

Greater Boulder Recreation Committee

August 18, 2016

Present: Barb Reiter, Melissa, Rhandi, Bill, Josh, Ben, Jim and Dee

Melissa is our Jefferson County map and event coordinator. She has GPS's for people to check out to help start evaluating the trail possibilities. There is a County Website that offers good information.

Minutes were approved.

Positive comments were made on the Greater Boulder Recreation Committee mission statement prepared for the initial meeting with the Master Plan folk. Comments made, It was open, good, short and kept us in the loop.

The statement:

The citizens of the Greater Boulder Community, through its Recreational Committee support a diversity of outdoor recreational opportunities that contribute to the high quality of life we enjoy; we strive for future recreational opportunities in the area that are safe, sustainable, reasonably regulated and compatible with our community's values and way of life; and we desire to be active participants in future decisions involving outdoor recreational opportunities.

The Master Plan folk hope to have a draft around Oct-Nov. before legislative session although the final work will not be complete until June 17. Bill will present our mission statement and refer her to our minutes to understand our areas of interest.

Bill said he did not know the longevity of our committee. BTAC has the oversight. There is now a website to connect us with the other committees so there is transparency and we remain open to everyone.

There will be a tour of Phillipsburg, Sept. 27, Tues, from 9-5. Rhandi asked if we could arrange to meet with the people or groups that are engaged with the recreational development in Phillipsburg. Bill will find out from Tom.

Melissa showed us the new website from her computer and it's easy accessibility.

Bill is going to invite Joselyn Dodge from the Forest Service and someone from the BLM to come and educate us on their responsibilities and where they need public help. Melissa said that Helena has the South Hills trails which have a silver rating for bikers. Butte has a trolley starting from Jefferson County for bikers. It caters to them and takes them up to a trail head. Gallatin County has had to alternate days of use in order to avoid safety conflicts. Bob Marshall Wilderness is continually redefining use and how to maintain safety.

Dee Anna brought maps from the Colorado Telluride area showing how they divide their uses for safety. Four wheel trails everyone can use. Some trails are bike and hikers only, others are horseback riding and hiking, and some are just hiking. The process of how to keep people safe is still changing, evaluated and growing. Another aspect of the use issue is designating a couple of places where shooting ranges can be established. Allowing everyone go to the mountains and practice shooting wherever they like eliminates hikers, bikers, horses, and families from using the mountains, etc.

Bill noted that we had not had the motorized group represented so that our trails -- four wheeler, hiker, biker, and horses can be integrated in a master plan.

Submitted by Dee Anna