

Grand County Trail Mix Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 9, 2021
Held via conference call only
APPROVED May 11 2021

Meeting called to order at 11:07 AM.

Present: Paul Spencer, Katie Stevens, Kya Marienfeld, Tyson Swasey, Jacques Hadler, Colin Topper, Maddie Logowitz, Steve Schultz, Marc Thomas, Brian Murdock

Absent: Kirsten Peterson, Kim Schappert, Justin Ricks, Cory Shurtleff, Brett Sutteer

Guests: Randall Fox, Jake O'Connor, Tim McGough, Clif Koontz

Approval Of Minutes: postponed

Trail Mix Business: The Forest Service draft plan was discussed; Brian will present to the County Commission on March 16th. The plan has roughly a 50%/50% split between motorized and non-motorized recreation areas. The official scoping period will open in the future, potentially in April; final approval is a long way in the future. Grand County has not yet held the proposed meeting between stakeholders on this topic.

Marc made a motion for Trail Mix to prepare a short letter to the Commission expressing support for the proposal as written to be forwarded to the Commission in advance of their March 16 meeting. Kya seconded; the motion passes, 8 yeas, 0 nays, 2 abstentions.

The Motorized Trails Group had a subgroup meeting on the topic of e-bikes; Tyson reports that it was a good meeting, exploring opportunities for e-biking within Grand County. They will be working on getting information out to the public about existing e-bike riding opportunities; also, two areas for construction of new e-bike friendly areas have been identified by Trail Mix, and the information forwarded to the e-bike subcommittee.

County Update: Jacques reported that the bill supporting the Utahraptor State Park passed unanimously and now only needs the Governor's signature. Exact details on the boundaries are not yet clear, but there are many opportunities for trails in that area once land ownership issues have been cleaned up.

City Update: not present. Jacques inquired about the City representative, since there is conflicting information as to whether it is Cory Shurtleff or Patrick Trim; Jacques will check with them to determine.

BLM Update: Katie reported that the BLM has an initiative to insure opportunities for handcycles in the Moab area. All new man-made features (bridges, cattle guards, gates, etc) will be built to a 36 inch width; existing man-made features will be retrofitted. To begin the program, the Klondike trails area will be inventoried and updated; other areas will be addressed in the future. Klondike was chosen for the initial area because of easy access, large variety of trail difficulties, available toilet facilities, and a future campground.

The stencils on the Moab Canyon Pathway have been painted.

Forest Service Update: The EA for the Geyser Pass Road widening project is in progress. Brian's presentation to County Council went well and is available on YouTube for anyone who wishes to get more details on the new proposed Forest plan.

Trail Report: Trail maintenance projects are continuing.

There are public information sessions on the Arches Hotspot Funding on Wednesday and Saturday of next week.

Biking Report: Colin has been talking with local bike shops; there was an expressed need for more beginner-level trails in the Moab area.

Climbing/Canyoneering Report: not present

Equestrian Report: Steve inquired about the status of the Lone Mesa A group campground and whether it could be enhanced for equestrian use.

Hiking Report: Marc had nothing to report.

Trail Running: not present

Skiing: not present

Citizens to be Heard: no comments received. Chair went over the specifics for Citizens to be Heard comments.

Marc moved to adjourn meeting at 12:07 PM. Katie seconded.