



**HELENA OPEN LANDS MANAGEMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY
April 10, 2018**



City of Helena

City Members Representative

- Betsy Miller
- Eric Sivers
- Jeff Shirley
- Dan Wirak
- Karen Reese

City of Helena Staff Representatives

- Brad Langsather, Open Lands Manager
- Greta Dige, Code Enforcement
- Jennifer Schade, Recorder

City-County Parks Board Representative

- Dave Payne

Helena Citizens Council Representative

- Denise Roth Barber

Helena Tourism Alliance Representative

- Jennifer Davis

PPLT Representative

- Evan Kulesa

LOCATION: City of Helena Parks and Recreation – Room 326

TIME: 5:30 Pm – 7:00 pm

Call to Order

Welcome/Introductions/Visitors: Nick Sovner

Minutes Approval – March 13, 2018

- It was noted that Eric was not in attendance at the last meeting.
- PPLT from Evan – In page 3 of 5 / Please change this to: however, at this time, PPLT is willing to manage this park.
- The website that is referenced has outdated information. Evan recommends that we use the PPLT website. Jennifer will add PPLT website.
- Parks and Recreation report: Nick Sovner stated that we may want to revise the 1st bullet where it is stated that “most are in support of the project”. That may have been said, but he doesn’t know if that is true.
- Brad stated he pulled the comments from the two open house events and most were heavily in favor of the project. These were the comments forwarded to the commission.
- We will not delete this information in our minutes as this was pulled directly from the recorder. This statement was correct at the time it was made.
- With no further corrections, the minutes were approved as amended.

HOLMAC Action Items

- None.

New Business

Trail Rider Update with Closure to West Main

Parks and Recreation Report – Brad

Field Trip Schedule – May through October

- May: Brad recommends HOLMAC visit the new bridge. It will be completed at the end of next week. Dan would like to walk the new trail section there and see the bridge. We can meet at the Old Shooting Range or on top of Arrowroot and then drop down. After further discussion, the committee agreed they would walk the new trail to the bridge. We will meet at Davis at 5:30 pm.
- June: It was suggested we spend an evening exploring the options for Arrowroot (maybe in June based on current conditions). We can meet at the top of Arrowroot in the parking lot and walk to the directional trail.
- July: At some point, Denise recommends we talked about Forestry 10-year plan. Brad recommended we meet at the 1906 Trail on Mount Helena (in the parking area). This will also be an opportunity to see last summer's MCC projects and what the crews are working on.
- August: We will dedicate August to a Weeds/Bug Tour. The location will be determined based on the activity and what has been done this summer.
- September: To be determined – Dan suggested we visit directional trails.
- October: This month's field trip will be dependent on weather.

Work Plan Schedule

- Brad took the work plan and put it into action as close as possible to ensure all items were covered and to give HOLMAC an idea of what we have going on.
- This will be the last week of burning. We focused on minimizing mortality. Snow made things go slower.
- One thing we will focus on this year is the trail sign inventory. Raz has agreed to help with this as a volunteer. We will have an inspection sheet tied to each trail. Raz will take photos of each sign at the trails. We will take the results of Raz's efforts and that will determine which signs will be manufactured and installed this year. This will include signs that are missing or damaged. Evan suggested we change the look of the arrows as some of the signs are difficult to read. **Evan can forward the template on what signs he uses.**
- Next week, Brad hopes to get the Aftershock Bridge completed.
- In the final week of April or first of May, Brad hopes to do work on the upper area of the DeFord Trail. The purpose of this is two-fold – we can begin dealing with parking issues there and we need a dump truck on this project and the crew takes the dump truck on May 7.
- Brad reviewed projects the seasonal crew will be working on this summer.
- The seasonal crew will begin thinning on forest service ground and working above and below 1906. The goal is to get 60 acres done on this project.
- On Directional Trail Bridge, we still need to put railings on that.
- Park City may not happen until fall due to construction. We have paid Missoula for the restroom. We just need to have access. Brad hopes to have this done before winter.
- Brad will be working on the Mt. Helena Kiosk. It must be ADA accessible. We will also be working the installation of the kiosk at Saddle Drive.
- We will continue to harvest, forward, and process approximately 100 cords of firewood material for clients of the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP).

Reports from Subcommittees

- Weeds – Greta
 - The RFPs for weed treatment work closes next week.

- Greta is still finalizing snow work.
- Mount Helena Kids Youth Day is at the beginning at June.
- PPLT is discussing a weed/bug tour around the week of June 17.
- Report from PPLT
 - Capital Transit is looking for an app that they will use for their regular routes. They hope this might help bikers to have a more enjoyable riding experience.
 - Reminder: It is important to get word out about the west main closure. The closure is set for April 23.
- Cultural Resources
- Wildlife
- Forestry

Public Comment

Next Meeting Date: May 8, 2018

Future Agenda Items:

Adjournment:

With no further business, the HOLMAC meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

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