/ manage a contractor trail crew to complete a technical section of the trail. If so, STA could receive 10% - 15% of the funds for administrative costs. John commented that we may be able to do some of the work ourselves.

Gary agreed to take this project on with Greg's help.

### **Whychus Flood Plain Project**

Mike explained the objectives of this project are to manage the flood plain and channels and the fish passage in Whychus Creek between 2 private landowners. He requested STA, as maintainers of the trails in this area and therefore stakeholders of the project, help in the development of the proposal. The Trails Subcommittee will take this on and assign a contact person.

### **Metolius Tributary Abbot Creek Bridge**

Kirk requested a letter of support for this project. Gary moved to send a letter. Ken seconded, and the motion passed. Ann will write this letter and send it to Kirk.

### **Sisters Mountain Bike Festival**

Ken announced the deadline to submit our ad to the NW Tour Guide is today. Ann moved we send in an ad for a 1 day event. Gary seconded, and the motion passed. Ken has the ad ready and will submit it.

### **Jen's Garden Dinner**

Tracy announced Sky Hawk Ranch will donate the \$800 cost associated with this event. Thanks, Tracy!

### **Annual Meeting**

Ann distributed a draft agenda and requested that all presenters let her know the time length of their talk and whether they needed a projector and PC. Gary will put together a slide presentation. Due to time constraints, further planning was moved to the Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Trail Signs**

John reported we can get 50 of the vinyl Kokopelli trail signs that stick on metal for \$1.00 each. For an addition \$25, the company will 'pretty up' the graphic. Ann moved we allocate \$75 for 50

signs and the \$25 for the fix up work. Gary seconded, and the motion passed. John will order these.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

*Meeting minutes taken by Donna Timmerman, Sisters Trails Alliance*