

Red Lodge Parks, Trees and Recreation Board

Trails Committee report-June 2016

Committee members: Corey Thompson, Paul Otsu, and Kelly Heaton.

The committee did not meet, but City Staff, committee members, and other Parks board members coordinated so as to complete several tasks, including the following:

- 1.** Coal Miners Park bicycle skills trail-Paul and Bill Foisy presented the project to the City Council Public Works Committee and they, along with the mayor, gave approval to proceed. Paul had an updated budget for the project at \$3,780 to be funded from our New Trail Construction budget line item. Costs may be slightly higher (up to \$5000 total) due to changes in materials and equipment costs. Construction began on 5/31/2016 and Jim Stevenson completed initial work on the switchback portions of the trail. Paul Otsu met with Superintendent John Fitzgerald regarding a short segment of the trail that was planned for portions of the City lands leased by Red Lodge Schools. John was not amenable to construction of City trails on these leased City lands, so Paul is working on an alternative route that avoids construction on leased portions of City lands. The terms of the lease with the school are uncertain at this time and should be researched to provide better guidance for future activities in this area. A small portion of the trail on school leased lands was constructed and has since been reclaimed. To date, Jim Stevenson has invoiced the City for approximately 5.5 days of time, with \$723 reimbursement requested and \$770 donation. Jim Stevenson estimates he has about 6 hours of work remaining. Jim Stevenson plans to return to do additional machine work later in the month. Paul is planning to have fill material hauled to the site for construction of corners and other features using a bobcat machine rented from True Value. Volunteers will also be rallied to assist with various project components. MCC crews scheduled at the end of the month can also assist with some trail construction tasks.

A two person International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Trail Care Crew and Jennifer Drinkwalter with local IMBA chapter Pedal United reviewed Coal Miners mountain bike trails work completed to date with Paul Otsu and Dan Seifert on 6/9/16. The trail care crew was complimentary regarding work completed to date and offered suggestions for additional work to finish/improve the trails. Dan Seifert represented the City Parks, Trails and Trees board at the IMBA mountain bike trails presentation on 6/9/16 and the IMBA trail construction course on 6/11/16 in Red Lodge.

- 2.** Active Transportation Plan-There is another Community Forum on Monday, June 20th from 6-8 pm at Red Lodge Pizza Co. Participants can hear about highlights from the draft

Active Transportation Plan, preview recommendations and help prioritize projects. James will be passing along the draft plan when he receives it, hopefully next week.

3. Adopt a Trail-Grant Barnard from BRTA is going to spearhead this project and get back to the Parks Board with question/comments/details.
4. Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) Crew work – specific tasks and project coordination for the scheduled crew still need to be finalized. The crew is scheduled to work for the City from 6/26 - 6/29 and 6/30 finish up and drive back to Bozeman.
5. MCC Meals for crew-Corey circulated a sign up list and all dates are booked.
6. Dan Seifert received an e-mail from Doug Hansen with YRU contracting. YRU is constructing Beartooth Billings Clinic's wellness trail, which includes some City lands. YRU is interested in additional future work on City lands and is planning to look at some potential projects during a site visit to Red Lodge later this summer.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Heaton and Dan Seifert. 6/12/2016.