

Grand County Trail Mix Committee Minutes
Tuesday, February 11, 2020
Grand Center, 182 N 500 W, Moab, Utah

Present: Paul Spencer, Aaron Lindberg, Marc Thomas, Cory Shurtleff, Denise Ricks, Justin Ricks, Keri Frandsen, Zane Taylor, Kirstin Peterson, Katie Stevens, Kimberly Schappert, Madeline Logowitz, Brett Sutteer

Absent: Stephen Schultz, Brian Murdock, Mila Dunbar-Irwin, Tyson Swasey, Jen Williams, Evan Clapper, Kya Marienfeld

Guests: Elizabeth Eliason

Meeting called to order at 11:10 am.

Approval Of Minutes: Marc requested January minutes to be amended; he clarified that he was not asking Trail Mix to investigate the BLM lease auction within Sand Flats Recreation Area, but rather to consider writing a letter of opposition. Marc motioned to approve minutes as amended, Maddie seconded and was approved.

Trail Mix Business: Maddie motioned to approve of writing of a letter of support for the Klondike Bluffs campground grant for the BLM. Marc seconded and was passed unanimously. The letter will highlight that Trail Mix, being a local agency, supports the development of a campground that would prohibit dispersed camping and help preserve the surrounding area.

Marc then motioned for an approval to submit letter in opposition to the Sand Flats oil and gas parcel lease and auction. Brett seconded and it was approved. The letter will mention Trail Mix's concerns on impacts on views shed, noise, and traffic. Letter will also mention that the Slickrock Trail is a National Recreation Trail, and that the area has both recreational and historical importance.

Paul then proposed a meeting with City, BLM, County, regarding e-bike regulations. Paul said that he would be asking for all agencies to maintain current policy and to work together on any future changes. Katie, Maddie, and Cory all seemed to agree that such meeting would be beneficial and would make happen.

Paul then mentioned that proposed Utah House Bill 133 by Mike Winder would make it easier for cities and counties to use eminent domain to procure land for non-motorized trails.

Marc asked if Trail Mix needed to be involved in the proposed state park at Dalton Wells. Paul responded that Trail Mix will probably be in favor of it and will be watching if it impacts access to non-motorized trails in area.

County Update: Zacharia and Mila absent

City Update: Cory reports that the City is identifying hotspots for city planning; areas targeted will include non-motorized usage such as the crossing of 191 by the Chevron gas station. Kirsten voiced that the bike path by Bittle Lane is heavily used and needs attention. Paul mentioned that the city map for bike routes needs to be changed from having people cross 191 at 200 north to use 100 north.

BLM: Katie reports that the BLM has updated and fixed its GIS map that has the Mill Creek Rim Trail; the spurs off the trail that go to the Navajo Ridge and the Powerdam overlook are now correctly listed as hiking only, with no bicycle usage.

Katie then asked if Bike Patrol would be a part of Trail Mix. Maddie replied that it would be likely to be melded into Trail Ambassador Program.

Katie continued saying that the Pinto Arch survey had to be rescheduled due to snow. She also has nominated the Moab Brands trails for a National Trail Designation.

Paul shared feedback from the public with regards to people on e-bikes on bike path that were participants of the Moab Century Tour. Katie responded saying that the event coordinator informed people of the regulations, but they decided to ride on the path anyways.

Forest Service: absent

Trail Report: Maddie reports that the trail crew is working hard on the Big Burrito in order to get it completed before March 1st. She says that the parking lot for the trail had its environmental assessment approved and will be built this summer; meanwhile temporary parking is in place.

Next Maddie presented the preliminary results from the non-motorized master plan survey. 552 people responded with 60% being residents, which was more than double her initial goal. Topics included, safety concerns, resident ownership of bicycles, deterrents for visitors to use active transportation, wayfinding, desired bike paths, and sources of information. This study will help with the masterplan update as well as informing the city and county governments of needs and concerns.

Maddie continued her report saying the Millcreek bicycle park project has finalized the design and submitted order for bicycle features. She concluded that she will be hiring two summer seasonal trail workers this year.

Biking Report: Aaron said that bike shops are feeling need for the e-bike brochure. He also asked if there could be a press release about the lower Monitor and Merrimack e-bike trails. He finished his report asking if there would be an MTA map for the big burrito and said there was demand for summer trails in mountains.

Equestrian Report: Elizabeth said that they were receiving lots of donations for their Spanish Valley Trail Silhouettes. They could be done by the fall and she would like to see them placed at the Colorado river crossing near Courthouse Wash. Katie said that she needed a GPS point and a written proposal. Paul said that Trail Mix could provide tools and equipment to help in installation.

Climbing Report: Brett said that Jah Man had already been climbed and hardware placed after rockfall.

Hiking Report: Marc had nothing to report

Ski Report: Kirsten says that they have been grooming with only one machine, adding that the Forrest Service was looking into getting another machine for multiple uses.

Keri motioned for adjournment of meeting. Marc seconded, all approved.