

MOSQUITO RANGE HERITAGE INITIATIVE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2007

Board Members Present: Tim Balough, Ginni Greer, John Carr, Jim Mauch, Cara Doyle, Sylvia Liles
Visitors: Lind Carr, Linda Balough (Park County Historical Society), Jerry Eaton (CDLT), MJ Wurster (CDLT)
Unexcused Absence: Robert Porter

Jim Mauch called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

Approval of minutes - May 12, 2007 meeting

A motion was made to approve the May meeting minutes with the following correction: Corrections made previously by Cara are highlighted in red; they should be changed to black. Motioned by Jim; seconded by Tim. 5 yes votes; 1 no vote (minutes had not been previously read).

Action Item: Ginni will make the corrections to the minutes.

Updates:

MRHI Incorporation

John reported that he filed the 501(c)(3) paperwork in June. He requested that the processing be expedited. He called the IRS and they told him they are still working on applications from March. They don't know when they will get to June applications. The State of Colorado does recognize us as a non-profit organization.

Cara noted that the lawyer said that we can take donations and they can be charitable. We can also go through the Alma Foundation if necessary.

John has the approved articles of incorporation—the by laws, etc. He asked where we should keep these official documents. A safety deposit box is a possibility. Currently Cara keeps a lot of the documents at her house.

Action Item: John will check with the bank and go ahead and get a safety deposit box if the cost is less than \$100/year.

Treasurer Report

John distributed a copy of the treasurer's report. It shows deposits, withdrawals, unremembered expenses and committed expenses.

GPS/GIS Internship

The intern called Cara and told her finally that he wouldn't be able to work for us. John reposted the position and has another candidate. Cara talked with him briefly today and will talk to him again. Cara has talked with someone in town about the position, but since then he hasn't returned her calls.

Action Item: Cara will call references for the person she talked to today.

All GPS units and software are here. Craig and Eric will program the units.

Park County is willing to loan us county radio equipment.

Cara stated that there will be another \$400 expense for a camera that interacts with the GPS.

Cara explained to MJ and Jerry that we have a trails grant from Colorado State Parks and as part of that grant, we are GPSing all trails that we are aware of from Hoosier Pass to Weston Pass. We are hiring an intern to do the GPSing. The discussion moved to land trusts; we aren't a land trust but we would like to work with others

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like Continental Divide Land Trust (CDLT). CDLT asked what our mission was. Cara stated it is to preserve natural resources, recreational resources and historical and cultural preservation. Linda Balough discussed the historical and cultural preservation. An example is the Paris Mill. Park County acquired a land easement from the mine holder. The mine was separated from 9 acres. Park County has 1st rights to buy it. An appraisal is in process. There is a feasibility and business plan study in process. As soon as the appraisal is set, Park County can purchase it, but they will probably not keep it. Possibly MRHI can buy it or an individual. Town of Alma will have a say as to what happens to the land. Jerry asked about mine waste remediation. Linda explained that the state is doing an analysis of that as part of the Brownfield study.

Linda Carr asked if we have insured the GPS unit? We don't.

Action Item: Cara will check on property insurance.

MRHI Survey Results

Tim reported that we have had 495 responses. The highest number of responses in order: 1) Hiking 14ers, 2) Camping, 3) Hiking, trail running, 4) Photography, 5) Mountain Climbing.

It was explained that we had public input and trails were drawn on maps. We then put that data into a spreadsheet. By doing this, we can get a sense of the trails that are most used.

On the spreadsheet are there trails missing? Ginni said that when she looked at it that she didn't see the mountaineering routes that she had mapped.

14ers Initiative Trail Grant/Signs

Cara explained that the CMC received grant money to do signage on Lincoln, Democrat and Bross. The actual trail is being redesigned to Lincoln and Democrat. There is still a problem with Bross; they are having difficulty getting permission from all the owners. CFI is having a hard time finding someone to rout the signs. They are working with the Forest Service in Leadville to try and get it done. The FS has a workshop there with a router but apparently no one experienced in doing it.

Cara stated that the Boys and Girls Club in Fairplay wants to do a project with us. Our last scheduled project this year is on August 11 to put the signs up on Lincoln and Democrat. That may be one that they can work on.

