

Roll Call

Dennis Kuhn called the December 14, 2009 BOSAC meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Other BOSAC members present included Monique Merrill, Ellen Hollinshead, Erin Hunter, Jeff Cospolich, and Peter Joyce. Staff members present were Heide Andersen, Scott Reid, and Scott Cline.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved with the following additions:

Ms. Hollinshead: I would like to see the minutes include my idea of involving the Summit Fat Tire Society and Summit County in the map development.

Ms. Hunter: Please change my comment to reflect this thought: "My concern is whether or not BOSAC is promoting or marketing the trails."

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Staff Summary

Hidden Gems Letter

Ms. Hollinshead: My comments regarding financing and use of chainsaws in the wilderness did not appear in the Hidden Gems bill. We need funding for the enforcement of this new land designation. The chainsaw use will help with future blow downs. Quandary Trail, Mohawk Lakes and McCullough Gulch trails all need annual chainsaw use due to the health of the forest. We need the exception written into the bill.

Mr. Kuhn: It seems that to ask for these exceptions, we should just ask for an alternative designation.

Ms. Hollinshead: The organizers are going for lands that have dubious wilderness value, so they should be willing to compromise.

BOSAC agreed to suggest including these concepts in the Hidden Gems letter for Council consideration.

Executive Session

Ms. Hunter made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition. Ms. Hollinshead seconded the motion. At 5:55 pm, BOSAC entered into Executive Session. Mr. Cospolich moved to exit Executive Session. Monique Merrill seconded the motion. BOSAC exited Executive Session at 6:37 pm.

Open Space and Trails

Josie's Cabin Proposal

Ms. Andersen introduced the proposal to install a propane heater in Josie's cabin.

Mr. Dayton provided a background on Josie's cabin, its renovation, and the need for a heating unit for day use during Nordic operations. Groups such as boy scouts and others overtake the current building when they come to the nordic center. Snowshoe tours seek a place to rest and stay warm. Putting a heater in the cabin would provide a sheltered and warm place to rest, and help accommodate groups.

Mr. Kuhn: Stove just for heating, not for cooking, right? (Correct) Are there PMA regulations that dictate type of use? (Yes- staff will work on this with Daytons if BOSAC approves the concept.)

Ms. Merrill: Are there locks on the cabin? (Not currently.)

Therese Dayton: We don't really have multiple groups there at one time. I think we manage it within the set group size limits.

Mr. Joyce: Is there an existing flue or vent for the stove? (Yes)

Ms. Hollinshead: Is this for daytime use only? (Yes, although there are some star gazing events in the evenings.)

Ms. Andersen: This needs to be locked for evenings from a management standpoint.

Ms. Hollinshead: I agree with the concept of the heater, but we need to lock the cabin at night.

Ms. Merrill: I agree.

Ms. Hunter: I we worried about fire safety here?

Mr. Cospolich: I support it and I think a lock is necessary. Signage could help outline the hours of use allowed.

Mr. Kuhn: I have no issues, but we need to put in hours of use for the cabin.

BOSAC agreed to allow the proposal to move forward with some limitations, including no food allowed, the cabin should be locked at night, the heater should be locked when not in use, the site needs to be kept clean and tidy, and any trash must be removed by the users or the Daytons and their staff.

Trail Map Update

Mr. Reid provided an update on the trail map process.

Mr. Cospolich: I very much support the loop system. If you are going to direct people to a trail, they will necessarily be more people on those routes. I would be interested in serving on that subcommittee. The map is important, so I don't have a problem with having the group discuss it as a whole. I think the trail signage is important, probably more important than the map.

Mr. Joyce: I think the loop idea is terrific. Four loops is a good start, but I would support more loops as well. I support promoting our trails. I think we put the information out there and let the use follow. We want people to use the trails. I don't think we can have our own backyard trails and not share them.

Ms. Hunter: It seems to me that if the map is informative in terms of seasonal use and ability levels, people will self select. Accurate information is important. We should start small and see what happens. Properly signing and mapping is important.

Ms. Merrill: The hearty bikers will find their way. I am not concerned about these loops getting huge amounts of use. I am comfortable with four or five loops. I don't support the subcommittee idea because we all want to be on it and it will be inefficient that way.

Mr. Cospolich: I think there is a huge disparity among riders and their abilities.

Mr. Kuhn: This map is not for locals; it is for visitors or newcomers.

Ms. Hollinshead: I am worried about too many loops on the map. We don't have to give them everything. There is a guidebook out there that has some loops outlined. This will increase maintenance on these loops with more use. We don't need a lot of loops. Three or four loops are a good start. Make sure SFTS and County are involved in the mapping effort. I think the subcommittee is a bad idea because everyone wants to be on it.

Mr. Joyce: People who come to town for three days need a tool to help them put together rides for their trip.

Mr. Kuhn: This will be an iterative process and we will have to revise the map every year or so. I support the loop concept. Four to five loops is fine, as long as they are diverse and offer something for all levels of use. I support the subcommittee idea.

Mr. Cospolich: I think Ellen will be a good subcommittee member. I am supportive of a subcommittee with two members.

Ms. Hunter: I want this to be an efficient process.

BOSAC agreed that the loop concept made sense. Monique Merrill and Ellen Hollinshead were selected to be on the Trail Map subcommittee.

Upper Blue Nordic Master Plan Revision

Ms. Andersen provided an outline of the revision process.

BOSAC agreed that the revision is timely, the makeup of the subcommittee, and that Scott Yule is a good representative for the subcommittee. Ellen Hollinshead agreed to be on the Nordic Master Plan subcommittee as well.

Hoodoo Voodoo Trail and Dogs

Ms. Andersen outlined the background and concerns regarding dogs on Hoodoo Voodoo trail.

Mr. Cline outlined why the dog use is a concern on the Hoodoo Voodoo. Peabody and Preston loop are fine for dogs, but Hoodoo Voodoo is at question due to the steep hills, the sharp turns and the close proximity of the trail legs to one another.

Ms. Merrill: I can't imagine taking a dog on that loop. No dogs on that loop is fine.

Mr. Cospolich: I would like to dogs on leash, but that is impossible to enforce, so I am OK with getting rid of dogs on Hoodoo Voodoo.

Ms. Hunter: I agree. Close Hoodoo Voodoo to dogs.

Ms. Hollinshead: I agree with closing the trail to dogs.

Mr. Joyce: I agree.

Mr. Kuhn: I agree. Dogs can be scary in that area. Will signs be installed? (Yes) How do we enforce the closure? (Nordic staff will help educate visitors.)

BOSAC unanimously agreed to close Hoodoo Voodoo to dogs for safety reasons.

Commissioner Issues

Ms. Hollinshead: Can we put a sign at the B&B Trailhead encouraging hikers to go on non-ski trails? Separating tracks would be helpful for the skiers. (Staff will work on signage for this.)

Mr. Cospolich: I would like to see usage numbers for the B&B Trail during winter. (Staff will work on this effort.)

Mr. Kuhn: We should evaluate whether to print the map without the USFS routes if the travel management plan is delayed.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled BOSAC meeting is on January 18, 2009 at 5:30 pm in the Administrative Conference Room in the Breckenridge Town Hall (150 Ski Hill Road).

Ms. Merrill motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Hunter seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Dennis Kuhn, Chair