

RICO TRAILS ALLIANCE

MINUTES

August 29, 2017 – 6:30 - RICO TOWN HALL

- 1) Meeting Call to order 6:32pm / Roll Call, Board members present: Alex Wing, Mike Guskea, Rob Cummings (Cristal Hibbard filling in for Secretary). Surveyor, Dave Bulson, was also present. Nicole Pieterse moderated.
- 2) Approval of agenda: Rob moved to approve, Alex seconded, unanimously approved
- 3) Treasurer's Report: \$4000 more from Telluride Foundation being disbursed this fall, recent purchases were \$500 Chainsaw, and \$350 brushcutter. Mike got discounted prices for hand tools, still doing research on packable tools: "Trail Boss"
- 4) Review and approval July 25, 2017 meeting minutes (attached): Rob moved for approval, Alex seconded, unanimously approved
- 5) Fundraising update: Nicole needs to make grant recipient report to The Rico Center
 - Possible upcoming expenses? Mike would like to do hats, shirts, socks (\$600-800), water bottles (\$350)
 - Advertising
 - Nicole asked the board to authorize a \$500 retainer for Ruth Heffron, grant writer presented, board unanimously approved.
 - County money had deadline to spend by sometime in October
 - Applications for The Rico Center's next grant cycle are due October 1, if Parks & Rec want to apply, we could do matching funds.
 - Fat bike trail groomer discussion will be moved to larger discussion on winter maintenance during next board meeting since Zach (Mayor/head of P&R) will be attending (May need to apply for Forest Service grooming permit, Alex suggested using Dunton permit online as a template) Mike will bring suggested routes to meeting.
 - Fall fundraiser/Trail day – will be discussed in Trail Committee business
- 6) Trails Committee: Alex, Dave Bulson, and Rob met with Derek & Chris of the Forest Service
 - Land ownership of Circle Trail, non-moto Env. Assesment will be complete by summer 2019, we can provide list of trails that should be included.
 - Discussion of "existing"/in Forest Service inventory v. "new", as well as bringing historical trails back into inventory
 - Reroutes on Ryman – will need cultural/archeological/natural resources study. We could speed up the process by 1 year by hiring a 3rd party to conduct study.

- USFS stretched very thin with budget and backlogged maintenance. Would prefer to focus on reroutes and improving existing trails to increase use or to remove unused trails from system. It would be good to demonstrate our ability to maintain trails independently, Nicole mentioned we should spend some time this winter developing RTA work plan.
- Need to schedule walk thru of proposed Ryman reroute ideas with USFS. Chris (USFS) can organize, Alex can remind him (come up with suggested days at next trail committee meeting). Trail committee should go explore the area to point out obstacles (cliffs, etc.) to reduce area of walk thru. Tentatively scheduled for 10/1, can use Dave's Trimble GPS unit plus Gaia app.

Trail committee will plan Trail day on Lower Ryman 10/7 – Alex will coordinate with Chris, Mike will coordinate with SWCCA

- 7) Larry Carver (meeting attendee) voiced concern about Burnett/ RR grade/ motorcycles and the RTA comments on the Travel Management Plan, mountain biking and other impacts in environmentally sensitive areas, etc.

Dove Creek Chamber of Commerce representative would like to be on next agenda, but she hasn't responded.

Board discouraged trespassing on private land, especially to map trails.

Nicole is writing a response to Mark Ellison handling landowner communications through RTA.

- 8) Schedule next meeting: 9/26 6:30pm
- Trail committee meeting: 9/7/17 7pm @ prospector (invite Mayor Zach)
- 9) Adjourn 8pm