Mosquito Range Heritage Initiative

Board Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2014

Board Members Present: Jennie Gannon, Ginni Greer, Sheila Skaggs, Jan McCabe, Roz Aceto, Jara Johnson

Board Members Absent: Beth Neilsen, Kirsten Springer

Guests: Jill Abrell, Cara Doyle

Meeting called to order: 6:08 pm by Sheila Skaggs

Verify Quorum: Quorum was verified – 6 of 8 board members were present

Approve agenda: Two items were added to the agenda – the El Pomar grant and the JoAnn Dufty scholarship; motion was made by Jara to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Jan

New Vista – Intro: Jill Abrell is the new MRHI Vista. She introduced herself and told a bit about her background.

Treasurer’s report: $11,984.11 currently in the bank. All bills have been paid to date including the August payroll. Motion to accept this report as presented was made by Ginni; seconded by Jara.

Adventure Series – A motion to continue the Adventure Series was made by Roz; seconded by Jara. A number of ideas for programs for this year were presented including mining history, Jane Koerner talking about a book, trees and bugs, Machu Pichu (again), PCSAR dogs (we could split donations with them). Jill asked if we ever do any interactive activities. Yes, avalanche awareness, Ski Patrol SAR dogs, wolves. Cara and Roz will head up the Adventure Series and Jara will take care of the room.

Poker Ride – Preparations are well under way for the poker ride this Sunday, September 14. Kelly and Jennie are heading up the event with help from Ginni. We did trail work on the roads yesterday draining a number of large puddles. Hoping for 40 riders. Starting at Thompson Park trail head; riding for 8, 13, 18 miles. Need family pricing—talked about $50 for family, must be accompanied by parent, free for children 12 and under, 1 parent for $25 and kids free. Send email this week about family discount and bring own chair and plate. Send volunteer email.

Moon Walk 2014 preparation – Sheila is heading up the event. She will have a flyer this week and is working on the volunteer and supplies list. We still need some people to fill character roles. MRHI will organize a cemetery cleanup day before the event.

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Poker Glide 2015 preparation – It is time to submit a permit to the Forest Service if we are going to do a Glide in 2015. Jara suggested that we use the same route as last year.

Grant Update – MRHI received: $2,500 from El Pomar to help pay for the Vista and Executive Director. We need a vote on accepting El Pomar’s grant. Roz motioned to accept grant from El Pomar, seconded by Jan. Unanimously passed.

Also received $2,500 from Summit Foundation to help pay for the Vista and Executive Director. Others who we received grants from include: SPNHA, Captain Planet, Peyback Foundation, RAC. We are receiving approximately $90,000 in grants to fund Education, Growing Up Wild, Family Outdoor Adventure Series, Rare Plant Project and Illegal Road and Trail Closures. Some individuals on the projects have not worked the full number of hours allotted to them. We didn’t have the money up front to spend so we haven’t spent out all the grant money yet. SPNHA grant—we can bill back to January for their grant.

Rare Plant Update: MRHI found 5 plants this year that we haven’t found in the past. They are: *Draba exungiculata*, *Draba globosa*, *Castilleja puberula, Phippsia algida*, *Ranunculus gelidus.* These plants have been on our list but have eluded us. The project went well this year. We are still looking for and finding *Phippsia algida*.

Illegal Road Closure Update: We are working to close illegal roads throughout the National Forest. ATVs, motorcycles continue to go around some of what we have closed.

Hosting NCCC and WRV projects: The plan is to work with both groups again next year. WRV is coming Sept. 17 to scout some projects. BPEEC will submit the application for NCCC.

Board Comments/Community Comments/Miscellaneous:

* Cara discussed that MRI is in the 10th year of our strategic plan. We need to decide what our next steps are and to take a good look at our current plan and decide what we want to do in the future.
* Jara discussed the Alma Foundation’s plan to buy property at the east end of Buckskin Gulch. They are submitting a grant to GOCO for $28,000. They are thinking they would do a volunteer day once a year.
* JoAnn Dufty Memorial Scholarship – the winner of the scholarship was Kelby Dyc. He asked to receive the funds in two payments to be split between the fall and winter semesters.
* The Orphan Boy is for sale. Cara talked to the owners to see what we can do to save the land from development. There are four parcels touching forest and parcels cross Aspen

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Alley. There are up to 24 mining claims from Mosquito Gulch to the top of Bross. Jara will create maps. Talking to land trusts and agencies.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm

Minutes submitted by Ginni Greer