

Overland Mountain Bike Club - Trails Committee Minutes

from Monday, May 19, 2014 Meeting

In attendance: Todd Thibodeau , Doug Baker, Jeff Morton, Jenn Klink-Morton, Monty Seitz, Mick Syzek, Corey Rhodes, Marty Malenshek, Mary McCartney, Doug McCartney, Paul Slaughter, Pete Skram

1. Introductions/Approve Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held at the Fire Station 4 Community Room on Drake in Ft. Collins. Mick made the motion to approve the April minutes, Pete seconded, with 2 corrections (a misspelling on Pete's name and a street name error) and all voted to approve the April meeting minutes.

2. Update on OMBC Board (Pete Skram)

Pete reported that there was a vacancy on the Overland board with 2 people running for that position: Darren Sharp and Jessica Mallory. Their bios are available on the website and voting is now in progress. Pete mentioned that he met a Loveland Parks Development Representative at the Overland general meeting and discussed connector trails to Ft. Collins and thought it might be of interest to make contact. Pete will forward the contact information to Todd for another land manager source.

3. Update on Communications Committee (Pete Skram)

Pete reported that there had been no responses for advertising on the website but is still keeping the opportunity open for interested parties. A survey will go out soon to find out what the general interests are to increase attendance at general meetings and other upcoming club events. Attendance at meetings has been low compared to 2 years ago and suggestions were made to rekindle interest: find a steady venue for meetings, using available parks for summer meetings and ride afterwards, poker runs, talking to members at the meetings about the benefits of volunteering for trails and activities.

4. Recap County and City Trail Days

Monty Seitz reported a good turnout for the City Trail Day and work was on Maxwell Trail on a section above and below the fence line. There was some discussion about the rigors of providing food to meet everyone's dietary needs and decided that those who have food issues should probably bring their own lunch. Jenn and Jeff Morton were complimented for their work with lunches and Jeff was thanked for taking pictures that day. Todd thanked Monty for a great job and a positive experience.

Todd Thibodeau recapped the County Trail Day on Sawmill Trail citing a good turnout, although the working space was limited. The first alt-line was completed and there was good feedback about that section from various mountain bikers who have been riding it. Joel Wycoff, in charge of the County trail crew, was quite complimentary on the work done up there and requested another alt-line, so July 12, 2014 was set on the calendar to add another section to Sawmill Trail. It was mentioned that this is a pilot project and everyone needs to be respectful of the work on the new section and not abuse it. Todd received no other feedback from the county.

A suggestion was made to promote our trail work on the OMBC website by thanking the county and letting them know that we want to do more. Doug Baker was asked to write something up for the website to thank the land managers and asking for more work for the future. Corey Rhodes suggested Katharine Edelblut use photos of those riding the new section at Sawmill for the article and was mentioned that Katharine was doing a great job on the newsletter.

Jeff Boring is a regional manager for Loveland's Devil's Backbone advisory committee and requested a volunteer from our group to offer input and representation. The dates for the advisory meetings were June 25 at 1 pm, June 26 at 9 am, June 27 at 1 pm and July 9 at 1 pm. If we want changes at Devil's Backbone then feedback is needed so they wouldn't close the trails to mountain biking. It was decided that Marty and Todd would share representation.

5. Update on Lory Trail Day

Paul Slaughter and Mick Syzek will map out the work plan for Lory Trail Day with Larry Butterfield, who is the new land manager for Lory State Park. It was mentioned that he has established stricter rules about what can be done on the trails. Sign ups will be available on the OMBC website and Mick will need a head count for food. It was mentioned that volunteer attendance is down so far this season.

6. City Skill/Park Areas

Gordon Smith has the lead on the Skills Park and Monty didn't have any current information about it's progress. There was some discussion about working with the Velo group but though there might be a benefit of collaborating it may dilute the effectiveness of getting the project done. Todd suggested that the sub-committee can put it together and bring it back to the group.

Monty Seitz requested another volunteer for a second liaison for the City of Ft Collins to represent OMBC and the Trails Committee at open space meetings. It was suggested to contact mentors to see if a third party may be interested in volunteering to help with that. Monty will write up a narrative to include in the OMBC newsletter about what would be required for that position.

7. Discuss Trail Volunteer Training June 12

The last volunteer trail training session was postponed but now rescheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2014, from 6-9 p.m. at the fire station on Drake in Ft Collins. Mick encourages sign ups for this class as well as for the Lory Trail Day.

8. County System Wide Master Plan Committee

A county meeting was held at the Rio just after the Sawmill Trail work and the meeting was well attended with Doug Baker attending. Five questions were surveyed about campgrounds, fishing and open trails, but not much else was discussed.

9. Other Topics

Marty Malenshek held a trail get-together in April at the Brewery and Todd suggested doing that again which Marty agreed to. There was a question if it could take place before Lory Trail Day to help motivate volunteers, so Marty will put together a trail get together for the June 16, 2014 meeting as Todd will not be available due to his job. Mick asked to bring trails people to the general meeting to stimulate volunteers. Jenn Klink-Morton mentioned that a Lyons Gulch trail work day was coming up for anyone interested. Don't forget to submit receipts itemized with the date and vendor to be repaid for out of pocket expenses. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

10. Next Trail Meetings (None scheduled for June)

June 16, 2014 - Trails Get -Together at CB Potts at 6{30pm

July 21, 2014 - Meeting at Doug & Mary McCartneys house in Windsor at 6:30pm

August 18, 2014 - Meeting at Todd Thibodeau's house in Cheyenne WY at 6{30pm