

Boundary County Bike and Pedestrian Trail Committee, Inc. (9B Trails)

Meeting Minutes (Unofficial until approved): Regular Meeting

Feb 3, 2022, 12:00 pm @ Mugsy's and on Zoom

Agenda:

- Welcome / Guests
- Establish Quorum
- Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- New Business
- Ongoing Activities & Projects
- Unfinished Business
- Next Meeting
- Adjourn

Board Members: **Present:** Larry Davidson, Scott Bourassa, Olivia Drake

Present through Zoom: Tess Rae, Rob Beck

Absent: 0 **Quorum?** Yes

Attending: Allen Rose, Cris and Carl Hunter, Jonathan Luhnnow (IDL), Scooter Drake

Introductions were completed before the meeting and Olivia listed those present for the zoom participants. No new items were added to the agenda.

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by Vice President Larry Davidson at 12:13 pm. MOTION to approve the minutes from 1/6/22 (Rob – Tess 2nd) approved by those present.

Treasurer's Report & Finance Committee: Tess reviewed the financials as previously emailed. New donations were received from Hank Willis and Wood's. Larry submitted a grant application to Innovia for a Rokon and misc power tools. We should hear back on that grant in April. An Equinox grant opens at the end of the month. Tess summarized the RTP grant award for Section 16 for approx. \$30k to finish the entire trail system including amenities, with work to begin in March. Matching funds will be through existing slated funds and through use of our excavator. Scott recommended looking at grooming devices for Nordic skiing. We have received a track setter donated by Ross & Vicki Longhini from the Sandpoint Nordic Club and need to send a thank-you letter. Jonathan suggested looking into Search & Rescue or Sheriff's machines. Olivia noted that Columbia Bank would like to help with setting up another car wash fundraiser this spring so we will need volunteers for that.

New business:

Olivia summarized the current singletrack grooming program and the major volunteer effort leading up to the Fatty Flurry. The large snowfalls required pre-grooming with snowshoes on the singletrack, and pre-grooming /packing with snowmobiles on the wide trails. Larry asked about keeping the parking lot plowed out as wide as possible and asked that we narrow down an agreement with County Rd & Bridge. Scooter said it will depend on what equipment they have in the area at the time and that they will always have to get the roads opened first. Tess noted that we can always add a line-item in the budget for plowing but we may not see similar snowstorms for some time. Discussion continued on the challenges of running the snowdog in heavier snow.

Olivia presented some examples of Nordic grooming equipment, what other area clubs are doing in their Nordic programs, and signage that they are using to direct users during both normal and wet conditions. Scott discussed meeting with people out on the trails and that they are normally appreciative when presented with educational information. Most people are generally unaware of how their use may effect other trail users, so education is key. The differences between classic skiing and skate-skiing were shown along with the equipment needed for each.

Rob has received the trail counters and asked about post height during summer vs winter setups.

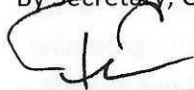
Jonathan presented information on IDL policy with reference to the recreation program and discussed the current permit agreement with the County. 9BT currently fulfills the terms of the IDL/County permit through a Voluntary Maintenance Agreement with the County. Olivia asked about seasonal user restrictions and Jonathan explained that IDL doesn't typically allow restrictions in that manner. Some sections of the permit can be interpreted in different ways and Jonathan talked about how restrictive signage can sometimes backfire. 9BT would not expect IDL to do any enforcement of restrictions and asked how IDL would address specific user concerns, ie, if IDL could simply defer back to the permit holder (9BT), or if they would openly contradict 9BT's signage when confronted. Olivia mentioned how certain vehicles are currently restricted under a similar permit for groomed snowmobile trail. Tess reiterated that Section 16 is really the first of it's kind trail system which is paving the way as a model for a multi-use recreational area. This was of importance with the RTP grant so with the incredible funding and volunteer efforts we have gathered, 9BT hopes to work together with IDL on these issues that haven't been considered before. Scott noted that everything 9BT is doing is in good faith and trying to support all uses as long as they aren't ruining it for other users. Scott raised the question of some small realignments for the new trail construction, and Tess discussed separate signage for hunting seasons. All agreed that outreach and education is key. Jonathan suggested a focus group meeting to go over the remaining details.

The meeting was running long and several people had to leave. Rob gave more information about the trail counters. Allen asked Tess about remaining purchases for the Riverside Park fencing and fitness stations. Tess discussed matching funds for Riverside which will mainly be through excavator work. Olivia asked about moving the rocks suggested by the County which will be coordinated through Parks & Rec. Larry and Tess reviewed some remaining unfinished business. Other business will be addressed at the next regular meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for 3/3/22, 12:00 pm @ Mugsy's
Meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm.



By Secretary, Olivia Drake



Chairman, Tess Rae
(Vice Chair, Larry Davidson)