Insurance

We have insurance now, including workmen's compensation for the intern.

Note: We did an email vote to approve the purchase of insurance. The vote was 5 in favor and one abstention.

MRHI Logo/designs

Cara reported that Ashley will create a logo for us and will do it without charging us. Ashley suggested steering away from mountains because it is too generic. She has an artist friend who will do the graphics.

Alma Festival

Cara signed us up for a booth at the Festival in the Clouds on July 21, 22. We need volunteers to staff the booth. We might have a newsletter and a brochure by then.

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Budget/Donations

Some of the donations we have received include, but not limited to:

\$50 from the Park County Democratic Party

\$250 from Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP)

\$500 from Park County Mapping (cash match toward trails grant) + \$500 in-kind

\$250 from High Country STEPP (State Tobacco Education Prevention Partnership) - we need to have tobacco cessation/secondhand smoke information available at work day and the BBQ afterwards.

\$10 Mel Schulman

\$65 Chiropractor's of Denver -- will send a check for this amount although we haven't received it as of today.

When we get checks, please send them to John for deposit.

Action Item: We need to track 'in kind' donations. John will send anyone who does an in kind donation a thank you letter. We need to acknowledge all donations.

Business:

Continental Divide Land Trust (CDLT)

Jerry Eaton and MJ Wurster, board members from CDLT, attended the meeting. They explained that CDLT holdings are a designation of property for conservation easements. It is a lucrative incentive for designating property as an easement. CDLT is mainly in Summit County. Property that is designated as part of a land trust is irrevocable, in perpetuity. It can be sold but the easement goes with it. Every easement has specific details of what can and can't be done with the land. Generally, part of the arrangement is stewardship. There are costs that cover annual surveillance, monitoring and the possibility of future litigation. A conservation easement does not necessarily imply public access. It depends on how it is set up. An appraisal is done to determine what the owner is giving up. It is a legal contract between the owner and the land trust. The question was raised would CDLT accept mining claims from MRHI? CDLT would consider accepting mining parcels. There is a difference between donating land and a conservation easement. Who determines if land has conservational or historical value? CDLT bring in experts. The CDLT website is CDLT.org.

Board Secretary

We need to recruit additional board members and find a new secretary. Robert Porter has not responded to emails and phone calls.

Action Item: Jim will call Robert and ask for a formal resignation.

Action Item: Jim will send an email to the MRHI Yahoo Group and ask for people to join the board. We can include a work day reminder on the same email.

Upcoming Events:

July 14th Workday/Out-Ya-Go BBQ

Ginni has worked with Chris at the Forest Service. We will be doing trail maintenance on the Wheeler Road (above Montgomery Reservoir). The work will consist of trying to drain the numerous puddles and bogs on the road. The South Park 4x4 Club will be joining us. Afterwards the Out-Ya-Go Mountaineering store is having a BBQ for all volunteers.

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July 28th Social

Jim will be leading a full moon hike on July 28. Meet at Hoosier Pass; dogs are welcome too. We'll go to the South Park afterwards. Expect the hike to last 2-3 hours.

September Poker Ride

The Poker Ride is scheduled for September 8. CFI has a work day to begin doing trail maintenance on Democrat on September 8. We really should have a number of people on the CFI trail project, therefore, we will reschedule the Poker Ride till September 9. We can call it the MRHI Peak 'n Peddle weekend and ask CFI to promote it.

We need to have a medical person (EMT, doctor?) at the event. We will start and end at the Fairplay hotel. There will be 5 stations at which people get a playing card.

Action Item: Cara talk to Sara about changing the date.

Action Item: Tim will change the date on the calendar on the website.

Speaker Series

Linda Balough is scheduled to give a presentation on August 3. We are going to cancel that date and move the presentation to October 12. Robert was scheduled to do the presentation on October 12, but since we haven't heard from him, we are rescheduling Linda to talk then.

Moon Walk at Buckskin Cemetery

Kirsten Springer has offered to coordinate the Moon Walk at Buckskin Cemetery. The date is October 26.

Action Item: Ginni get in touch with Kirsten.

Bill Mulholland is now the acting ranger for the South Park Ranger District.

Next MRHI Board Meeting

Next meeting is September 12. Location is TBD.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginni Greer