

## Black Forest Trails Association Board of Directors Meeting

March 25, 2015

(draft meeting minutes, pending final approval at the May Board meeting)

### Board Members Attending

Larry Fariss  
Diane Hoover  
Andy Meng

Judi Tobias  
Carolyn Brown  
Steve Eckmann

Cheryl Pixley  
Barb Remy

### Board Members Unable to Attend

Nancy Reinhardt

Dave Jones

The meeting was held at the Black Forest Community Center (BFCC) and commenced at 6:30PM.

### Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report

- Steve presented minutes from the January 8, 2015 meeting; motion by Andy to approve with two corrections, seconded by Diane, approved by voice vote.
- Andy reported on financial status; no significant changes since last report.
  - Three life members joined this year. **ACTION (Larry): draft a letter to send to new life members.**
  - \$300 donated toward Hank's memorial bench.

### Old Business

- New Website – Andy Meng
  - Andy launched it; Dave is primary maintainer, Andy is backup; no problems so far; in particular, membership payments.
  - We're doing well on Facebook; Andy and Dave are the only BoD members who can post; all can comment.
  - This topic is closed.
- Friends Groups – Larry Fariss and Judi Tobias
  - Homestead Ranch RP (HRRP): Cavalier's club has adopted HRRP; should they be the HRRP Friend's Group? Larry will talk with Dana. Cavalier club is leading "Tackle the Trash" day at HRRP April 25.
  - Fox Run Regional Park (FRRP): "Tackle the Trash" day April 25; Friend's Group (Marilyn Gaffney lead) coordinating "small dog" park.
  - Black Forest Regional Park (BFRP): Larry, Susan Davies, and Jeremy Symes met with Bart Atkinson of Cathedral Pines to discuss starting a BFRP Friends Group; a follow-up public meeting is scheduled for April 9 at 7:00pm at Cathedral Pines Lodge with a goal of getting this Friends Group started. Note: most Cathedral Pines trails are off-limits to horses, but County roads are open to equestrians.
- Memorials – Larry Fariss
  - El Paso County (EPC) Parks is considering a match with BFTA for Hank's memorial bench; our share would be about \$600. Larry has talked with R&R and will talk with other businesses and get an announcement in the BF News regarding donations. As noted above, we have already received \$300.
- Falcon Regional Park – Judi Tobias
  - Eastern Plains Chamber has offered to sponsor the dog park, and has started a fundraiser; per Dana, a grant has been applied for; the park plan has been finalized, it is posted on the EPC Parks website and on our website.
- BFTA Standing Rules Updated – Steve Eckmann

- Discussed whether Section 8A on Zone Leaders is obsolete. We aren't currently doing that, but we agreed to leave it in as a placeholder in case we grow.
- Steve moved to approve the updated Standing Rules; Judi seconded; approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Barb suggested we should rework the Org chart; that is deferred to a TBD meeting.
- Map Materials for BF Festival – Cheryl Pixley
  - In progress; two county offices have offered to provide the large map to us at no cost, replacing what we lost in the BF Fire; Cheryl will work on getting the smaller sizes; Cheryl and Barb will work on getting trail details added to the large map after it is laminated; we are on track for the BF Festival.
  - How to mount the large map? It is roughly 4' x 3'; decision is to get the map mounted on foam core, then display it on a large easel. Andy will look into buying or building an appropriate easel.
- 2015 BFTA Meeting Schedule – Larry Fariss
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of alternating months at 6:30pm at BFCC
  - 27 May
  - 22 July would be 4<sup>th</sup> Wed, but Larry will be out of town; change to 15<sup>th</sup> July at BFCC or Larry's home, TBD.
  - 23 Sept at R&R; general membership meeting after dinner.
- Section 16 Cleanup – Cheryl Pixley
  - June 6 9:00–11:00am; would like volunteer(s) to clean Milam Rd.; Cheryl will ask County for permission to clear some low branches that are hazardous to horse riders on Section 16 trails.

### **New Business**

- EPC North District Projects – Larry Fariss
  - Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) planning to have 10 workdays in the Pineries O.S.; first is April 18
  - FRRP Tackle the Trash April 25; Baptist and Roller Coaster Rds.
  - BFRP has two workdays planned: June 13 Noxious Weeds; Aug 27 Erosion Control
  - Elephant Rock O.S. (near Palmer Lake) will have some work done by EPC Parks this year, as will the New Santa Fe Trail.
  - Pineries O.S. vault toilet to be installed and trailhead established this Fall.
- Future Scout Projects – Larry Fariss
  - There is an opportunity for at least a couple of follow-up projects like Sean Rowland's; consider asking Judy V. whether she wants that kind of help on her property.
- Next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2015 at BFCC at 6:30pm.

### **Additional Business**

- Log School Park cleanup
  - May 2 workday; "half-day" starting at 9:00am to work on the play area, landscaping, and fire memorial structure; BFTA expected to bring tool trailer. **ACTION (Andy): deliver tool trailer before 9:00am. The rest of us should try to attend this workday, if possible.**
- Should BFTA take a position on the BF Preservation Plan (BFPP) and significant deviations from it, like Minibelly Greenhouse and Sterling Ranch?
  - There is precedent for enforcing "Small Area" plans like the BFPP, and there is a case on Minibelly going to the CO Supreme Court.
  - Topic for May BoD meeting.
- Ideas for increasing membership

- Set up a BFTA table at various trailheads? Topic for May BoD meeting.
- We need an up-to-date BFTA BoD contact list
  - Andy collected updates during the meeting; will distribute to BoD after meeting.
- Should BFTA buy trees for BFRP?
  - EPC Parks should be doing this, and there are Scout projects planting trees.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM