

Grand County Trail Mix Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 11, 2021
Held via conference call only
PRELIMINARY

Meeting called to order at 11:03 am.

Present: Paul Spencer, Katie Stevens, Jacques Hadler, Kya Marienfeld, Randall Fox, Steve Schultz, Maddie Logowitz, Tyson Swasey, Brett Suttter, Brian Murdock, Cory Schurtleff, Colin Topper

Absent: Kirsten Peterson, Marc Thomas, Kim Schappert, Justin Ricks

Guests: Laurie Simonson, Reid Bakken, Andrea Brand, Theresa King

Presentation: Laurie Simonson, the Moab City Attorney, gave an update on changes being considered on the legality of e-bikes on paved pathways within the City. Currently the local regulations differ from ones at the State level; the proposed ordinance (which was tabled at the last Council meeting) would bring the City in line with State, as well as address any potential ADA concerns. Laurie also reported that the City may consider introducing speed limits on Mill Creek Parkway.

In response to a question from Jacques, Laurie explained that state law mandates that e-scooters be allowed anywhere that normal human-powered bicycles are allowed.

Laurie noted that any business that was renting e-bikes and directing people to areas that are not legal for e-bike use could be dealt with through the City business licensing process. Colin has recently visited with all bike/ebike shops within Grand County and explained current regulations and distributed an informational pamphlet.

Approval Of Minutes: Jacques moved to approve all previous minutes; Kya seconded. Motion approved, 11 aye, 0 nay, 1 abstained.

Citizens to be Heard: No comments were received. Theresa King, editor of Moab Happenings, said that they would welcome articles from Trail Mix.

BLM Report: Katie reports that the Bijou trail looks to be in good shape and thanked the Back Country Horsemen for their work. Steve said that they may be putting in a few more signs where the trail is not clear, and some signage at the trailhead would be good. Areas of prickly pear cactus also need to be addressed.

The Red Onion trail is now open and looks spectacular.

The small proposed trail alignment on Amasa Back will be worked on once received.

Katie noted that the Labyrinth Travel Plan only affects motorized travel, and does not impact non-motorized travel at all.

Construction on the North Klondike campground has commenced and will hopefully be completed by the fall. After publication in the Federal Register, dispersed camping in that area will be prohibited.

Forest Service Report: Brian says that their summer trail crew has started for the year. They will be starting on projects at lower elevation, in conjunction with GCATT, as trails higher up are still snow covered or muddy. Some sections of trails need better delineation to separate them from camping areas. In August there will be work on the Burro Pass trail to rebuild some switchbacks.

The Geysir Pass project may begin this summer or fall, which would involve temporary road closures.

GCATT Report: Maddie thanked Marc for the idea of the Red Onion trail, which turned out great. The work done by both the High Mountain Institute gap year program and the Western Colorado Conservation Corps is greatly appreciated, as is the assistance in trail routing by Geoff Freethy. The Robin Groff Memorial park is complete, with the restroom installed. Rim to Rim Restoration has been helping with some planting.

Work has been done on rock ramps on Wahoo and Gravitron. The Red Devil MTB team helped with some work at the Brand Trails.

Laura Harris, the Americorps Vista volunteer, has been working on educational materials and signage, including some recommended routes for the Brands area.

County Report: Jacques noted that the County Commission approved the new amended County resolution authorizing Trail Mix.

Jacques plans to meet with Megan Blackwelder from Utah State Parks about local input on trails at the new Utahraptor State Park.

City Report: Cory said that there were no major updates from the City. He did note that the City has hired Mila Dunbar-Irwin as their Sustainability Director and that she would be coordinating with Trail Mix in the future.

Chair Report: nothing to report.

Biking Report: nothing to report.

Climbing/Canyoneering Report: nothing to report.

Equestrian Report: Steve noted the work day on the Bijou trail was a success. The trail still needs more traffic to bed in.

Hiking Report: not present.

Trail Running Report: not present.

Skiing Report: not present. Brian noted that skiing is basically done for the year.

Action Items - Letter of Recommendation: After some discussion Kya moved to reword the letter slightly to make it more neutral; Randall seconded, motion passed 8 aye, 0 nay, two abstentions. Jacques moved to approve the letter as amended; Steve seconded; motion passed 9 aye, 0 nay, one abstention. Chair will forward the letter as amended to the County.

Kya moved to adjourn meeting at 12:17 PM. Jacques seconded.