

Mid Valley Trails Committee Agenda

03-21-2024

7:30am- 9:30am

RFTA Office – 1340 Main Street, Carbondale, CO 81623 or WebEx

Join from the meeting link

<https://rfta.webex.com/rfta/j.php?MTID=m4eb598c6c4adc4cc6af36cd4709d6141>

INVITED ATTENDEES

In Attendance

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| • George Trantow – MVTC Chair | ✓ |
| • Phillip Ring – MVTC Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Alan Lu – MVTC Member | ✓ |
| • Perry Kleespies – MVTC Member | ✓ |
| • Katie Stookesberry Ralston –MVTC Member | ✓ |
| • Temple Glassier – MVTC Project Manger | ✓ |
| • Rebecca Schild – Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers | ✓ |
| • Jack Douglas – Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Mike Pritchard – Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association | ✓ |
| • Karin Offield – Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Michelle Thibeault – Town of Basalt Planning Director | ✓ |
| • Angela Henderson – RFTA | ✓ |
| • Brett Meredith – RFTA | ✓ |
| • Abbey Pascoe – RFTA | ✓ |

AGENDA

1. Review and approval of **October** Meeting Minutes
 - a. **Alan made motion to Approve, Perry seconded. Minutes approved.**
 - b. Welcome Katie!!
2. Committee Updates
 - a. 2024 Budget Overview- **No questions or corrections needed.**
 - i. **George provided update on Temple's role for this year:**
 1. **Pro-active Coordination with Eagle County**
 2. **More of a political interaction role with her contacts to get more participation on projects**
 3. **Work less hours this year**

b. 2024 Workplan

- i. Temple advised one of Ace's lots sold, could provide opportunity for connection Ace was against going through is property. George asked if it was the lot where the Dog Kennel was, Temple needs to look into that. Alan will send listing to MVTC. George asked if Temple was able to meet with Dale Will, not yet. RFTA is scheduling meeting with Pitkin County Open Space and Trails, Abbey will extend invite to Temple, George and Dale.
- ii. Prioritize Projects-

3. Discussion

a. BLM Comments on E-bikes

- i. Mike provided update on survey done by BLM, they are compiling results and meeting next week. He also provided some background on why this survey was created. Essentially, there has been discussion on where Class 1 Electric Mountain Bikes can go for single track trails. BLM is looking at Environmental Assessment to answer this question. There will be a public comment period once the EA is complete, would be a good time for MVTC to provide feedback.
- ii. George asked if there would be additional trails that would be both e-bike and regular bike, or would there be more designated trails? This could potentially impact more trails. He's not sure it would impact how trails are designed. Mike advised, so far, the results show the frequency of use has not changed.
- iii. Brett asked when the comment period would be? Mike advised not sure on the timeframe, the survey is the precursor to the EA.
- iv. Perry asked who facilitated the survey? Mike advised RFMBA.
- v. Perry questioned from MVTC point, we represent Mountain Bikers, Horse Council & Hikers, do we need to complete another survey to get their voices heard on this topic? George responded another survey isn't necessary, our mission has never excluded a user group. Angela added it has opened up a whole new user group for the elder population to get back on bikes or trikes.
- vi. Perry asked if there is a policy in place for ebikes vs. mountain bike, hiker, horses, etc.? Angela advised if there is not, it should be discussed with BLM. Mike added ebikers need to adhere to trail etiquette, there will be an increase in etiquette campaigns.
- vii. Becca asked if there have been studies on the maintenance needed on trails and if there is a different impact than regular mountain biking or other trail users, she agrees with not discriminating against user groups if the land managers are permitting it. Mike advised about 9 years ago

there was a study done that showed the impacts on the trail were the same.

- viii. George advised we need to monitor this and decide if we have a role and what is the appropriate role. Angela added RFTA allows Class 1 & 2 up to Emma, but on the Pitkin County side it is only Class 1 ebikes.

b. 2025 Update to Mid-Valley Trails Plan

- i. Angela advised RFTA planning is going to update the Rec Trails Plan for RFTA and we thought it would be better if these two works in conjunction with each other.
- ii. Alan asked if we have the Mid-Valley Trails Plan electronically, Brett asked if it is on the RFTA website. Abbey advised she can send it to the committee and will double check it is posted on the website. Temple added it is also on Eagle County's website.

4. Updates from Temple Glassier

a. Recruitment

b. Stage Trail

- i. Need to make this a priority, meet with Cedar Drive HOA

c. El Jebel to Basalt Mtn Trail Connection

d. Additional Role Tasks:

- i. Be the Liaison between committee and partnerships to review invoices, etc. George advised yes, we don't want drop anything she's been working on.
- ii. Project Role- basic contacts that are needed to get things started.
- iii. Monitor Facebook Page. Angela added putting maps on the page of projects that have been funded.
- iv. Anything else that Committee wants her to do for committee. Angela added help develop the scope for the update to the Mid-Valley Trail plan.

5. Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association, Mike Pritchard

a. 2024 Projects and Programs

- i. Returning seasonal crew members, looking to onboard 1 or 2 more before end of April.
- ii. Middle Crown Royal will be finished this year-2 contractors working on this, one starting mid-April. Second, will be on the ground closer to May to end of July.
- iii. Parallel to Buck Horn- Down Hill Only trail was approved by BLM. It is above the lower Buck Horn trail and will be built by volunteers. Volunteer event on April 8th, Colorowdies reached out to do this event. They are based out of the front range, expect 20-25 people to attend this.

6. Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council, Karin Offield- **Skipped, No RFVHC Representatives present**
 - a. Thank you Letter
 - b. Trail Signs delivered to appropriate Land Managers for installation
 - c. CPW and USFS Outreach Campaign
 - d. Light Hill Update
 - e. Nancy's Path
 - f. Educational Events

7. Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers, Rebecca Schild
 - a. Nancy's Path Update
 - b. **Completed 13 project days in and around Town of Basalt and Eagle County, worked on 7 project sites equaling about 1,000 hours between both staff and volunteers.**
 - c. **Completed Town to Trails Project for TOB.**
 - d. **Three community projects coming up:**
 - i. **Two days at Nancy's Path- May 16th, evening project to clear corridor and get prep work ready. Sept 14th, full day where volunteers do finish work. Would MVTC be formal partner for these events? George advised yes, we can integrate FB page to help promote it. Becca advised will have Jack follow up to coordinate.**
 - ii. **Rock Bottom Ranch- June 1st, work on trails on property and connect to RGT.**
 - iii. **Independence Run and Hike- Reinvigorating Mount Sopris Run Off, Heavy Half-marathon with a 10-mile option happening on May 19th.**

8. Town of Basalt POST, Michelle Thibeault
 - a. **Willits Lane Connectivity and TOB Wayfinding plan. Open house on April 17th, at TACAW. Separate outreach for Wayfinding, would like representative from MVTC. She will send formal invite, they do not have a schedule yet. Durox Boat ramp improvements will be part of Willits Lane plan.**
 - b. **Improving bridge connection to school campus**
 - c. **Rebuild of RF park play ground in August**
 - d. **Received report from RFOV, digesting to see what needs to come out of that this year vs. next year.**
 - e. **George asked for updated Trails Plan so as we update the Master Plan they dovetail what TOB plans are.**
 - f. **Angela advised if there are flyers for open house they are having, we can put them on our website. Hopefully, we can also get Eagle County to put them out as well.**

9. Items to Discuss Next Meeting

- a. Revisit E-bike discussion
- b. Master Plan
- c. Eagle County Outreach
- d. Pitkin County Open Space Outreach- Mike added they met with Dale Will a few months ago about a concept of a bridge going over Roaring Fork to connect Crown Mountain Park to RGT, Next steps would be visioning meeting with all parties involved: RFMBA, PCOST, RFTA, MVTC, Eagle County Open Space, Crown Mtn. Park, biggest hurdle will be land acquisition. Angela advised high priority on her list of projects.
- e. Facebook Page
- f. RFHC will update at next meeting

10. Open Discussion

- a. Brett advised we are doing asphalt remove and replace project on RGT, a lot of this project will be in Eagle County. Project date is May 1st to Nov 15th, he will provide updates as we get closer. Angela added 20-year trails plan on RGT website.
- b. Angela advised we are completing a project on the Roaring Fork Bridge, there will be trail closure and detour in place.
- c. George asked when next meeting is: Abbey verified third Thursday of each month still works for everyone, Brett advised next meeting would be 4-18-24. Abbey will send out reoccurring meeting invitation.

11. Meeting Adjourned at **8:24 a.m.**