

Trails for All (TfA) Meeting Minutes
08May18: 1730, Regular Board Meeting
Library Conference Room
Approved June 12 2018 regular meeting

a) Board Members Present

Kate Vickary (KV)

John Anderson (JA)

Mark Dembosky (MD)

Paul Parsons (PP)

Tony deLange (TD)

Clint Smith (CS)

Absent

Janet Smith (JS) Excused

b) Intro by PP

PP summarized a presentation he made to the local Rotary Club. Amongst other things, the speech explored benefits provided by trails:

Trails are something more than simply another entertainment option. Trails promise and deliver better quality of life for people who experience them.

1. Trails promise and deliver better physical health. People feel better and get better in their bodies by getting out onto trails.
2. Trails promise and deliver better emotional health. On trails, people lay down the things stressing them and experience more peace of mind.
3. Trails promise and deliver aesthetic benefits. Beauty heals. Nature is full of beauty, and it changes us.
4. Trails promise and deliver mental benefits. We think more clearly by getting away from distractions. Problems often get solved. The outdoors awaken our curiosity and love for how and why things work.
5. Trails promise and deliver relational well-being. Friendships flourish in outdoor activities, settings and adventures. Some of the best friends we ever make in life have begun or deepened on trails.
6. Trails promise and deliver personal ethics. Nature invites us to conserve and preserve. Trails call me to do the hard work of taking responsibility for myself and stop living like a victim. The out-of-doors we experience on trails challenge us to make trails available for everyone.
7. Trails promise and deliver spiritual well-being. Solitude and silence that we often find on trails makes space to satisfy the spiritual hunger within us.

c) Previous Meeting Minutes Approval

A motion was made by JA and seconded by TD to approve the 17Apr18 meeting minutes and place them on the TFA Google Drive: Motion approved unanimously

d) Association with the Community Foundation: Vic Barnes

Secretary Note: As part of the TfA Board effort to explore association with an existing local 5013c organization, Vic Barnes (VC), president of the Community Foundation (CF), was invited to explore the issues.

VC described the genesis of the CF, the development of the fund raising Spirit Campaign and the expansion of CF's mission to support other community organizations in non-monetary ways such as coordination, strategic planning and publicity.

He described the ways that community organizations can affiliate with CF including the Advisory Fund mechanism which consolidates fund raising and management for affiliates. It also obviates the need for the affiliate to form a new 5013c. It does not however provide insurance to the affiliate.

Affiliates require a recognizable organization structure and association with CF requires a memorandum of understanding.

The Board thanked VB for his time and information but did not make a decision regarding affiliation with the CF or any other organization.

e) Trails maintenance and volunteer training: John Carrol

John Carrol (JC) described training provided by the "Outdoor Stewardship Institute" which several TFA members attended on 27Apr18.

JC outlined the present TFA trail priorities:

1. Lake of the Clouds Trail
2. Swift Creek Trail

Although many hikers take the Swift Creek trail to the Lake of the Clouds, it is the USFS desire that the Lake of the Clouds trail itself be the first to be rehabilitated. JC pointed out that many trees currently block the route. Those trees not standing and small enough to be cleared by non-cross-cut type saws may be removed by those already trained in USFS procedures. The larger –often hazardous trees – are not to be removed by TFA volunteers until further training is made available from USFS, especially using cross-cut saws.

JC estimated that 3 to 4 days work by a reasonably sized crew could remove the smaller trees. Work on trail rehabilitation (water bumps, etc) should wait until tree removal is done. He proposed early June, but not the weekend with the San Isabell Foundation trail run. Date TBD.

A discussion regarding TFA volunteer qualifications led to a motion made by MD and seconded by JA: To promote safety and to allow volunteers to be covered by USFS Workman's Comp insurance, all TFA trail volunteers must:

- Sign the Volunteer Service Agreement
- Either receive USFS trail maintenance training or agree to work under the direction of those who have been trained
- Agree to abide by USFS trail maintenance guidelines

Motion unanimously approved.

Other aspects of TFA trail work were discussed including volunteer id, interaction with hikers and future training needs. USFS provided and/or donated tools will be available at All the Range where TFA volunteers may log them out. The volunteers are also to log the location and nature of their work in order to document the level of effort and to provide information for project coordination.

f) Insurance and Long Tem objectives

PP reviewed the many potential areas of TfA activities which include:

- Defined County Road loops
- Silver Cliff Ranch Trail
- Hermit Trail
- Around Town Trail
- Wider road shoulders
- Researching State of Co land use

The need for insurance – both board and general liability - was discussed. Charles Bogle stated that since TfA was originally associated with the Community Development foundation, board insurance is covered until November of this year. Several Board members volunteered to explore the cost of liability insurance. The board agreed that until it can be obtained, TfA cannot sponsor organized events.

Secretary Note: This prohibition does not include trail maintenance activities which are covered by USFS insurance, as described above.

g) Next Meeting/Adjourn

PP announced the next regular meeting for 12Jun18 0730/1900 at the Library Meeting Room. He then adjourned the meeting.