

**Black Forest Trails Association
Annual Membership Meeting**

October 14, 2015

Board Members Attending

Larry Fariss
Carolyn Brown
Judi Tobias

Cheryl Pixley
Diane Hoover
Steve Eckmann

Barb Remy
Nancy Reinhardt

Board Members Unable to Attend

Andy Meng

David Jones

Others in Attendance

Judy von Ahlefeldt

Larry Tobias

The meeting was held at the R&R Coffee Café and commenced at 6:16 PM.

Meeting Minutes

- Steve presented minutes from the July 15, 2015 meeting; motion by Barb to accept, seconded by Carolyn; accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

- Larry reported on financial status; no significant changes since last report.
- 16 memberships paid at or since the BF Festival (new and renewals).

Old Business

- Hank Hoover Memorial update –Diane Hoover
 - The original bench was damaged in transit, so not installed. A replacement bench was shipped and has been installed with Hank's plaque mounted. Project complete except for decorative shrubs, which Diane will defer until Spring.
- Friends of Black Forest Preservation Plan (FoBFPP) – Larry Fariss
 - BFTA is now a member of the FoBFPP, and encouraging our members to become individual members of FoBFPP.
 - **ACTION (Larry): talk with Terry Stokka about encouraging FoBFPP members to join BFTA.**
- Black Forest Festival – Cheryl Pixley
 - The new large map drew significant attention to our booth. We sold a lot of hats and T-shirts and had several new members join.
 - The Black Forest Community Foundation presented a certificate to the BFTA, accepted by Diane Hoover, to recognize our "valuable contribution to the community of Black Forest, CO".
 - Suggestion from Judy V: try to get articles by or about the BFTA in BF News regularly, to draw more attention and support.
 - **ACTION (Larry): submit an article or request an interview.**
 - Was there a suggestion that the first article cover the BFTA's early history?

New Business

- BFTA Election Results – Steve Eckmann
 - Voting for the slate of five officers was conducted on the BFTA website, announced to members via email two weeks before this meeting. None of the Directors at Large whose terms are expiring chose to stand for reelection (Nancy Reinhardt, Judi Tobias, and David

- Jones).
- Eight ballots were submitted; each voter approved each of the five officer candidates; there were no “No” votes and no write-ins. Therefore all five officers are re-elected for another one-year term:
 - President – Larry Fariss
 - VP Administration – Cheryl Pixley
 - VP Government – Barb Remy
 - Treasurer – Andy Meng
 - Secretary – Steve Eckmann
 - Carolyn Brown and Diane Hoover have another year on their two-year terms as Directors at Large.
 - Nancy Reinhardt was appointed to a one-year term as a Director at Large, **with the condition that she will not drive to meetings in snowstorms** 😊
 - **ACTION (Andy): announce via email and/or on website that there are two open BoD positions.** (But we don’t need to fill those open positions, do we?)
 - Our Lady of the Pines – Judy von Ahlefeldt (guest presenter)
 - There is a social trail, dating back to 1965, that crosses Our Lady of the Pines (OLoTP) Catholic Church property. The church has a master plan that includes expanding the parking lot. The expanded parking lot would pave over part of the trail, including some parking spaces and concrete curbing.
 - Judy coordinated a meeting with OLoTP (Brian Livie (Facilities Director) and Father Andrzej (Pastor)), Park Forest Water District, and BF Fire Department (Chief Jack). Barb Remy and Carolyn Brown also participated.
 - The church was unreceptive to proposals to leave the trail as is. They reported that EPC has told them the parking lot must be paved and curbed, and there are also liability concerns.
 - Maintaining access to this trail is in the scope of BFTA’s mission and objectives.
ACTION (Larry & Cheryl): hold a follow-up meeting with OLoTP to discuss options for maintaining trail access.

Judi noted that there is a precedent worth investigating: Sunrise Church on Briargate has a trail at the back of their property.
 - Bridge for Judy V Trail – Larry Fariss
 - Since the fire, Judy’s trail is closed due to fragile vegetation and the trail itself being impassable anyway because the drainage is seriously impeded. Larry and Judy believe that some relatively light bridge and/or culvert work would restore the trail.
ACTION (Larry & Andy): conduct a site survey with Judy to determine the best way to restore the trail, and report back to the BoD with a proposal.
 - Section 16 Trail – Larry Fariss
 - Major trail damage – deep ruts and sinkholes – needs to be fixed; some of the hazards are dangerous.
ACTION (Larry): approach Jeremy Symes about getting the worst problems fixed.
 - A member alerted Larry that the School in the Woods has been closing their gate on Vollmer Road, leaving only a narrow opening large enough for a pedestrian but not for bicyclists or horses. The school closes their gate because they no longer have an on-site caretaker.
ACTION (Larry & Andy): approach EPC Parks about getting a standard-width opening in the fence at School in the Woods.
 - New Trail Proposal – Larry Fariss
 - Nigel Thompson has offered to provide access to a long trail on his property near Shoup and Herring, if BFTA will provide signage and gates as needed.
ACTION (Larry): work out details with Nigel and report back to BoD with cost estimate.

- Trailforks.com – Larry Fariss
 - Unsolicited invitation from Brent Hilliard. Probably not interesting; Larry will follow up with Brent.

Additional Business

- Falcon Regional Park – Judi Tobias
 - Status: first phase out for bids; EPC Parks hopes to get started this year.
- New SF Trail through AFA – Judi Tobias
 - AFA agreed to eventually open the trail, but ~\$800k will be needed for repairs and rerouting. This is a very high priority for EPC Parks.
- Culturally Modified Trees (aka “Spirit trees”) – Judi Tobias
 - Survey of The Pineries identified a large number there.
 - Fox Run Regional Park also has a lot; enough for a three-hour walking tour on Saturday, 17 October.
- Memorial for Ike Mosgrove – Nancy Reinhardt
 - Barb moved that we start work on getting a bench for Ike at BF Section 16; seconded by Nancy; unanimously approved.
 - **ACTION (Nancy & Barb): identify a specific site and report to Larry.**
 - **ACTION (Larry): after the proposed site is identified, approach EPC Parks for approval; we will not ask EPC to help fund this one.**
 - **FUTURE ACTION (Nancy): after EPC approval, plan fund-raising actions.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM