

Present: Jim Heikes, Rhandi Rachlis, Theresa Gadaire, Brud Smith, Leah Lewis, Drew Dawson, Tom Harrington, Ben Gotcher, Bill Dawson, Melissa Morris, John Driscoll, Dee Anna

John Driscoll offered that the retired smokejumpers, a group he is associated with, might be able to help with some trail development.

Minutes were corrected second page third paragraph after the sentence, "Allowing everyone to go to the mountains and practice shooting wherever they like could eliminate hikers, bikers, horses and families from using the mountains trails." The next sentence was eliminated then corrected, "Melissa mentioned that the Gallatin National Forest use alternate days in some areas too help separate biking/hiking, horsebacking riding, and four wheeling on trails." The correction to the minutes were moved and seconded by Teresa and Leah and accepted.

Drew gave a summary of the Master Plan draft presentation and suggested everyone reference the website: www.makingbouldersfuturebright.com to see the details. After viewing the money request JLDC proposed, Bill asked if the trails committee needed to determine some money needs for developing Boulder's outside recreation. Drew said he anticipated there would be a community wide budget with projects outlined down the road.

Leah, Teresa and Rhandi went to Phillipsburg. It was interesting that the ski season is their slow season. The busiest time is in the summer because of the travelers who visit Glacier and Yellowstone. Boulder is in the same position. We could focus on attracting visitors to the national parks as a go between stop at the Hot springs and Boulder business opportunities. They said it would help to have a banker like Phillisburg with lots of funds to help make Boulder look beautiful. Advertising was a big bill. Their theme is sapphire, candy store, 6th best BBQ in the state. It took 10 years to renovate the old block. It started with individuals paying to bring back the historic lights. It set the tone. They had fundraisers with an extremely active Chamber of Commerce. They had a pamphlet for businesses.

They brought the sapphire panning into town so all generations could enjoy it together.

Tom Harrington shared a summary of the fourteen month survey results the motorized group "Friends of Pipestone" had presented last week. They have 60 to 100 members and did a map for motorized vehicles for the area. It included Homestake lake, four corners, Galena Gulch, Hay Canyon. The use has increased dramatically for hunting and fishing most people coming from within a 100 mile radius. They may use the area 15 or 20 times a year. They spend their money in Bozeman and Butte but use the Whitehall pipestone area trails. They are a middle aged crowd with lots of money tied up with vehicles. Tom thinks there could be fishing stores, motorcycle shops etc.

Jocelyn Dodge from the USFS came to share her partnership approach to forest service management. There is no travel management plan in Jocelyn's forest service area or future plans to create one. There are over 3000 miles of trails in her area. There is a quasi travel map with three parallel routes. They pick the one they want for maintenance, not all roads are available on the maps, some are private. She got two grants to help place MT GPS and carcinite signs. Not all the mapped roads are family friendly. They may be great for 3 miles and then deteriorate into roads dangerous for anyone to be on. Right now the differences in types of terrain are not marked. Timber has been a priority in the past and there is no time or money for a travel management plan. Madison county took 2 years to create a travel management plan.

Jocelyn said we should make a map with our favorite special places and trails in the Boulder area and set up a partnership with her. Wildlife, soils, range, road density, erosion all are involved. 275,000 acres of BLM and Forest Service land, (600 miles of routes, only 30 miles of official trails.) (later it was said 3000 miles of trails and 800 miles) Nez Perce is the most popular roadless area for motorbikes. Forest Service is working with the ranchers, Kountz and Salisbury. The motorbikes and four wheelers are damaging the area by moving big rocks. Leah asked who pays for search and rescue cost. I am not sure there was an answer. Jocelyn overlooks Pintler, Deerlodge and Tobacco Roots 1.2 million

acres. Jocelyn had no trail staff although she is hiring a tech. She works with grants and partnerships and has three grant sources: Highway vehicle program from ATV goes into the maintenance pot, Federal highway gas tax 1,000,000 for Montana, supplies for trails from the resource advisory money Title 9. Forest Service-revenue sends back funds to the counties. Jefferson County is not in the program. The program helps counties improve and protect their natural resources. She brings in Americorp crews from the south to help maintain roads and trails. There is a 38 mile snowmobile trails map around Sheepshead to Deerlodge, Elkhorn. Rawhide and Muskrat are hiking trails to Globe lake, Leslie lake and west side of Elkhorn. The Whitehall-Pipestone is most popular and there are a lot of continental divide trail access points to Cottonwood lake, Champion pass, Conda? is the quickest, Nez Perce. She suggested we could create picker upper services to the head of trails, offer shuttles to do loops encourage bikers to stay in our hotels, create a hostel type accommodation. Bikers need food, lodging, breweris etc. If we just shuttle do not guide the trail trips we do not need a permit like outfitters do. Whitefish is doing mountain bikes trails, rails to trails, Leah said, Malta has a Canadian Coffee stop which has become an attraction. We could have Canadian stop shops in Boulder.

Tom asked Jocelyn if Boulder would not be a great hub for the motorized group. Jocelyn said she believes they like the pipestone area best because it is more useable year around because of the sun and opennes, not as many trees.

If anyone wanted to help groom the trails Jocelyn gives trainings which are available once a year and will be made available more if needed.

Next meeting will be December 13, 2016 Tuesday.