

Black Forest Trails Association – Board of Directors Meeting

11 March 2020

Board Members Attending

Larry Fariss	Cheryl Pixley	Andy Meng	Barb Remy
Diane Hoover	Nancy Reinhardt	Gordon Limb	Rich Mock
Jerry Herring	Steve Eckmann		

The meeting was held at the Black Forest Community Center (BFCC), and commenced at 6:35 PM.

Meeting Minutes

- Steve presented minutes from the January 22, 2020 meeting. The meeting date needed to be corrected. Motion by Jerry to accept. Seconded by Andy and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

- Gordon reported finances are in good shape. We have 98 total members, 25 lifetime members.
- Diane reported that the Winter Newsletter did not have an ad for the Mountain View Café. This oversight will be resolved by putting their ad on the website.
ACTION: Andy to post Mountain View Café ad on the website.
- **ACTION: Andy to send an email to expiring members**, but because of some problems with tracking memberships and payments, it might not be clear which memberships are expiring.
- Gordon and Andy will try to sort through membership record-keeping discrepancies.
- Our PO Box rental expired, and we might have lost 3 months of mail. Gordon is working with the Post Office to try to recover mail. Gordon renewed the PO Box for six months.
ACTION: Gordon to extend the PO Box rental to a full year, and request email notifications prior to expiration.

Old Business

- Winter Newsletter – Andy Meng
 - Good product; semi-annual publication is working well, and we will continue producing two newsletters per year.
- Red Tail Ranch – Larry Fariss
 - Larry suggested we need to meet with the developer for a walkthrough to discuss trail options. He also suggested that we don't want to start any trail construction until home building is complete to avoid trails being ruined by heavy equipment. Gene Kelley, construction foreman for Redtail Ranch, is the contact.
ACTION: Cheryl to contact Gene to set up a meeting, which needs to be after April 15 to fit Larry's schedule.
- Didlau Trail – Larry Fariss
 - Cheryl reported that Judy V. told her we will need to grind 10+ stumps, install a culvert, and take down 4+ trees that are in the prospective trail. We can get equipment in from Didlau's driveway.
ACTION: Larry will set up the stump-grinding event and will survey the culvert situation.

Ongoing Business

- Retreat at TimberRidge – Cheryl Pixley
 - BFTA has had several conversations with County Parks about incorporating the 4-acre parcel into the Regional Trail system. Though the property can be used for a trail right now as it is, the county will not consider taking ownership because 1) the 11.65 acres from which the 4 acres was separated was not subdivided legally and 2) parcel ownership was transferred from Arroya Investments using a deed that does not include warranties. Larry stated that we

don't want to commit resources until the legal situation is fixed.

ACTION: Larry will talk with Leif Garrison about involving Arroya Investments in a solution.

- Forest Gate Connector – Gordon Limb
 - No further discussion needed
 - Fox Run Regional Park (FRRP) Friends Group – Larry Fariss
 - Larry attended their most recent meeting. Todd Marts (EPC Nature Center Recreation / Cultural Services Manager) discussed the decision to put the North EPC Nature Center at FRRP. Larry and others suggested that educational material should highlight other regional parks in and near the forest.
- ACTION: Larry will invite Todd Marts to our next meeting.**
- The FRRP Friends group is starting to get some traction. Their Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofFoxRunPark/>
 - Pineries Open Space – Larry Fariss
 - The last update anybody had from EPC, they are still planning to open the Pineries Open Space this Spring.
 - Electric bicycles – Andy Meng
 - Andy covered this topic in his Winter newsletter article. Gordon and Jerry noted that just this month the Gazette had an article about Colorado Springs revisiting rules for e-bikes, with an e-bike summit to be held on March 31.
 - Falcon Regional Park Equestrian Parking – Nancy Reinhardt
 - Larry contacted Tim Wolken. No further action at this time.

New Business

- BF Section 16 Cleanup – Nancy Reinhardt
 - Primary date is April 11.
 - Rich suggested that we should coordinate our cleanup days with GACPP (Great American Cleanup, Pikes Peak Partners). We would be able to take advantage of their resources. No action to be taken for this Spring cleanup day.
- Gazette Article on Homestead Ranch – Larry Fariss
 - On March 8 or March 9, Seth Boster's "Happy Trails" article in the Gazette featured Homestead Ranch Regional Park, with a shout-out to BFTA for our stewardship and trail map.

Additional Business

- Gordon reported that kayak.com emailed BFTA, soliciting ads. Larry and Andy see no value in doing that.
- Cheryl brought "The Shire" to our attention, at Howells and Old Ranch Road near Pine Creek HS. She also noted that Tim Wolken is looking for a volunteer for a Noxious Weed committee; must own 40+ acres in unincorporated EPC. Fawnwood Ranch was suggested, POC Megan Miller, website <https://fawnwoodranch.com/> ?
- Cheryl suggested that we need to coordinate with CDOT and/or EPC on a crossing over Vollmer Road between Red Tail Ranch and the Pineries Open Space. This is a candidate agenda item for the next BFTA BoD meeting.
- Next meeting will be Wednesday, 13 May at 6:30pm at the BF Community Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.