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MAMMOTH TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING  
Thursday, May 12, 2016 @ 3pm

Mammoth Lakes Tourism Conference Room  
2520 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, California

[www.mammothlakesrecreation.org](http://www.mammothlakesrecreation.org)

[www.mammothtrails.org](http://www.mammothtrails.org)

Mammoth Trails Committee Members may participate from a teleconference location if the meeting notice has been published in advance at the site of the meeting and the location that they will be calling in from as the site needs to be accessible to the public. Note: Members of the public may attend the open-session portion of the meeting from a teleconference location, and may address the Board during any one of the opportunities provided on the agenda for public comment.

NOTE: In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please call (760) 934-4932. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable MLR to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II)

NOTE: All comments will be limited by the President to a speaking time of five minutes.

## ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Alan Jacoby, Mark Brownlie, Dan Holler, David Page, Danna Stroud

## PUBLIC COMMENT (On items not on the Agenda)

## ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Approval of the Agenda – 5 min
2. Approval of the meeting minutes for 04.14.16 – 5 min
  - a. **Attach #1**
3. Signage and Wayfinding – Soft Surface – 052\_01\_SoftSurf1516
  - a. Project update – *MLTPA*
  - b. Panorama Dome – First Phase
  - c. **Attach #2** [Please click here for a hyperlink to the attachment](#) (large file)
4. Summer of Stewardship: Trail Days 2016
  - a. Event 1: National Trails Day (June 4<sup>th</sup>) at Panorama Dome
    - i. Public Introduction: Soft Surface Trail Maintenance Program
    - ii. Public Introduction: Soft Surface Trail Sign Program
    - iii. Public Introduction: Adopt A Trail Program (Phase 1)
  - b. Event 2: MLTS Trail Day (August 13<sup>th</sup>)
    - i. Anticipated project: Soft Surface Trail Sign installations
  - c. Event 3: Great Sierra River Clean Up (September 17<sup>th</sup>)
5. Soft Surface Trails – Soft Surface Trail Maintenance Program – 105\_01\_SoftSurfMaint1516
  - a. Project update – 2016 Operating Plan presentation by Trails Coordinator
  - b. **Attach #3** [Please click here for a hyperlink to the attachment](#) (large file)



6. Adopt A Trail – 041\_01\_AAT1516
  - a. Project update – MLTPA
  - b. **Attach #4** *Please click here for a hyperlink to the attachment (large file)*
  - c. *Link to DRAFT Adopt A Trail Program [web page](#)*
  
7. MLTS Website Blog Update – MLTS Website – Operations and Maintenance – 088\_02\_MT\_WebMgt1516
  - a. Project update – MLTPA
  - b. **Presentation to be projected**
  
8. Mechanical Trail Counters – 029\_01\_Data\_OM1516
  - a. Project update – MLTPA
  
9. SHARP NEPA – 099\_02\_SHARP\_NEPA\_P\_1
  - a. Project update – TOML
  
10. Future Agenda Items:
  - a. SHARP – Trail Alignment Studies – 051\_03\_TTC1516
    - i. Project Update – Trails Coordinator
  - b. LABSS – Trail Alignment Studies – 097\_01\_TTC1516
    - i. Project Update – Trails Coordinator
  - c. Signage + Wayfinding – Map Updates and Repair – 052\_02\_MapUpdate1516
    - i. Project Update – MLTPA
  - d. Winter Projects Wrap – Sherwins – Winter Access/Egress 053\_04\_ShwEgr1516
    - i. Project Update – MLTPA

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

#### **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

To the next meeting of the Mammoth Trails Committee which will occur on June 9, 2016 at 3pm. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted in the Mammoth Lakes Tourism & Recreation outside showcase not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting dated this 12th day of May, 2016.

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Rich Boccia, MLR Executive Director



## **Trails Meeting Minutes April 14, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by David Page at 3pm. In attendance were Dan Holler, Mark Brownlie and Joel Rathje. Danna Stroud and Alan Jacoby were excused. Members of the public included John Wentworth, Kelly Workman, Bill Taylor, Sandy Hogan, Kim Anaciero, Casey Penn, and Nicole Montano.

The Trials Award was presented to the Trails Committee by the MLR Executive Director celebrating their work.

**Item #1:** The agenda was approved as published.

**Item #2:** There were questions about the minutes that need clarification before they are approved. The committee requested that MLR staff review and complete the minutes and bring back for approval at the May meeting.

**Item #3:** The Trails coordinator, Joel Rathje, provided the summer work schedule for review and discussion. He walked the committee through the calendar by month and date. The SOS days are scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>, National Trails Day, August 13<sup>th</sup> and September 17<sup>th</sup>. The scope of the work will be defined as we get closer to the day of the event. The committee was reminded that the number of SOS days is being reduced from five days to three days with Joel wanting official action from the committee. The motion by Holler is to modify the contracts from five to three days with a second by Brownlie. There was no public comment. The motion passed 3-0.

**Item #4:** The Trails coordinator reviewed the summer soft surface trails maintenance work that has been submitted to the district ranger for review and approval. Each trail segment is clearly defined in great detail with references to the forest service trails maintenance manual. Joel walked the committee through a number of trails using GPS map for visual reviews of the proposed work and the resolutions. The committee provided positive comments to Joel for his work with indications that the maintenance program will be approved. The town manager indicated that the forest ranger is supportive of the work and the Challenge Cost Share Agreement is pending. Joel indicated that he is meeting with the forest staff tomorrow, Friday the 15<sup>th</sup>, for review and input leading towards approval. It was also mentioned that the new recreation ranger will be in place in mid-May. There were no public comments.

