

Friends of the Peak Board Meeting Minutes, February 11, 2014

Attending: Paul Mead, Brian VanValkenburg, Carol Beckman.
Guests: Bob Bunch, Mark Freeland, Susan Jarvis, Shanti Toll.

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Approval of minutes was deferred.

Financials

Brian reported later in the meeting. The January CD rolled over. T. Rowe Price donated based on volunteer hours from Mike.

Intemann and Iron Mountain Trail

Brian plans to attend the planning meeting on February 13 at 7 p.m. Paul is busy but will be walking the trail earlier. Friends of the Peak agreed to be a signer on the joint letter of support for the application for a trail design grant from GOCO. Carol signed the letter for Friends of the Peak. The plan is for 9 organizations total to sign. Manitou can submit only 7 letters of support. The city of Colorado Springs and El Paso County have also been asked for support. Shanti advised waiting on writing the check for \$1000 to support the mechanical build for the trail. It's not certain yet whom to write the check to. It might be best to go to Tony directly or to Manitou Springs. Shanti reported that Manitou is happy to have Ring the Peak signs along the trail. They have adjusted project dates because of conflicts in May with holidays, Mothers' Day and Memorial Day weekend. Instead of May 11 and 25, they plan to have May 18 and May 31. RMFI will lead May 31. So Friends of the Peak will no longer coordinate a day May 25 but will still lead the June 22 project. The youth corps group will work for two weeks starting June 9. The grand opening is Sunday, July 27. They're planning a run from the summit of Pikes Peak, among other activities. The matching money from other organizations should be sufficient.

TREX

There was some discussion on the TREX agreement that Brian had sent around via e-mail earlier. Carol proposed some changes. We can iterate on it.

Internship

There was already general agreement on having Susan as an intern. Brian had a paper copy of the agreement. It is a standard PPCC form with some customization. Susan will send out an electronic copy for the board to review. Susan has already started working hours for the internship.

Southwest Ring

TOSC is interested in getting a few reasonable routes for the Ring and evidently has several people eager to promote completing it. Conservation easement or trail easement agreements with private property owners are a possibility. Once Steve returns, Eric, Jim,

Steve, and possibly Paul should meet to decide on routes to propose. Carol will work on coordinating a meeting time.

Ad Prices

In November we discussed investigating paid advertising opportunities. Carol called a few media that were suggested. Some quotes and info:

Billboards: \$800-1200 per month per billboard, 1 month minimum.

Recycle/trash bins: \$200-\$300 per month per can, 6 month minimum.

Buses/benches: tried calling twice, reached machine

Gazette: left message, no call back

CS Independent: for 1/12 page, the smallest recommended size, \$275/month black and white, \$300 4-color. Person there is quite willing to help us design ads.

Discussion was to take advantage of free opportunities and that money is probably better spent on swag to give volunteers at projects. Some suggested items: chap stick, thermometer to hang on pack or jacket, whistle, collapsible water bottle, work gloves. A stamp to ink and press on the gloves might be an easy way to put Friends of the Peak on gloves.

Newsletter

The February newsletter is time to recruit trail scouts, volunteers to report on trail conditions and problems. They'll need training. Training could be on one trail that has good examples of what to look for. May is a good month to aim for for training. We can see how many we get. The newsletter can also mention the upcoming crew leader training.

Project Dates

Susan had possible dates for TREX projects. They were considering 4 overnights, but 2 fit into the schedule of other projects better. During session rather than during the break between sessions is better. Students can see notices and project information can spread by word of mouth and personal invitations when school is in session. Any weekend during summer session works. Susan also proposed a project in October since the fall projects worked well last year. The 2 overnight projects can be on South Slope if Sarah has enough work for that. She had proposed 2 days earlier. The TREX folks are agreeable with advertising the overnight projects for other volunteers to participate. Proposed dates are June 28-29 and July 19-20. TREX expects 5-7 people per project. They can camp in the spot we've used for projects before, along the road outside South Slope. Food will be up to each person, that is, Friends of the Peak won't be handling food or other camping arrangements. Other volunteers can camp, too, also on their own.

Other dates:

May: 10: Incline

31: Barr via Cog

June: 22: Iron Mtn (Intemann)

28-29: South Slope w TREX

July: 12: Incline

19-20: South Slope w TREX

Aug: 2: Elk Park

9: Barr

23: Craggs / Devil's Playground

Sept: 6: Barr w AdAmAn

13: Incline

We also need to set Thursdays, which will be on Seven Bridges, then Saint Mary's Falls. Brian wants to avoid a lot of Thursday-Saturday combinations.

Tool Offer

At the meeting on the operating plan, Frank said he might be able to buy us some tools. Carol would like 2 good braces. Paul sent a list. Brian suggested 4-6 McLeods, 6 shovels, a few pick-mattocks. Paul suggested a winch and a pocket chain saw (rope saw).

Crew Leader Training

The meeting at Rock Ledge Ranch to walk the trails was cancelled because of snow on the ground and zero or lower temperatures. Brian and Paul will work on material to cover.

Round Table

Susan reported on TREX. The president quit, and all the other officers moved up. They plan to continue and be an ongoing club.

Bob offered to be the trail scout for Raspberry and Putney Gulch.

Carol reported that CS Utilities and Forest Service have signed the operating plan. The Pikes Peak Highway folks proposed some minor changes. Carol sent a reminder to CS Parks and Rec, having not heard from them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.