

**Sisters Trails Alliance
Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 8, 2010**

NEXT MEETING: 8:00 a.m. November 5th at SPRD

PRESENT: John Rahm, Chuck Humphreys, Gene Trahern, Gary Guttormsen, Ann Marland, Kirk Flanagan, Phyllis Lewis, Tracy Stout, Ken Serkownek, Kim McCarrel, Jeff Sims, Anne Heath, Donna Timmerman

Meeting called to order at 8:05 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for September, 2010, were approved.

Treasurer's Report

October report: Pending. Chuck will complete the report after he receives some outstanding figures.

Chuck distributed a Register Report of all expenses and income reported and to date for the Sisters Mountain Bike Festival. The preliminary bottom line was a loss of \$387.69, much less than the \$2000 loss we would have incurred had we cancelled the event.

Membership/Calendar Updates

We had one new member sign up at the Mountain Bike Festival for a total of 73 members now. The fund raising dinner at Jen's Garden will be moved to sometime at the beginning of next year.

Nominations

John announced the nominating committee for candidates for the Advisory Council (formerly called the Board of Directors) is Jeff, Gene, and Chuck. This committee will present a list of candidates at the November meeting for approval/adjustment so the ballots can be mailed out on December 1. Terms for John, Chuck, and Kim are up at the end of Dec, 2010.

Newsletter

We received a number of compliments on the first issue of the Newsletter. Gary will send target dates for submission of articles to Donna to put on the calendar. Gary asked for articles for the winter issue to reach him by mid November.

Sisters Mountain Bike Festival

Ken reported we had 30 participants in the Festival. We received some great feedback for next year's event and gained a number of new contacts for spreading the word next year.

Ken will send names to Gary of who to invite to a de-briefing meeting and BBQ that will be held at Gary's house. Gary will send out Google meeting invitations. Please send all de-briefing notes to Ken so he can prepare them for the meeting.

Anne noted that even though we did not make money this first year, we fulfilled our mission of getting more people out on the trails.

John suggested we offer a race for the epic riders (60 miles) next year. Ken proposed moving the date to the last weekend in September to avoid hunting season and to coincide with the Hops Festival.

BPAC

Chuck gave a presentation at the BPAC meeting on October 7th from the slides Gene produced in Powerpoint. The City presented what they're doing to make Sisters more bike friendly. This included bike education classes to be held at the elementary and middle schools in the fall. Chuck will send out dates of these classes so volunteers can sign up to chaperone on the rides.

Thinning Projects

Unfortunately a number of trees right by the Peterson Ridge trails were cut down as part of a fuels reduction project. Apparently the contractors who did the work were not informed of the approval we had received to save these trees. Kirk reported in order to avoid any more mishaps like this, the Forest Service has 2 action items planned. 1. In the immediate future, tag all trees to be left standing with orange tape. 2. Include 'trail defining' trees that must be saved in contracts with thinning crews.

Kirk will send copies of contract maps for timber sales and fuel reduction thinning to Gene and will keep us posted on what projects will be next. John and Gene will flag the next section before the thinning starts.

It was also noted that before controlled burns we'll need to trim limbs up to 6 to 8 feet high to keep them from being torched.

Cycle Oregon Grant

Ken announced that the Cycle Oregon board members, after viewing the Peterson Ridge Trail System with Jerry Norquist, encouraged us to apply for a \$4000 grant. Kim moved we designate the Crossroads Trail as the project for the Cycle Oregon grant. Gene seconded and the motion passed. Chuck will write a letter by month end to request the grant.

Trail Plan Update

We'll have a meeting to finalize the plan on October, 19th at 7:00 PM in the SPRD building. Jeff will send out the list of potential trail projects again before the meeting. Gary will get pizza for the evening.

Tale of Two Rivers/Whychus Creek Meeting

Gene reported the Wild and Scenic people discussed what they hoped would happen, and the Forest Service presented their plan for which they are soliciting alternatives and comments now. Everyone agreed that we want to protect the area. Now we just need to decide how to do it.

Trail Work Days

Next work days are:

Oct. 19th, 4:00 PM

Nov. 6th, 9:00 AM

Signs on Brooks-Scanlon road need replacing AGAIN.

Recreational Trails Grant Program

Donna reported that a letter of intent for this grant is due Oct. 29th with the actual application due on Jan. 14, 2011. Anne noted that SPRD has hired Jan McGown at \$85/hour to write grants for them. Jan does excellent work. We can consider hiring her too. We will find a trail project at the Trail Plan Update meeting to submit for this grant.

Michele Sims has a calendar of grant dates. Jeff will ask Michelle to send a copy to Phyllis.

SPRD

Anne reported she has 27 people interest in a 'technical features' (dirt bike jumping, etc.) trail who will have a public meeting soon. She would like a volunteer to come to that meeting and give an idea of the effort involved and offer our expertise and help. John noted this would be an opportunity for us to meet our volunteer commitment to SPRD. Anne will let us know when the meeting is scheduled. We agreed to support this endeavor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Meeting minutes taken by Donna Timmerman, Sisters Trails Alliance