**Item #5:** The Trails coordinator provided a signage and wayfinding update about the signage that will be posted along the trails this summer. The forest service needs to approve these signs and then have the TOML public works department include these signs in their manuals. Joel presented the new signage for the committee to review. There was a question about fat bikes and snow mobiles on the winter signs and where do they fit? MLTPA staff reviewed the array of signs in categories 9, 10, 12 and 13 and the changes in each signage. The specs for the signs are taken from the forest service standards. There was a question about the signage and which signs remain in the ground for the year and what signs are season specific? It was agreed that some of these signs will be changed out on a seasonal basis. MLTPA staff showed off the old signs and the new signs. They received positive reviews for the signage. There was a question about the height of the signs and the need to meet the specifications that do not deviate from the standard especially as they are new signs that the forest service needs to approve along with the location of these new signs. There is a chapter in the forest service manual that is being followed. There were no public comments.



**Item #6:** The trails coordinator reviewed the Q4 budget modifications. Joel walked the committee through these modifications line by line. A very detailed rationale for each of the changes was provided by the trails coordinator.

- Joel made mention about his work with the ESAC for work in the Sherwins.
- There is a line item to complete the college signage which has been mentioned by members of the public. There was a question from the public about the project lead and the cost of the overall project - \$15,000. Is the cost for the entire project? It was noted that \$5000 is for the messaging effort and \$10,000. for the signs with an agreement that this is a TOML/MLTPA joint project.
- The next topic was the new signage at about \$100 a sign with the need for 65 signs with the committee being reminded that the forest service needs to approve the signs. It was suggested that the signs are pre-routed with a recommendation to price that aspect of the project.
- The next topic was the development of the operation plan for this project with questions about moving this forward even though the forest service has not approved the project at this time. The public shared comments about the need of the forest service to support the project. The project lead is MLTPA at the cost of \$2000. The public including a member of the MLTPA board voiced his support for the work and the billable hours for MLTPA staff. One member of the public has expressed her concern about the planning process and what appears to be a conflict of interest with a goal of on the ground work. A committee member asked if there was a feeling of confidence from that member of the public based on the work we have observed from the trails coordinator with a response indicating that there is a feeling of confidence in the work with concerns about the timely approval from the forest service about the signage.
- The trails coordinator is requesting \$6000 for project management support which is defined as hourly staff contract employees.
- There was a question about an allocation of \$800 for a Mammoth Trails Meeting, is this what it costs for a meeting? It was noted that this is the allocation based on the outcomes of next steps from the Winter Recreation Summit.
- There was also a discussion about the Adopt A Trail System and the \$7500 line item and a concern from the public about the commercialism of public land. The initial budget was \$7500 with a concern about this line item exceeding the public bid process. The town manager discussed the contract between the TOML and MLTPA and the legal obligations. There is a need to clarify the public bidding process as related to services contracts vs public works contracts. The town manager confirmed that these contracts have gone through the RFQ process as appropriate and the difference between bids for capital projects versus services contracts. Joel indicated that this adopt a trail system has the potential to generate funds for trails maintenance and potentially for new trails in the future. Brownlie motioned to approve the Q4 budget modifications, seconded by Holler, no further public comment, passed 3 – 0.



**Item #7:** The trails coordinator provided a brief review of the ML Winter Recreation Summit through a power point presentation. Joel reviewed the process making mention of the workshop with Town Council scheduled for May 4 @ 5pm in the Council Chambers. Joel used his track work with his group as an example focused on the Lakes Basin. Joel had a number of photos that he shared with the committee as he reviewed the events of Friday and Saturday. Joel made mention that one of the common denominators is challenge of communication. Joel shared his four take aways and the next steps. The MMSA committee representative indicated that the pre-meetings and the Saturday session produced some positive results. The committee addressed the release of Measure R funds for the 203 tunnel project as it appears that the sub-part C process will include this project in their study. The question is of costs for the project to support the NEPA process for the sub-part C work is still to be determined. The town manager indicated that he has had conversations with the district ranger and is willing to financially support this process and how this might be related to the travel management plan.

**Item #8:** The trails coordinator introduced Nicole Montano to talk about the development of a trails blog on the website. Nicole shared information about how the blog will drive traffic to the webpage and will drive a community factor on this website as she provided a blog overview. There was one question from the public asking if there was going to be an alert when a new blog is posted and with Nicole indicating that they are still creating this blog. There was a recommendation from the naming of the blog – make it appealing – “On the Trail”. Congrats to Nicole as she is the creator of the MLTS website that won the California Trails & Greenway Award. Nicole went to share the new application that allows users to transition from place to place such as hotel to trail head. This was responded to with enthusiasm from the committee and members of the public that were in attendance.

**Item #9:** The trails coordinator introduced the concept of creating an ad-hoc committee to develop comments related to the forest revision plan. This concept was accepted as it provides a level of being nimble and flexible and is not a mandated by the Brown Act. This does not preclude the other processes but also allows the opportunity to be effectively involved in the process.

**Item #10:** The agenda items for the May 12<sup>th</sup> trails committee meeting are listed on the agenda including action on the sub-part c item.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04pm with our next meeting scheduled on May 12, 2016 @ 3pm in the MLT&R Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Boccia  
Acting Secretary