

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

**NEXT MEETING: 8:00 a.m. Friday, February 5th, SPRD office**

**PRESENT:** John Rahm, May Fan, Jeff Sims, Chuck Humphreys, Gene Trahern, Ken Serkownek, Bruce Simon, Donna Timmerman, Kim McCarrel, Gary Guttormsen

Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes for December, 2009, were unavailable.

**Treasurer's Report**

Chuck Humphreys reported that we currently have a balance of \$20,815.04. \$887.00 is left of funds from the middle school for signs. We still need to purchase poles with this money which gives us an available balance of \$19,928.04. Chuck also requested half an hour at February's meeting to discuss the 2010 budget.

**Membership**

Donna Timmerman reported that we have 54 members now.

Kim has set up a Yahoo group to allow email to be sent out to anyone who wants to receive correspondence (e.g. minutes, announcements, future newsletter) from STA. Members of the group will not be able to send email to the group. Donna will add a question to the membership application forms and the ballots going out in January asking if the member would like to be added to this group. John will email non-members who have shown interest in STA inviting them to email Donna if they want to be included in the Yahoo group.

Donna has set up a Yahoo group, with Kim's help, for the board members allowing them to send and receive emails among themselves for needed correspondence between meetings. So far Gene, Chuck, and Donna have joined the group.

John reported that Erin Borla from Sisters Chamber of Commerce has suggested we swap memberships with the Chamber. This will allow us to keep informed of Chamber activities and give us another outlet to recruit members. Gene moved to agree to the swap. Chuck seconded, and the motion was approved. Ken will check if we can send text out to the Chamber's email list. John will email Erin of our approval.

**Election of Board of Directors**

Since Annemarie Crosier has resigned her position on the Board, the Executive Committee must appoint a replacement for her from the list of nominees: Gene Trahern, Kim McCarrel, Jeff Sims, Bruce Simon, Ken Serkownek, and Donna Timmerman. John will conduct voting for Annemarie's replacement via email. The remainder of the nominees must then submit short bios to Donna by Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> which will be included on the ballot. Donna will mail out the ballots on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> requesting they be returned by Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Bylaws**

A few more changes are still needed to the bylaws to reflect the conversion to a membership organization. We decided to meet at 8:00 AM on January 11<sup>th</sup> at SPRD to finalize those changes. Jeff will resend us a copy of the latest version of the bylaws so we can prepare for that meeting. The resulting version of the bylaws will be sent to Donna by Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> to be distributed with the Board of Director ballots and posted on the website.

## **Trail Survey**

Kim reported that 56 surveys have been answered online. If we took the "alpha test" version of the survey, we need to take it again because Kim made changes after the test. John will send an email to trail workers to invite them to take the survey. Kim will do the same for equestrian groups. Jeff will check with Phyllis Lewis on the status of paper copies that were distributed around town. Chuck noted that the paper versions cost 3 times as much as the online survey.

## **Trail Plan Update Meeting**

Jeff announced this meeting will also serve as the annual general membership meeting and will be held on Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at a time and location to be determined. Results of the trail survey will be used to update the trail plan.

## **Website**

Gene will post the most current version of the bylaws and meeting minutes on the website. Current month minutes will be tagged "pending approval".

## **Tool Inventory**

John, Chuck, and Bruce will take an inventory so we will know how much to budget for tools in 2010.

## **Forest Service**

Jeff reported the Forest Service, as part of their Sisters Fuel Reduction efforts, will be thinning small trees in the area of the east leg of the Peterson Ridge Trail. Marv Lang will be working with the contractors to ensure minimum impact to the trail. Potential trail closures will be scheduled around planned activities on the trail system.

## **Outreach**

Chuck suggested we send a letter of support to the City for the improvements on Cascade Ave. We agreed, and Chuck will write the letter.

Chuck also discussed the repaving of Cloverdale that is currently set at a width of 28 feet which gives a 3 foot shoulder. His email asking for a wider shoulder has received no response so he will re-circulate that message.

## **Procedural Matters**

We discussed how to acknowledge our major donors with plaques, signs, something at the trailheads. It was decided to ask Jeff and Curt to look into this to ensure we follow Forest Service regulations.

John suggested we put an article/ad in the Nugget prior to the Trail Plan Update meeting to thank the community for their past support, invite community members to the meeting, and highlight our major 2009 accomplishment, the completion of the initial Peterson Ridge Trail system.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

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