

Friends of the Peak Board Meeting
Annual Retreat
November 16, 2013

Attendance --Carol, Mary, Jim, Brian, Steve, Paul

Annual Election of Officers

--Everyone stays in their current positions

Marketing Ideas

--Goals, more volunteers, advocacy with groups, more donations, name recognition, enthusiasm—advocacy

--Email reminders

--Ad in Independent every week

--Facebook updates get notice

--Professionalism

--Work days

--Credibility

--Event after a workday? Town hall, Work and fun, Social time at projects

--Trail advocate for every trail (check conditions of trail)

--Need mechanism to report

--Can have more than one per trail

--Need to check reports (one of the board members)

--Training for trail advocates

--Trail dogs was supposed to each have a mile of Barr Trail

--Was written up and approved by the USFS

--Was intended to be reporting, not working necessarily

--Can we revive again as trail rangers of all trails?

--Gives ownership to the community

--Good to have more than one opinion

--Advocates—Adaman, Incline Club, CRUD, Sunrise

Striders, other running groups

--Gary Moring has indicated interest in helping with marketing, though he's not a marketing expert, per se

--Are we preaching to our choir? We need to get outside our choir (Mary)

Board recruiting

--Mark Szabo, Dan Sanborn, Bob Sommers, Rick Hessek

What is the original intent for FOTP?

--Purpose is to promote sound stewardship of Pikes Peak Massif

- To present a unified voice to promote environmental awareness, etc. (see original mission statement)
 - Originally the goals were to preserve and restore, moved more towards the recreational experience with time (Mary)
 - Education about the Peak

- What is our purview for trail building?
 - Pikes Peak Massif
 - Generally non-motorized trails
 - Generally USFS and others
 - USFS only system trails
 - Digression discussion on Intemann Trail (is that in our scope?)
 - What are our factors for working on trails?

- What trails do we want to take in our scope?
 - N. Cheyenne, St Mary's, Seven Bridges, Barr Trail, Elk Park, Craggs, etc.
 - Want to maintain awareness of motorized trails, no resources

- Publicity
 - Gazette Out There (public service)
 - KRCC (public service) they have a web form or email, use web form because email doesn't work
 - Independent (put it on "get involved" not "volunteer opportunities")
 - Flyers (posted in storefronts, trailheads, race packets, runner newsletters, Facebook, Pikes Peak Roadrunners)
 - Billboard sign "Friends of the Peak, like us on Facebook"
 - Web site—drive traffic there
 - Radio stations for public service announcements, KCME, KEXP at PPCC
 - Cheyenne Edition, Woodmen Edition
 - Facebook
 - Paid ads, Independent, Gazette, billboards, buses, benches, trash cans
 - When do we post our schedule? Put them all out at once when we get our schedule firmed up and approved
 - Make sure it stays up on various calendars
 - Announcement versus calendars
 - Lead time, when should we put out the info, crucial in the first part of the year
 - Action items in minutes, with names assigned
 - Email lists

--Groups with interest in outdoors but don't have trail work in their charter (Colorado Mountain Club, Sierra Club, TOSC (we haven't asked Susan), Running clubs)

Ring the Peak

- Susan Davies proposed a joint FOTP/TOSC meeting in January
- What do we need to do to complete the ring?
 - Crowe Gulch section to Manitou Reservoir Road (3,000' of new trail)
 - Bear Creek has problems since the flood, but there will be a way that will be different
 - Strategy--Promote usage in parts that are not completed, without necessarily putting the route on the web site, or in dotted lines, general alignment
 - Should we start small and learn from the process, re: Crowe Gulch, then use lessons learned to approach the SW side (Paul)
 - USFS won't do anything unless they are mitigating damage (Mary) How? Promote usage and then they will have to act to mitigate
 - Work with Allen not with Frank, and create a need (Mary)
 - Do we want to promote it? Not until it's completed.
 - Monitor the UPT efforts by El Paso County, Manitou Springs to Green Mountain Falls

Barr Trail

- Offer from the Cog to transport our volunteers
 - From Barr Camp to tree line needs work
 - Create project days and incorporate into plan (Brian)
- Spur trail at the end of Ruxton Ave with No Trespassing sign (official FOTP position is we don't care)
- Coordinate with RMFI on lower Barr Trail or avoid work on lower three miles
- Why don't we take a portion of the RMFI proposal and do it? (Mary)
 - Work on posts and rails
 - Partner with Incline Friends work days, three days

Bear Creek

- Turmoil because nothing is firm, no work days
- New trail reroute, possibly they will need help

Potential New projects for 2014

- Three days with the Incline Friends (2nd Saturday of May, July, Sep)
- Barr Trail, above three miles and posts and rails, June, Sep

- One Cog railway trip
- One Adaman workday in September
- No more work on South Slopes until it's open
- Elk Park knoll could use work (Saturday in July)
- Seven Bridges and St Mary's Falls (Thursdays)
 - USFS assessing and will know more by January
 - We can say we are available as necessary
 - First Saturday in June for Seven Bridges
- Trail 703, access from Manitou Reservoir, June
- Section 16
- Intemann Trail
- VOC day in N. Cheyenne Canyon maybe one day per Paul
- Paul should look at Craggs trail below Devil's Playground
 - Put in work day for late August after marathon

Action Items

- Carol will talk to Susan Davies at TOSC about getting into their newsletter
- Steve will coordinate with Pikes Peak Road Runners once we get a schedule
- Steve will build a Facebook page for Friends of the Peak and link to our web site
- Get Eric, Steve and Jim together to plan RTP social trail
- Email brainstorm to list trails of interest of FOTP—everyone
- Assess trail 703, Paul, Steve
- Assess Craggs Trail, Paul and Jim
- Assess St Mary's Falls, Brian
- Assess Barr Trail above Barr Camp and Noname, Brian
- Assess Incline, Brian, Steve

Brian commented that work plans make us more professional